

Grades and Grading Policy

The proposed policy replaces any and all prior grade replacement and GPA recalculation policies, in particular:

6. Policy and Procedure on Course Re-enrollment and Recalculation of Student Grade-Point Average {GPA} (UFC March 17, 1979 and amendments, including all EFS amendments)

6. Policy and Procedure on Course Re-enrollment and Recalculation of Student Grade Point Average

Background and Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to allow students who have done poorly in a course to repeat the course and remove the weight of the earlier grade from the student's cumulative grade point average. The IU East Faculty Senate sees this policy as an expansion of the current University Faculty Council policy (UFC April 10, 1984 and its EFS amendments – “FX” Policy) by extending the replacement option to courses in which students receive any grade rather than just grades of F.

Statement of the Policy

General. A student may retake any undergraduate course and petition for exclusion of the previously earned grade from the cumulative GPA after repeating the course. A student may apply this grade replacement option for a maximum of 15 credit hours. This option may be exercised no more than two times for each course. Each attempt will count toward the 15 credit hour limit.

Extension of FX Policy. This policy replaces the use of the FX policy (UFC Action April 10, 1984). Previously granted FX grades will be honored under this policy; the number of credit hours for which the FX option has been used will contribute to the count of credit hours for which this policy applies.

Effective date. This policy is effective upon being enacted. Students may replace any previously earned grades with grades earned during or after Spring 2004. The FX policy still applies if a student wishes to replace an F with the grade earned in a course retaken during a semester prior to Spring 2004.

Grades and courses for which this option is available. Grade replacement under this policy is only available for undergraduate courses with fixed credit. Grades in courses with variable topic may not be replaced unless the topics, rigor, expected competencies, and work-assignments in both courses are the same. The determination of equivalency is made by the faculty. Under this policy, any grade may be replaced by the grade in the retaken course. A grade of “W”, “I”, or “NC” cannot be used to replace another grade.

Academic Record. This policy only excludes certain grades from the calculation of the grade point average. All grades will remain part of the student's academic record; a notation on the transcript will indicate if a grade is not included in the GPA calculation. The provisions apply to undergraduate

courses taken by students pursuing an undergraduate degree only. If a degree has been awarded, in no case may a grade be replaced for a course taken prior to the award of that degree. Schools and programs with selective admissions criteria may use a GPA calculation that does not honor the grade replacement under this policy in determining admissibility, academic standards, honors and graduation criteria.

Procedure. Students may petition for grade replacement under this policy at any time after repeating the course. The petition is made on a course-by-course basis. Once a grade replacement has been entered in a student's academic record, it may not be rescinded. The registrar's office will – in consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and the Admissions and Academic Affairs Committee – establish a procedure consistent with this policy.

Grades Earned at other IU campuses. Students who take a course at another IU campus and subsequently repeat that course at IU East may petition for grade replacement under this policy. However, replacement of grades earned at another IU campus is subject to the policies and procedures at that campus. The registrar at IU East shall forward petitions for grade replacement to the appropriate registrar and shall act as a liaison between the divisions and faculty who are responsible for evaluating the replacement.

Honoring grade replacement requests from other IU campuses. IU East joins all other IU campuses in honoring the principle that the grade policies on the degree granting campus are applicable for each student. Hence, if an IU East student transfers to another campus with different grade replacement policies, IU East will honor requests from that campus, on behalf of the student, to replace an IU East grade that may not be replaceable under this policy. Were the student to return to IU East for graduation, however, that grade exclusion may not apply. In such a case, the student may petition to the degree-granting division to honor the IU sister-campus's grade replacement policy.

Grades earned outside the IU system. Grades earned outside the IU system cannot be used to replace grades earned at IU East.

Grade replacement with courses using different course numbers. A student may petition to replace a grade in one course with the grade earned in another course, provided that the two courses are equivalent. The determination of equivalency of the two courses is made by the appropriate division chair and the faculty of the subject area. In order to establish equivalency, the faculty must determine that topics, rigor, expected competencies, and work-assignments in both courses are equivalent. A comparison of course descriptions alone is not adequate to establish equivalency. Students may not petition for grade replacement on the basis of having proved competency by successfully completing a subsequent course, through life experience, or through testing. [Explanation: This provision is meant to be used in cases where a course number has been changed, or where the two different course numbers are used for essentially the same course.]

Passed: I U East Faculty Senate 3/2/04