

Date Submitted: January 22, 2024

Title of Issue: Course Repeat Policy

Description of Issue:

Our course repeat policy allows students to take a class they received a C- or below in as many times as they want. In some cases, students are not prepared for a course but continue to try to take the course. This is unfair to the student who is not prepared but permitted to continue to enroll in the class as well as the other students in the class. It also makes the course much harder to instruct for professors. The Dean's Council recommends changing the course repeat policy to require students to gain advisor and dean approval prior to taking the course a fourth time.

Rationale for the Submission:

Other institutions have similar policies. Allowing students to continue to take a class which they have failed sends a message that failing is okay. Limiting the number of times that students can take a class without approval incentivizes students to work harder. As an R1 institution, our policies should promote excellence rather than embrace failure.

Submitted by Brian K. Payne on behalf of the Dean's Council.

Repeating Courses

1. Normally, undergraduate students may not repeat courses in which they have previously earned a C or better or in which they have received transfer credit. Exceptions to this should be made by the department chair or, in the case of graduate students, by the dean of the college in which the graduate student is enrolled, and should be allowed only under the following conditions:
 - a. A student has a long delay (usually more than five years) between an introductory course (or the first half of a two-course sequence) and subsequent study, so that repeating the course is advisable for future success in the field.
 - b. A department requires that grades higher than C be earned in particular courses or requires a cumulative grade point average greater than 2.00 and stipulates that students who earn less than the desired grades or grade point average retake the courses.².
 - c. Students may repeat a class in which they earned a C- or below twice without further appeal. A grade of "W" counts a C- or below this policy. In order to enroll in a class more than three times, the student will be required to submit a request in writing, with justification, to their major advisor and the Dean/designee of the college in which the student's major is housed. If the advisor and the Dean/designee grant approval for subsequent attempts by the student, the student will be permitted to enroll. If approval is not granted for subsequent attempts, no further appeal is available to the student. This policy retroactively applies to all courses students have taken including those taken prior to the publication of this catalog.

None of the credit hours earned in courses that have been repeated for credit under these conditions will be applicable toward the total hours required for the degree. Grades earned in both the original course (including C or above) and the repeated course will, however, be used in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average unless the Grade Forgiveness Policy has been applied (for grades below C).

The Grade Forgiveness Policy does not apply when courses are repeated in which a grade of C or higher was earned originally nor does the Grade Forgiveness Policy apply to transfer courses. Please refer to the Grade Forgiveness Policy in this Catalog for information about repeating courses in which grades below C were earned.