Posthumous Degrees for Graduate Students
Approved by the University Senate
February 11, 2021

A posthumous graduate degree shall be awarded at the request of or with concurrence of the family or friends of the deceased if, at the time of death, the student was in good standing, with a minimum GSU cumulative GPA of 3.00. For programs requiring a thesis or dissertation, the student must have completed adequate work toward this requirement, as determined by the respective college. At a minimum, adequate work will typically include approval of the thesis/dissertation prospectus. For students in graduate programs not requiring a thesis or dissertation, the expectation is that 75% of the credit hours for the program will have been completed. A request for a posthumous degree should be made to the Dean/Director of the College or School in which the student is enrolled. Dean’s/Director’s approval of posthumous degrees should be forwarded to the Graduate School and the University Registrar. A college’s decision not to grant a posthumous degree may be appealed through the normal process of petition for a waiver of the university’s graduation requirements.