

## Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

**PROPOSAL TITLE: Grade Replacement Policy**

Adopt new grading policies that would allow undergraduate students to repeat a course under limited conditions to improve their grade/grade point average. This policy will be in addition to the extant Course Repeat Policy.

**SPONSOR\*:**

Senate Educational Policy Committee, Abbas Aminmansour (AAmin@Illinois.edu, 333-2834), Chair

**COLLEGE CONTACT:**

Not applicable

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

Current Policy:

1. § 3-309 Repeated Undergraduate Courses
  - a. A student who repeats a subject for which the student has previously received credit (either by class work at the University, or by advanced standing previously allowed for work done elsewhere) does not forfeit the original credit in the event the student should fail the course on the second attempt. Where a course has been repeated, both the original and subsequent grades are included in the average if the course is acceptable toward graduation, but the credit is counted only once. (See § 3-103 on computation of grades.)
  - b. If the course is repeated yet again, all grades received, passed or failed, are counted in the graduation average, except as indicated in § 3-802 on minimum scholarship requirements for graduation.

\* Proposal developed in collaboration with representatives of the Provost Office, Registrar, A&A Deans Committee, Senate Conference on Conduct Governance and Senate Educational Policy Committee.

## Proposed New Grade Replacement Policy:

1. Undergraduate students may repeat courses for grade replacement according to the following set criteria. If these conditions are not met, the general policy governing repeated courses (§3-309) applies.
  - (a) Students may repeat for grade replacement up to a total of 4 distinct courses, not to exceed a maximum of 10 semester hours, taken at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign.
  - (b) Courses taken for grade replacement must be eligible for repeat, as indicated by the absence of any repeat restrictions in the university Class Schedule list.
  - (c) A course may be repeated for grade replacement only once.
  - (d) Courses may be repeated for grade replacement only in those cases in which students received grades of C-, D+, D, D-, or F on the first attempt.
  - (e) If a course was taken for credit on the first attempt, it must be taken for the same credit when repeated for a replacement grade.
  - (f) A student who has been awarded a degree from the University of Illinois may not subsequently repeat a course from that degree program for the purposes of grade replacement.
2. When a student repeats a course for grade replacement, the transcript is affected as follows:
  - (a) Both course enrollments and corresponding grades appear on the official transcript.
  - (b) The first course enrollment on the student's transcript will be permanently identified as a course that has been repeated for grade replacement.
  - (c) Where a course has been repeated for grade replacement, the course credit earned will be counted only once toward degree and program requirements. In the event that the student should fail the course on the second attempt, the student does not forfeit the original credit [§3-309 (a)].
  - (d) When a course has been repeated for grade replacement, only the grade received in the second enrollment for the course will count in the student's grade point average. In the event that the student should fail the course on the second attempt, while having earned a passing grade in the first attempt, the general policy governing course repeats applies: all grades received, passed, or failed will be counted in the graduation average (§3-309, b) except as indicated in (§3-802) on minimum scholarship requirements for graduation.

3. Students must register their intent to use the course repeat for grade replacement option by filing a form for this purpose at their college office during the first half of the term (e.g., the first eight weeks of the semester, the first four weeks of the summer session, or the first four week of an eight-week course) in which the course is taken.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The proposed policy to repeat a course will

1. Permit undergraduate students to improve their grade in a course in which they received a lower than expected grade.
2. Help transfer students and freshman succeed academically.
3. Place our students at the same competitive level when applying for admission to graduate or professional colleges as students from other institutions that offer their students the opportunity to repeat a course and improve their grade point average.

**BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:**

- a. *Additional staff and dollars needed:* The Registrar's Office and college offices can implement this policy without any additional recurring resources other than a onetime development expense. The Provost Office is working with the Office of the Registrar to address resource issues.
- b. *Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.):* The number of students taking advantage of this policy in a particular course is expected to be minimal.
- c. *Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments:* See item (b) above.
- d. *Impact on the University Library:* See item (b) above.
- e. *Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.:* See item (b) above.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:**

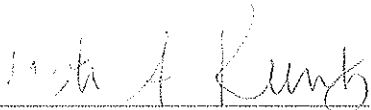
Applies to all undergraduate students who repeat an approved course during Fall 2009 semester and beyond.

**STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:**

Not applicable. The Senate Conference on Conduct Governance (CG) will develop an appropriate language for including the approved policy in the Student Code.

**CLEARANCES:**

Signatures:

  
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Provost Office:

Date: 11/17/08

  
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Senate Educational Policy Committee:

Date: 11/13/08