

CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE RESOLUTION R-32-1

BOARD BILL 5.06

32nd Session
2025-2026 Academic Year

Under Consideration

Passed by the Board January
8th, 2026 YEAS 10 NAYS 0

CERTIFICATE

Nandana Jaideep
President, Board of Directors

Passed by the Senate January
7th, 2026. YEAS 80 NAYS 1.

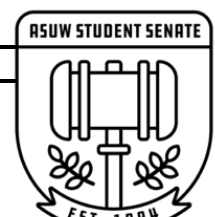


Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate

I, Erick Jacobsen, Speaker of the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is SENATE RESOLUTION R-32-1 as passed by the Senate on the date set forth.



Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate



SENATE R-32-1

A Resolution to Increase Academic Transparency
During Registration

Under Consideration - 2025-2026 Academic Year

A.S.U.W.

Autumn Quarter 2025

32nd Session

Sponsored by Pierce Wallbaum, *General Affairs Committee Chair*

Referred to Committee on Academic and Administrative Affairs. Read
on the floor XX/XX/XXXX.

SUMMARY

To improve students' ability to make informed registration decisions, this resolution proposes that the University of Washington require a pre-registration "Syllabus Description," or an equivalent outline, for every scheduled course and to ensure that it is displayed in MyPlan via existing syllabi integrations, with accessibility standards and reasonable exceptions.

1 **WHEREAS** UW students currently plan their courses using MyPlan
2 and enroll through Register.UW; and

3 **WHEREAS** UW has stated that "Syllabus Descriptions provide
4 specific information regarding the content and delivery of
5 courses that can help students plan their registration" [1],
6 underlining the importance of academic transparency regarding
7 the registration process; and

8 **WHEREAS** unless voluntarily submitted by professors, many courses
9 lack detailed information such as syllabi, attendance
10 requirements, grading breakdowns, or workload expectations; and

11 **WHEREAS** MyPlan has the capability to display a course's Syllabus
12 Description or pull from a public Canvas Syllabus page when
13 instructors enable it, but this function is inconsistently
14 applied and not required across campus; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Office of the University Registrar has provided
16 syllabus content guidelines, including required policy
17 statements [2], but there is no universal pre-registration
18 posting requirement, leaving syllabus accessibility prior to
19 registration at the discretion of individual faculty; and

20 **WHEREAS** first-generation undergraduates constitute approximately
21 one-third of UW's student body [3]; and

22 **WHEREAS** having access to syllabi and workload expectations
23 before registration would reduce inequities for those who lack
24 informal networks and insider knowledge about courses and
25 lecturers; and

26 **WHEREAS** research from Transparency in Learning and Teaching
27 (TILT) demonstrates that clear and advanced communication of
28 course expectations improve student outcomes, especially for
29 first-generation and underrepresented students [4]; and

30 **WHEREAS** institutions across the country, including Ohio State
31 University [5], Rice University [6], Yale University [7], and
32 Indiana University [8] provide centralized syllabus repositories
33 or maintain some form of mandated advanced syllabus posting; and

34 **WHEREAS** the Faculty Senate, serving as the University of
35 Washington's elected faculty governing body, holds
36 responsibility for establishing academic policy and would be the
37 body empowered to adopt this requirement across campus;

38 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**
39 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

40 **THAT** ASUW supports a policy requiring every course scheduled for
41 a given quarter to publish, no later than two weeks before the
42 student registration priority period opens, an updated Syllabus
43 description aligned with appropriate course changes accessible
44 in MyPlan, and minimum required fields shall include, but not be
45 limited to:

- 46 (1) Course overview and learning goals
- 47 (2) Modality consistent with Registrar definitions
- 48 (3) Major graded components with approximate weight ranges
- 49 (4) Expected workload
- 50 (5) Required materials and their expected costs
- 51 (6) Key policies affecting planning
- 52 (7) A disclaimer that details are subject to reasonable
53 change; and

54 **THAT** ASUW urges the Faculty Senate, the Office of the University
55 Registrar (OUR), UW-IT, and any other departments necessary to
56 implement this through MyPlan integration with Canvas Syllabus
57 settings or departmental pages linked into MyPlan and

58 Register.UW shall continue to function as the enrollment
59 platform without modification; and

60 **THAT** all Syllabus Descriptions be made accessible, in compliance
61 with UW accessibility standards, and include or link to all
62 required syllabus language established by the Faculty Council on
63 Academic Standards; and

64 **THAT** reasonable exceptions be permitted for new or topics
65 courses whose content is not finalized prior to registration,
66 provided they publish provisional outlines including the
67 previously stated minimum required fields; and

68 **THAT** to protect instructor intellectual property, faculty may
69 provide representative categories of readings or assignments in
70 lieu of full lists, provided that enrolled students receive the
71 complete syllabus by the first day of class; and

72 **THAT** nevertheless the option of posting full lists and a full
73 public syllabus be available to instructors if they wish to
74 avoid drafting a new summary and if they have no objection to
75 publicly presenting the information within; and

76 **THAT** in cases where a course is scheduled but no instructor has
77 yet been assigned, the responsible department shall publish a
78 provisional Syllabus Description that includes previously stated
79 minimum required fields, with the understanding that the
80 assigned instructor may update or expand the syllabus prior to
81 the start of the course; and

82 **THAT** a copy of this legislation be forwarded to the following
83 parties or organizations:

Robert J. Jones | President, *University of Washington*
(president@uw.edu)

Tricia R. Serio | Provost & Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs, *University of Washington* (tserio@uw.edu)

Aarti Bhat | Chair, *Faculty Senate* (aartib@u.washington.edu)

Laura McGarrity | Chair, *Faculty Council on Teaching and
Learning* (lauramcg@uw.edu)

Helen B. Garrett | University Registrar, *University of Washington*
(helenbg@uw.edu)

Andreas Bohman | Vice President & Chief Information Office, UW
Information Technology

Erick Jacobsen | Senate Speaker, ASUW (asuwssch@uw.edu)

Joseph Riggio | Senate Vice Speaker, ASUW (asuwssvc@uw.edu)

References:

[1] University of Washington Syllabus Description |
<https://www.washington.edu/students/icd/S/pubaff/608kleit.html>

[2] College of Engineering Faculty on Academic Standards
Syllabus Content Guidelines |
<https://www.engr.washington.edu/mycoe/academic/integrity>

[3] UW Fast Facts 2024-2025 |
<https://www.washington.edu/opb/uw-data/fast-facts/fast-facts-html-only/>

[4] Transparency in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education |
<https://www.tilthighered.com/about/about-tilt>

[5] Ohio State University Syllabus Upload for Faculty |
<https://registrar.osu.edu/faculty-support/syllabus-upload-for-faculty>

[6] Rice University Course Syllabus Information |
<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/syllabus>

[7] Yale University Course Syllabi |
<https://catalog.yale.edu/handbook-instructors-undergraduates-yale-college/courses/online-syllabi>

[8] Indiana University Policy Statement |
<https://policies.iu.edu/policies/aca-85-syllabus/index.html#policyStatement>

