

3-8-1984

## Academic Standards and Calendar committee Report #1983-84-3 Repeating Courses-Second Grade Option

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE  
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Edward D. Eddy

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #1983-84-3 Repeating Courses-Second Grade Option

\_\_\_\_\_ is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 8, 1984 (date).
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on March 29, 1984 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

March 12, 1984  
(date)

Marguerite Bumpus  
Marguerite Bumpus  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Returned.

- a. Approved  \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_.

3/22/84  
(date)

Edward D. Eddy  
President

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND CALENDAR COMMITTEE

REPORT #83-84-3

Repeating Courses - Second Grade Option

EXISTING

8.33.30 Repeating Courses. Unless otherwise designated, no course may be repeated in which a grade of "C" or better has already been received except with permission of the student's academic dean. The dean may require that the course be taken pass-fail. If such a course is repeated for credit, both grades are used in computing the QPA, and the credit requirement for graduation shall be increased by the number of credits repeated. A course in which an undergraduate student earns below a C (C-, any D, or F grade) may be repeated for a second grade option in which only the grade earned when the course is repeated will be used in the calculation of a student's QPA and only the credits earned for the repeated course will apply towards the graduation requirement. All grades earned for a given course shall remain on a student's permanent record. Students who wish to take advantage of this second grade option must obtain approval from their academic dean and submit the appropriate form to the Office of the Registrar. This second grade option may be used once per course.

8.33.31 No limit shall be placed on the number of times a course may be repeated, but the credit requirement for graduation shall be increased by the number of credits repeated.

PROPOSED

8.33.30 Repeating Courses. Unless otherwise designated, no course may be repeated in which a grade of "C" or better has already been received except with the permission of the student's academic dean. The dean may require that the course be taken pass-fail. If such a course is repeated for credit, both grades are used in computing the QPA, and the credit requirement for graduation shall be increased by the number of credits repeated.

NO CHANGE

8.33.32 Students may exercise a Second Grade Option by repeating a course in which the student earned a C-, D+, D, or F. Only courses that fall within the student's first 30 credits taken at the university may be selected for this

EXISTING

PROPOSED

option. Students must exercise this option no later than the next two semesters for which the student registers after completing thirty credits. Transfer students may exercise the Second Grade Option for courses taken during their initial semester at the University. This option must be exercised during the next two semesters for which they register after their initial semester. When a student exercises the Second Grade Option, only the grade earned when the course is repeated will be used in the calculation of a student's QPA and only the credits earned for the repeated course will apply toward the graduation requirements. All grades earned for a given course shall remain on a student's permanent academic record. Students who wish to take advantage of this Second Grade Option must obtain approval from their academic deans and submit the appropriate form to the Office of the Registrar prior to mid-term of the semester in which the course is being repeated. The Second Grade Option may be used only once per course.

Rationale: In response to concerns raised by the Department of Computer Science and Experimental Statistics, the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee agreed to review sections 8.33.10 and 8.33.11 of the University Manual regarding repeating courses. The committee's review included discussions with Deans Cain, Goff, Harris and Strommer. These discussions led the committee to conclude unanimously that the sections ought to be redefined so that the second grade option is available in a more limited way than provided in current regulations. Our recommendations, if passed by the Senate, would permit students to take a second grade option only for their first thirty (30) credits of course work. We also recommend that students ought to exercise their second grade option only during the next two terms for which the student registers. This provision is to minimize those situations in which upper class students would repeat 100 and 200 level courses in fields where they have already passed more advanced courses.

The second grade option would be available to transfer students for those courses taken during their first semester at the university. Transfer students would also have two semesters to exercise their second grade option.

All of the proposed changes would restrict the second grade option to the student's initial work at URI. It would allow for the fact that some very able students go through an adjustment period in their initial time at the university. This would mediate against student QPA's being irretrievably damaged by mistakes made early in their college careers.