


PRESIDENTIAL POLICY MEMORANDUM NO. 11b (Revision #1)

To: All Virginia Tech Employees and Students
From: Timothy D. Sands 
Date: April 18, 2016
Subject: Revision to PPM 11b, Prohibiting Students from Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages (Undergraduate Repeating Course Enrollment Policy)

Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies & Policies: March 21, 2016
Approved by University Council: April 18, 2016
Approved by the President: April 18, 2016
Effective Date: Fall 2016

University Council approved a resolution to revise PPM 11b, Prohibiting Students from Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages (Undergraduate Repeating Course Enrollment Policy).

Following is the text of the resolution.

WHEREAS, Presidential Policy 11b, Prohibiting Students from Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages was established to limit the number of times a student may enroll in a course, and

WHEREAS, many students repeatedly enroll in courses after one or more attempt, and

WHEREAS, students who repeatedly enroll in courses limit access for students who have not yet enrolled in these courses and therefore may delay progress to degree and graduation for those who have not gained access to those same courses, and

WHEREAS, repeated attempts are often indicative of inappropriate major selection and the need for advising intervention, and

WHEREAS, repeated attempts to complete a course may place an additional financial burden on students, and

WHEREAS, repeated attempts to complete a course may prevent students from meeting progress to degree requirements in a timely manner,

Invent the Future

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that:

- An attempt at a course shall be defined as enrollment on the last day to add courses each semester or term.
- Students shall be limited to three attempts at any course.
- Students who enroll for a fourth attempt *will be dropped from the course*.
- Courses designated as repeatable credit (to the limit allowed) are excluded from the three repeat limit policy.
- The Policy shall be renamed Undergraduate Repeating Courses Enrollment Policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that other policy restrictions continue without modification including: a student may not repeat courses in order to improve his or her grade average where a grade of "C" or higher has been earned.

Effective Date: This policy is effective for all students first enrolled Fall 2016 and after.

Undergraduate Repeating Courses Enrollment Policy

~~Prohibiting Students From Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages~~

Policy Memorandum No. 11b
(Revision #1 approved April 18, 2016)

(Long title) Prohibiting students from repeating courses in order to improve their grade averages, where a grade of "C" or higher has been earned

~~Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies, January 22, 1979~~

~~Approved by University Council: April 2, 1979~~

~~Approved by the President: April 2, 1979 Effective: Fall, 1979~~

Effective Date: This policy is effective for all students first enrolled Fall Semester 2016 and after.

On recommendation of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies, University Council approved the following policy:

A student may not repeat courses in order to improve his or her grade average where a grade of "C" or higher has been earned.

Students shall be limited to three attempts at any course. Students who enroll for a fourth attempt will be dropped from the course. An attempt at a course is defined as enrollment on the last day to add courses each semester or term.

Courses designated as repeatable credit (to the limit allowed) are excluded from the three-repeat-limit policy.

Council was advised that some students re-take courses in which they have made good grades simply to obtain additional good grades, thereby raising their academic averages. This policy is designed to stop that practice. Moreover, repeated attempts are often indicative of inappropriate major selection and the need for advising intervention, may prevent students from meeting progress-to-degree requirements in a timely manner, and may place an additional financial burden on students. In addition, students who repeatedly enroll in courses limit access for students who have not yet enrolled in these courses and therefore may delay progress to degree and graduation for those who have not gained access to those same courses.

FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED BEFORE FALL SEMESTER 2016, THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF THE POLICY APPLIES, AS FOLLOWS:

A student may not repeat courses in order to improve his or her grade average where a grade of "C" or higher has been earned.

Council was advised that some students re-take courses in which they have made good grades simply to obtain additional good grades, thereby raising their academic averages. This policy is designed to stop that practice.

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