

	ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY	Page 1 of 2
	Issued: (original policy date) Prior to 1996	Revised: (date) 3/6/2014

Policy Title: ***Course Repeat / Grade Improvement***

Policy Status: ☐ New

☒ Revision

☐ Supersedes existing policy titled:

☐ Deletion

Policy Purpose/Reason: Adjust the “Course Repeat/Grade Improvement” policy from the most recent grade earned to the best grade earned.

The reason for the requested change: Some students take a course and earn a passing grade, then do worse on the repeat. For example, a pre-Teacher Education student may take ENGL 111 and earn a "C". To be considered in the Teacher Education program, the student needs an A or B. If the student retakes the course, and an unexpected event occurs (e.g. medical issue, family issue, other) the student may consequently earn an "F". If the student then changes his/her major to business, per current policy, s/he cannot use the "C" and must take the class a third time to once again pass the course. The same situation may occur for students who change majors after taking several classes toward application to the Nursing Program. Whatever the reason, the student legitimately passed the course, but we are not allowing use of the passed attempt. This negatively affects progress toward a degree and to CMU's graduation rates.

Effective Date of Policy (Note: Enter a date here only if the effective date is not next July 1):

Background: Research regarding the reason for the current policy was conducted. No documents have been found to explain the reasoning for the current policy. In researching other universities, there is not a uniform policy. Other policies, similar to the proposed policy, are fairly common.

Definitions:

Full Policy Statement: Course Repeat/ Grade Improvement (2013-2014 CMU Catalog – page 42 – Changes have been made to paragraph 1 and reference to the most recent grade was deleted from paragraph 4)

Any course that is taken more than once for academic credit at Colorado Mesa University should only be taken for “grade improvement” wherein academic credit is awarded only once and the best grade received is the one used to compute the student’s cumulative grade point average and to fulfill requirements for the degree. The lower grade will be excluded from the earned hours for the term taken and will be excluded from the GPA calculations. This may cause a negative effect on financial aid, Veteran benefits, athletic eligibility, scholarships, and other areas that use earned hours to determine student benefits. It is the student’s responsibility to work with the appropriate departments to consider options and consequences prior to repeating the course.

Exceptions to this policy are DANC (performing dance), MUSL (music lessons) and MUSP (performing music) classes, each of which may be taken twice for academic credit; Independent Studies (a maximum of six credit hours may be taken for credit – see the Independent Study section in this catalog); and in some cases Topics, Practica, Seminars, Internships, Structured Research, and Cooperative Education. See program sheets and the appropriate department head or director for these exceptions.

Additionally, program-specific exceptions to retaking courses for grade improvement may exist regarding courses in the major and may supersede the University's general policy. Students should check with the head of the academic department for their major to determine if there are any restrictions for repeating a course.

The option of repeating a course for grade improvement is available to a student only if the course s/he wishes to repeat is still offered at Colorado Mesa University and is scheduled to be offered in the semester in which the student wishes to take it.

Courses taken at Colorado Mesa University may not be repeated at another university for improvement of the original grade and courses taken at another university may not be repeated at Colorado Mesa University for improvement of the original grade.

Exclusions or Special Circumstances: This policy would affect students starting in Summer 2014. Historic data in Banner will not be adjusted. Student wishing to use the policy on courses taken prior to Summer 2014, must request the change in writing to the Registrar's Office.

Related Documents:

Policies: See the Full Policy Statement above

Forms: None

Other:

Approved by (signatures as applicable):

Faculty Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee Action 11/25/13

Faculty Senate Faculty Senate Action 3/16/14

Vice President for Academic Affairs: Approved by Carol Futhey 5/15/14

President _____ NA _____/date_____

Board of Trustees (if applicable) _____ NA _____/date_____

Expiration Date (if applicable):