



July 19, 2010

TO: David Pershing  
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

FR: John Francis *John Francis*  
Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

**RE: Revision of University Regulation 6-100 (Instruction and Evaluation) and Related Policies**

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Attached for your review is a thoroughly revised version of University Policy 6-100 (Instruction & Evaluation), along with two related policies: University Policy 6-101 (Undergraduate Study & Degrees), an existing policy to which some parts of the current Policy 6-100 have been moved, and R6-100A, a new Rule to which some parts of the current 6-100 have been relegated. Susan Olson, Robert Flores and James Metherall have all reviewed the attached documents and feel that the document package is ready to move forward.

If you approve of the changes and the process through which they have gone, then we are asking you to forward the documents on to the Academic Senate for their consideration.

The initial impetus for what turned out to be a quite broad revision of 6-100 was virtually simultaneous requests in Spring 2009 from two separate areas for updates to disparate parts of this policy. As we began to look over the policy, we soon realized that it was long overdue for a more extensive revision, one that dealt not only with content but also with language and organization. Accordingly, we began working with several administrative areas and with the Academic Senate, which created an ad hoc committee for this purpose in September 2009, chaired by Michael Timberlake (Sociology). Subsequently, we included Susan Olson and Robert Flores, from Academic Affairs, in our drafting process. Finally, we presented the documents to the Council of Academic Deans (CAD) and solicited their feedback.

The result of this eighteen-month process is a major overhaul of perhaps one of our most central and important Academic Policies, one that governs the teaching of every course, affecting every student and every course instructor every day.

There are three types of changes reflected in the revision: (1) substantive changes, which have material effects on University practices; (2) content changes, which add/remove verbiage from the policy but have no material effects – expansions or restrictions – on University practices;

October 18, 2010

TO: James Metherall  
Academic Senate President

FR: Ed Barbanell  
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

**RE: Changes to Policy 6-100**

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In response to questions raised and suggestions made at the Academic Senate meeting on October 4, as well as subsequent questions and suggestions voiced to me over the last few weeks, I have made the following changes to the attached versions of Policy 6-100 (a marked-up version and an all-changes-accepted version), which I am submitting for inclusion on the Intent calendar for the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Academic Senate.

- 1.) III.F (Final Examinations) – I have struck out the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence in the second paragraph, deleted the proposed new paragraph that outlined a process for exceptions, and made slight modifications to the remaining text (double-underlined below), such that the entire section now reads as follows:

Final examinations shall be given under regulations ~~to be~~ as determined by the Academic Senate.

When they are required, in-class final examinations must be given at times officially set. A schedule for such examinations shall be prepared by the Scheduling Office and published by the University.

- 2.) The first paragraph of III.G.3 (Non-Attendance and Non-Performance) has been rewritten as follows:

The grade of "EU"(Unofficial withdrawal) is given when a student's name appears on the registrar's final grade report but there is no record of attendance or other evidence of participation in the course. The "EU" grade is treated as an "E" in calculating the student's GPA. When no grade is entered for any person listed in a final grade report, the Registrar shall record an "EU" for that person. The grade "EU" shall be treated as an "E" in calculating grade point averages, but it shall be disregarded in calculating "section mean grade."

- 3.) In the first sentence of III.G.4 (In-Progress Courses), the "shall" has been changed to "may"

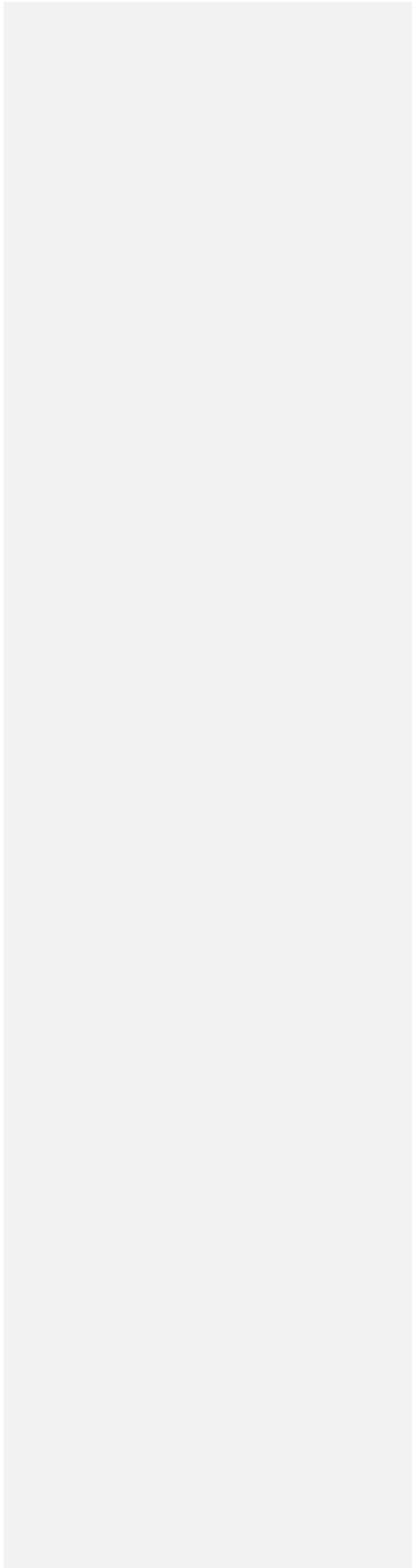
- 4.) A new section III.G.9 has been added, which reads as follows:

**Auditing a Class**

An audit grade can be elected in credit courses when no grade is desired. A student may audit a course if it is not available to be taken as non-credit, and/or if they want to attend the class for their own personal benefit. Students auditing a course are not held responsible for completing course work or taking examinations during the class. An

audited course will show on a student's transcript with a 'V' grade and '0.00' as the awarded number of credit hours. Audited courses are not included in the student's GPA calculation.

- 5.) III.K.6 (Scholastic Standards for Undergraduates), has been amended as indicated below:  
Readmission after Suspension. A student wishing to return to the University after the expiration of the three-semester suspension period must petition the Scholastic Standards Committee of University College for readmission. The Committee will readmit the student if there seems a reasonable likelihood of academic success. The readmitted student must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 each subsequent semester until the student's cumulative grade point average reaches 2.0. A student who does not meet these conditions is subject to ~~re-suspension~~ dismissal. A student who has been dismissed due to the provisions described here will not be re-admitted to the University until they are eligible for Academic Renewal.





**MEMORANDUM**

TO: James Metherall, President, U of U Academic Senate

FROM: Sharon A. Aiken-Wisniewski, Asst. VP for Undergraduate Studies

CC: John G. Francis, Sr. Associate VP for Academic Affairs  
Ed Barbanell, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

DATE: November 22, 2010

RE: 6-100, Section M – Academic Renewal  
Additional Information

I was asked to provide information that would address questions from the Nov. 1, 2010 Academic Senate discussion on the revised Academic Renewal policy.

**Policy Revision Before the U of U Academic Senate**

A currently enrolled undergraduate student may petition University College for academic renewal. This is a Procedure which allows the student to request that his or her academic record be reviewed for the purpose of discounting, University of Utah courses with a D+ or lower grade on the student's academic record. The courses must have been taken seven or more calendar years prior to the request. If approved, the discounted courses will remain on the student's academic record (and the grades received for the courses will be shown), but the discounted courses and grades received for them will not count towards total hours, cumulative grade point computation, or graduation requirements.

The renewal option can be used only once during a student's undergraduate career. This Procedure does not apply to graduate students or to students pursuing a second undergraduate degree.

Responsibility for administration of this Procedure rests with the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Overview of Academic Renewal and General Guidelines Followed By Other Institutions**

When reviewing academic renewal policies across the PAC-10 as well as previously identified U of U peer institutions and Utah State University, specific elements emerged. First, some of these institutions do not use an academic renewal policy at all (U of Washington, U of OR, UC Berkeley, and USC). If the institution does have an academic renewal policy, then the following elements are present:

1. A period of time must have elapsed from when a course is taken (*U of AZ at 5 years*) **OR** a period of time must have elapsed since the student was enrolled at the institution (*U of Virginia at 10 years, ASU, OSU, U of New Mexico, U of Pittsburgh and USU at 5 years and WSU at 4 years*).
2. The institution requires from a student a certain level of performance after he or she returns to classes to qualify for academic renewal (*ranges from 12 to 30 credits with 2.0 to 3.0 GPA at U of AZ, ASU, WSU and USU*).
3. The institution, rather than the student, specifies exactly which courses will be renewed (limit on number of semesters, credits, and disposition of courses with grades of C or higher (*U of AZ, ASU, WSU and OSU*)).
4. Some institutions have limits on the amount of work that can be considered for renewal (*U of AZ, ASU and OSU*).
5. Some institutions specifically focus this policy on students who have been suspended from the institution (*U of AZ, U of New Mexico, and U of Pittsburgh*).

The proposed policy for the U of U is different from other peer institutions (especially in the PAC -10) in that

- it allows students to retain credits and grades above a D+,
- it is accessible to all students (not just suspended students),
- students are not required to prove their academic commitment and ability prior to receiving academic renewal,
- and students are not limited on the number of continuous semesters or total credits for academic renewal.

After reviewing policies for all these institutions, one could conclude that the U of U policy is ***the most student-centered policy*** among peer institutions.

#### **EXAMPLE - Student Using The U of U Policy**

- Freshmen Yr. (1) – student fails all courses except Writing 2010 (B-) but not suspended
- LVS for two years (2 & 3)
- Returns to complete degree (4) – completes 24 credits (and 3 cr from Writing 2010) = 27
- Progressing on degree (5) – completes 20/47 credits (working & family)
- Progressing on degree (6) – completes 24/71 credits
- Progressing on degree (7) – completes 24/95 credits (ACADEMIC RENEWAL for higher GPA and retains 3 credits as well as meeting requirement)
- Progressing on degree (8) - completes 27/122 and ready to graduate

At other peer institutions this student would not be eligible for academic renewal due lack of suspension or failure to have 4 or 5 years between enrollments; additionally, the student would not be able to retain either the credit or the grade for Writing 2010.

#### **Data to Answer Questions About Academic Renewal at the U of U (2000 – 2010)**

- Students involved in past: Average 63 students/year with high of 89 and low of 49
- Students returning from suspension: average 6 to 10 students a year
- Graduation rate of participants: 43%
- Average Cum GPA after renewal: 2.90 Cum GPA with high of 3.97 and low of 1.10
- Average credits lost for graduation: 3.6 cr. (most courses discounted are grades of “E” or “EU”)
- **Number of students waiting on vote to change from 10 to 7 yrs: 117 students**

#### **Advising Students To Improve GPA**

Academic renewal is one of many policies used to address academic challenges that are reflected through courses in early enrollment. Others include:

- Exception to Policy for Retro-withdrawal: adjust for situations that have negatively impacted a semester or more within the last three years.
- Repeat: appropriate especially if the course is foundational for the major or minor.

A student would be advised to use one or more of these policies as appropriate based on their individual situation.

Another key factor involves whether the student is benefitting from federal financial aid. If federal aid is used, students are advised to consult with the financial aid office to understand how any of these policies might impact aggregate completion. Finally, the grade never leaves the transcript but receives an academic renewal notation. It is important to advise students of this fact. When applying to graduate school or professional school, the admitting institution might use all grades to identify a cumulative grade point average for the undergraduate degree.

#### **Policy On Grade Criteria for Courses Discounted**

Concerns were raised on the policy criteria of "a D+ or lower grade" being discounted in this process.

Please consider the following:

- The CR/NC Policy establishes credit (CR) for a C- or higher and no credit (NC) for a D+ or lower. By using the grade of "D+" in the academic renewal policy as a demarcation, the CR could stand within the transcript for credit and not be part of the Academic Renewal process.
- As 10 years of data were reviewed on students who participated in Academic Renewal, it became clear that the "D" grade range had a low issue rate with minimal impact on students who applied for Academic Renewal. The average graduation credits lost were 3.6 credits. Thus, students lost few if any graduation credits in the Academic Renewal process by using the "a D+ or lower grade" criteria in the policy.

#### **Conclusion**

Academic renewal is a policy that discounts previous grades from the cumulative grade point average. Higher education institutions craft this policy in many ways. The significant change for your consideration is reducing the time to apply for academic renewal from 10 years to 7 years. Since this policy change was initiated over 2 years ago, 117 students have been identified through advising appointments as eligible if the reduction of years was to occur. At present, the U of U policy offers all students the opportunity to adjust for earlier academic challenges, which is far more lenient than current or previous peer institutions.

{draft 2010-9-21}

## Policy 6-100: Instruction and Evaluation [Revision 20] [Effective date: July 1, 2011]

### I. Purpose and Scope

~~(Reserved)~~ This Policy governs University courses, including how courses shall be offered and approved, what units within the University may offer courses, who may teach University courses, when final examinations are conducted, what the standards are for course credit (i.e., credit hours), how courses are assessed and feedback is provided to instructors, what attendance requirements are, and how instructors may accommodate students' scheduling conflicts and accommodate students' objections to the substantive content of particular courses. These policies bear upon the responsibilities of individual instructors, students, course-offering units and the University administration. This Policy applies to all course-offering units [Note <sup>i</sup>]

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### II. Definitions

~~(Reserved)~~ "Course-offering unit" is an academic unit authorized to offer credit-bearing courses and bearing primary responsibility for the content, instruction and evaluation of such courses.

### III. Policy

#### ~~Section 4A.~~ The Academic Year

The academic year shall be divided into a Fall and Spring semester of approximately fifteen weeks each and a Summer term of approximately twelve weeks. A semester may be subdivided into two sessions of approximately eight weeks each and the Summer term may be subdivided into two sessions of approximately six weeks each.

#### ~~Section 2B.~~ The Credit Hour

A University credit hour shall represent approximately three clock hours of the student's time a week for one semester.

#### ~~Section 3C.~~ Standards for Undergraduate Credit-Bearing Courses [Note <sup>ii</sup>]

1. Courses are developed by departments, programs, by course-offering units and academic administration {Drafting NOTE: this is now hyperlinked to the Curriculum Administration webpage} in compliance with governing board policies University Regulations and any applicable regulations of the State Board of Regents. In keeping with the principles of faculty shared governance and Policy 6-001-III-A, courses shall be approved by the faculty members of course offering units before being submitted for higher-level approval. While faculty must play a major role, comparability of credits across the University should be maintained. The methods of instruction, time taught, or sites should make no difference in the integrity of the credit hour.
2. Credit should be given only to those courses which apply toward completion of requirements for a certificate or degree at the University. Consistent with Regent's Policy R470, the University does not offer credit

for courses defined as remedial. No credit should be assigned to any course whose purpose is only to qualify students for financial aid. (Drafting NOTE: added sentences have been moved from #'s 12 and 14 below to consolidate related items.)

3. Courses should be appropriately rigorous, complex and numbered at comparable levels as determined by the ~~department~~course-offering unit, college curriculum committee, and University review processes. "Credit awarded for successful educational performance should reflect comparable quality and be uniformly defined within an institution, regardless of the methods of instruction used, the time when the course is taught"<sup>[Note iii]</sup> or the site.
4. Courses may be offered only by the teaching staff and with the approval of academic administration. Courses should be taught, evaluated, or directly supervised by an instructor approved by the course-offering unit, whose teaching qualifications meet the criteria adopted by the course-offering unit in furtherance of the University's commitment to excellence in teaching. See Policy 6-303 (qualifications of regular faculty teachers) and Policy 6-310 (qualifications of auxiliary faculty and non-faculty teachers), an academic department or program, whose teaching qualifications satisfy departmental criteria.
5. Course descriptions should clearly state the learning outcomes and ~~classroom~~ activities essential to credit being awarded. ~~If attendance is essential to credit, the rationale should be made clear to students.~~
6. Credit hours and student ~~faculty~~ workload per credit hour should be comparable ~~among classes, departments, and colleges, across courses and course-offering units,~~ taking into account special requirements of accrediting agencies. Catalog, curriculum guide, and syllabi should accurately reflect the work load and the work load should be commensurate with the credit hours awarded. At the University of Utah we assume it is generally expected throughout the University that there is at least one hour in class and two hours outside of class per week or the equivalent combination connected to every credit hour for the appropriately prepared student. In laboratories it is expected that at least 2 to 3 hours are spent in class and approximately the same amount outside for each credit hour awarded. Where these minimums are exceeded, the approximate workload should be made clear in catalog descriptions, advising materials, and course syllabi.
7. ~~At the University of Utah Courses of one hour or less classes~~ are usually graded as credit/no credit.
8. The learning outcomes and requirements must be assessed appropriately.  
  
~~Catalog, curriculum guide, and syllabi should accurately reflect the work load and the work load should be commensurate with the credit hours awarded.~~  
{Drafting NOTE: This statement is deleted from here but has been moved to #6 above to consolidate related items}
9. Credit-bearing courses must be recorded on the student's permanent academic record (transcript).



10. The faculty and academic administration need to provide policies for allowing ~~repeating of~~students to repeat courses. These should be clearly communicated and coordinated across ~~departments~~course-offering units.

~~No credit should be assigned to any class whose purpose is only to qualify students for financial aid. {Drafting NOTE: This statement is deleted from here but has been moved to #2 above to consolidate related items}~~

11. Acceptance of transfer credits depends upon quality of instruction from the sending institution, comparability of the nature, content, and level of credit earned, and appropriateness and applicability of credit to the ~~receiving institution~~University and the student's educational goals. Rules regarding the acceptance of transfer credits are approved by the Academic Senate, based upon recommendations made by the Credits and Admissions Committee. (See Policy 6-404, Sec. 2)

~~Consistent with Regents' policy, the University of Utah does not offer credit for classes defined as remedial {Drafting NOTE: This statement, with added reference to Regents' policy, has been moved to #2 above to consolidate related items.}~~

~~Section 4~~Noncredit Courses {Drafting NOTE: This following section has been moved below; it is now Section P.}

~~Course development Procedures for noncredit courses should be academically sound and as rigorous, though perhaps different, as those applying to credit courses.—~~

~~The national standard for Continuing Education Units (CEU) is "ten contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction." The CEU may be the appropriate unit of measurement for qualifying noncredit courses.~~

~~A noncredit course is one which, at a minimum:~~

~~meets criteria established by University and Governing Board guidelines.~~

~~incorporates content, teaching methods and attendance requirements appropriate to the students eligible to enroll.~~

~~is taught or supervised by an instructor who has met institutional qualifications for noncredit courses.~~

~~is accurately described in appropriate publications of the University and for which an institutional record is established and maintained.~~

~~recognizes participation of students appropriately.~~

~~Section 5~~D. CoursesClass Meetings

~~Courses of instruction may be offered only by the teaching staff and with the approval of the president. {Drafting NOTE: this statement has been moved to C.4 above to consolidate related items.}~~

~~Classrooms and hours shall not be changed without the consent of the director of scheduling.~~

~~Classes shall begin promptly, be dismissed promptly, and take precedence over any special examination or exercise not a part of the official University calendar unless such examination or exercise is authorized by the Academic Senate.~~

~~Section 6~~E. Course Numbers

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Courses of instruction shall be classified and numbered in the publications and records of the University in accordance ~~with the resolutions of the Academic Senate~~ with the rules developed by the University Curriculum Policy Review Board and approved by the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate. See Policy 6-003–Sec. 2-B-3.

#### Section 7F. Final Examinations

~~Final, comprehensive, and special~~ examinations shall be given under regulations to be as determined by the Academic Senate.

~~Final examinations in University courses may be required at the instructor's discretion. When they are required, in-class~~ final examinations must be given at times officially set. A schedule for such examinations shall be prepared by ~~the~~ director of the Scheduling Office and published by the University.

~~A regular examination may be given a student at a time other than that officially scheduled only under specified conditions.~~

*{Drafting NOTE: The following three paragraphs will be moved to Policy 6-101, Sec. J & K, as shown on the attached revision of that Policy.}* ~~At the discretion of the department, each candidate for graduation with a baccalaureate degree may be required to pass a comprehensive examination (written, oral, or both) in the candidate's field of concentration. This examination shall not excuse the candidate from any regular examination.~~

~~Special examinations for college credit shall not be given in courses not offered by the university or in courses which the student has attended as an auditor or for which credit has been received.~~

~~A maximum of 32 semester credit hours in areas other than foreign languages and in addition a maximum of 25 credit hours in foreign languages may be allowed by special examination toward a bachelor's degree to a resident student, provided the student has shown proficiency in the subject to the satisfaction of the Credits and Admissions Committee and the appropriate dean or chairperson of the department concerned.~~

#### Section 8G. Grades

##### 1. General Grading Criteria

Student work in University courses shall generally be reported in terms of the following grades: "A," "A-," excellent performance, superior achievement; "B+," "B," "B-," good performance, substantial achievement; "C+," "C," "C-," standard performance and achievement; "D+," "D," "D-," substandard performance, marginal achievement; "E," unsatisfactory performance and achievement. Grade point averages will be computed as follows: "A" = 4.0, "A-" = 3.7, "B+" = 3.3, "B" = 3.0, "B-" = 2.7, "C+" = 2.3, "C" = 2.0, "C-" = 1.7, "D+" = 1.3, "D" = 1.0, "D-" = 0.7, "E" = 0.0.

~~In the School of Medicine, final grades for all students working toward the M.D. degree may be reported as either "P" (pass) or "F" (fail), and using an "I" (incomplete) as an interim grade when appropriate. In the College of Law, some advanced problem courses or clinical courses may be offered on an exclusively pass/fail basis. {Drafting NOTE: The preceding sentences establishing special policy for Medicine and Law are deleted because these and similar variances from the general terms of this Policy are now covered more effectively in Footnote i of this Policy.}~~

The criteria for grading students shall be performance in ~~tests~~ examinations, papers, or assignments, participation in class discussion and activities, and other evaluative processes necessary in determining the students' achievement levels. All of these Procedures may be part

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of the total evaluation, as adapted by the individual course instructor to fit the needs of the particular class/course and student. ~~Physical attendance may be used as a criterion in determining the final grade only where it indicates lack of participation in a class where student participation is generally required or as required by accrediting bodies.~~

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Grading of individual student performance shall be performed consistent with the University's fundamental principles prohibiting discrimination on improper grounds, and requiring that academic activities be performed without prejudice or favoritism based on family, romantic, or sexual relationships, or financial interests. See Policy 6-316-Section 4-A & B (Faculty Code-- prohibitions on discrimination, prejudice, or favoritism in grading); Policy 6-400, Section II-E (Student Code- rights against discrimination and sexual harassment); Policy 5-105 (Nepotism-- defining "immediate family" relationships in which favoritism is presumed to exist); Policy 5-107 (Sexual Harassment and Consensual Relationships--prohibiting exercising of grading authority when a romantic or sexual relationship exists); and Policy 1-006-Sec.VI (A)(3) (prohibiting evaluation of students based on participation in outside business activities in which evaluator has significant financial interest). These principles apply to any person engaged in grading activities, including course instructors and their assistants. Course instructors and course-offering units shall take appropriate steps to ensure the application of these principles, including providing for alternative grading methods or assignment of grading responsibilities to another person, as appropriate to the circumstances.

## 2. Incompletes

The mark "I" (incomplete) shall be given and reported for work incomplete because of circumstances beyond the student's control. The grade of "I" ~~must should be~~ used only for a student who is passing the course and who needs to complete 20% or less of the course. An "I" ~~must should~~ not be used in a way that will permit a student to retake the course without paying tuition. If the student attends the course during a subsequent semester as part of the effort required to complete the course, he/she must be registered (either as a regular student or for audit) in the semester in which he/she attends.

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If a student has not finished incomplete work ~~has not been finished~~ within one calendar year after the "I" was given, the "I" will be changed to an "E" by the ~~registrar~~Registrar's office. ~~If Should~~ the student graduates within one calendar year after receiving the "I," but before completing the work, the "I" will remain in the record, but will not contribute to credit toward graduation or the grade point average. An instructor may override the automatic change from an "I" to an "E" by submitting a grade change form (see Sec. I, "Change of Grade," below)

## 3. Non-Attendance and Non-Performance

~~When an instructor has no record of attendance or other evidence of participation in the course by a person whose name appears on~~ The grade of "EU" (Unofficial Withdrawl) is given when a student's name appears on the Registrar's final grade report, the instructor should enter the grade "EU" for that person but there is no record of attendance or other evidence of participation in the course. The "EU" grade is treated as an "E" in calculating the student's GPA. When no grade is entered for any person listed in a final

grade report, the Registrar shall record an "EU" for that person. The grade "EU" shall be treated as an "E" in calculating grade point averages, but it shall be disregarded in calculating "section mean grade."

The change of the mark "I" to grade "E" after one calendar year may be avoided by a written agreement between the instructor and student. The agreement will specify the grade to be given if the work is not completed. Copies of this agreement will be filed with the instructor, student and registrar's office. A fourth copy may be kept by the department. The action will be reported to the department.

Upon the recommendation of a student's the course instructor and the dean of the course-offering unit (or equivalent), the Registrar may withdraw a student from a course for nonattendance or nonperformance of assigned course work. The student shall then receive the grade of "E." Before this grade is recorded under these circumstances, the Registrar shall send written notification to the student and advise the student of the right to appeal to the dean. {Drafting NOTE: This paragraph has been moved from below to consolidate related items.}

#### 4. In-Progress Courses

The mark "T" shall may be given for thesis or other independent work in progress, but not for regular courses. The mark "T" shall remain on the student record until the work is completed and a letter grade is reported to the Registrar's office. The mark "T" does not contribute credit toward graduation nor will it be used in the computation of the grade point average. There is no time limit governing the removal of the "T" grade.

#### 5. Dropping and Withdrawing From Courses

Any ~~S~~students may drop any class course in a regular University term without penalty or permission for a period extending for ten calendar days from the first day of the term. Beginning the eleventh day from the first day of the term and continuing through Friday of the first full week beyond the midpoint of the term (as determined by the Registrar), students may withdraw from a course or from the University without permission, but a "W" will be recorded on the academic record and applicable tuition and fees will be assessed for each course. The latter date is the final day on which a student may withdraw from a course or from the University.

Any ~~S~~students may drop workshops, short term courses, or non-credit courses without penalty or permission as follows: ~~classes courses~~ of one to two days in length, before the first day of class; : ~~classes courses~~ of three to five days in length, on the first day of class; : ~~classes courses~~ of six to ten days in length, through the second day of class; : ~~classes courses~~ of eleven or more days in length, through the third day of class.

Any ~~S~~students may withdraw from workshops, short term courses, or non-credit courses following the drop deadline for such courses only up to the midpoint in the course (as determined by the Registrar). Any withdrawal after the initial drop period will cause a "W" to be recorded on the academic record and applicable tuition and fees will be assessed for the course.

Any ~~S~~students taking regular term courses may appeal the deadline for withdrawal in the case of compelling, non-academic emergencies by submitting a

petition and supporting documentation to the office of the dean of their major college. Undeclared, non-matriculated and premajor students apply to the University College. Students in workshops, short term courses, or non-credit courses shall appeal to the Academic Outreach and Continuing Education. Appeals must be submitted to the appropriate dean's office by the last day of regular course instruction preceding the final exam period. Colleges must respond to an appeal from a student within seven calendar days of receiving the petition.

For extraordinary reasons, approved by the student's dean and the registrar, the grade of "W" may be given after the end of the term. Such requests must be submitted within three years of the affected term(s) or prior to graduation from the University, whichever comes first.

~~The student shall have the option of adding a class through the fourteenth calendar day of the semester.~~

~~Upon the recommendation of a student's instructor and a student's dean, the registrar may withdraw a student from a course for nonattendance or nonperformance of assigned course work. The student shall then receive the grade of "E." Before this grade is recorded under these circumstances, the registrar shall send written notification to the student and advise the student of the right to appeal to the student's dean. ***{Drafting NOTE: This paragraph has been moved above, to sec. 3, to consolidate related items.}***~~

#### 6. Repeating Courses

Any student may repeat any course they have previously taken at the University as long as it is still offered. However, students may earn credit hours for a given course for graduation only once unless the course has been designated as repeatable for credit. The last grade received is used to compute the student's grade point average (and grades from previous instances of the same course are not considered in computing the GPA, but are shown on the record for the term the course was taken). The grades of I, NC, W, V, or T may neither be removed by repeating the course, nor may they be used to replace a grade in a previous course that has been repeated. All repeated courses are identified as such on the student's academic record.

Per Regents' Policy R510-4.16, students will be assessed the "full cost of instruction" the third time (and any subsequent time) they enroll in the same course. A student seeking to register for a course for the third time shall receive last priority in registration for that course. A grade of "W," "V" or "I" shall be regarded as one registration for the course.

#### 7. Credit/No Credit Option

a. In courses in which activity or attendance is the controlling factor in the determination of grades, the grade "CR" (credit) shall be substituted for the grades "A" through "C-" and the grade "NC" (no credit) shall be substituted for the grades "D+" through "E."

b. Under ~~policies~~ Rules approved by the Academic Senate, students may elect a limited number of courses in which they will receive the grade "CR" in place of grades "A" through "C-" or the grade of "NC" in the place of "D+," "D," "D-," "E" and "EU". The "CR" grade shall carry credit toward graduation, but neither the "CR" nor "NC" grades will be included in computing grade point averages.

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**{Drafting NOTE: the contents of former #'s 1-7 below have been relegated to attached new Rule R6-100A.}** The following rules govern the undergraduate CR/NC option:

Any undergraduate student who is permitted to register in university courses for credit is eligible to exercise a CR/NC grading option. A student may exercise the option of CR/NC grading for a maximum of 15 semester hours while an undergraduate at the University of Utah. However, an undergraduate student who has accumulated more than 22.5 quarter hours under the CR/NC option prior to Fall of 1998 shall be permitted to register for up to a total of 30 semester hours (or 45 quarter hours) of CR/NC. Any CR/NC course registration in excess of the applicable maximum will be considered a registration for a letter grade. Hours from courses graded CR/NC as a matter of policy (courses producing one credit hour or less) will not be included in the total.

A student may not exercise a CR/NC option in Writing 111, in Writing 112, in Writing 210, in Liberal Education Core Courses, or in courses which are required for the baccalaureate degree by the student's major department. However, a student's major department may allow the student to exercise the CR/NC option in required allied courses taken outside the student's major department. In the event a student changes his/her major department, the student may request that a maximum of two courses previously taken in the department (constituting the student's new major) on a Credit/No Credit basis be changed to a letter grade. This option can be exercised for no more than two changes of a major department (i.e., a maximum of four courses).

The CR/NC option must be initiated at the office of the registrar on the form prescribed by the registrar for that purpose. Requests for changing to the CR/NC option will not be accepted after the 14 calendar day of the semester. Change from CR/NC back to graded status may occur any time before Monday of the last week of classes. The hours for any class thus changed will continue to count toward the maximum specified in paragraph (1) above. If a student feels there is justification for an exception to the preceding restriction, the student must appeal in writing to the registrar. If the request is denied, the student will have the right to request a review of the denial by a committee composed of the student's college dean, the director of academic advising, and the registrar. Appeals will not be accepted after the semester is completed. Retroactive requests must be initiated by the dean of a student's major college.

Final grade sheets will not indicate which students have exercised CR/NC options. The registrar will convert the letter grades "A" through "C" to credit, and "D+," "D," "D-," "E," and "EU" to no credit.

A statement must accompany each form prescribed by the registrar for CR/NC options advising students of the various disadvantages of taking many classes CR/NC. Specifically, they should be warned that some graduate schools consider "credit" grades as "C" work when looking at transcripts and that some schools place more emphasis on exams such as the G.R.E. than on transcript grade point averages when those transcripts contain numerous grades of "credit."

When students change majors, their new major department will have the right to accept or not to accept, in partial satisfaction of the department's requirements for graduation, courses in that department which the students have previously taken on a CR/NC basis.

Students shall have earned letter grades in not less than 75 percent of the credit hours of course work that they present as their minor for teaching certification. A graduate student is granted the option, subject to the approval of the administrator of the course-offering unit and the cognizant dean (or equivalent), and review by the graduate dean, to enroll in some courses in which the graduate student will be graded on a CR/NC basis, rather than on a letter basis.

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d. Courses which produce one hour or less of academic credit should be graded exclusively on a CR/NC basis. Instructors wishing to assign a letter grade to such courses, or to grade other kinds of courses, solely on a Credit/No Credit basis, must obtain permission to do so from the relevant college's curriculum committee.

#### 8. Course Credit Reduction

A reduction in course credit may be used in "studio-type" or in independent study courses only. Individual departments may determine which of their courses should use this option. No foundation courses, or courses used to satisfy either General Education or Bachelor Degree requirements, or courses for which completion of the full semester's work is essential for a graduation requirement may be involved. The intent of this policy provision on course credit reduction is to let the grade reflect the quality of work--and the credit earned reflect the quantity of work completed in this type of course. *(Drafting NOTE: This sentence has been moved from the second paragraph below to increase the coherence of this section.)* If a student fails to complete the volume of work he/she contracted to do for such a course, the instructor and student may agree to reduce the credit earned and the student is graded on the quality of work completed. The deadline for making the adjustment corresponds with the last day of classes prior to final exams.

*(Drafting NOTE: This sentence has been moved above to increase the coherence of this section.)*

#### 9. Auditing a Course

An audit grade can be elected in credit courses when no grade is desired. A student may audit a course if it is not available to be taken as non-credit, and/or if the student wants to attend the course for their own personal benefit. Students auditing a course are not held responsible for completing course work or taking examinations during the course. An audited course will show on a student's transcript with a 'V' grade and '0.00' as the awarded number of credit hours. Audited courses are not included in the student's GPA calculation.

#### H. Report of Grades

Instructors shall report the academic standing of each student in their courses at such times and in such form as the Registrar may direct, subject to the approval of the Academic Senate. At the end of each semester, the Registrar shall report the grades of each student to the student.

Students shall not receive credit for work done in a course in which they have not been regularly registered or receive credit greater in amount than that for which they are duly registered.

#### I. Change of Grades

A final grade, after it has been formally reported to the Registrar's office, cannot be changed unless the instructor who awarded the grade requests a change on a form provided for this purpose by the Registrar, and unless that request is approved by the course-offering unit. A grade can be changed without the instructor's request or approval in accordance with the Procedures of [Policy 6-400, Section IV].

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Deleted: The deans of the colleges will report annually to the vice president for academic affairs and the Academic Evaluation and Standards Committee as to the frequency of cases in which adjustment was used and a reason leading to adjustment in each case.

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J. Academic Evaluation and Standards Committee *{Drafting NOTE: This section J is in need of a complete rewrite. The AES Committee described here is scheduled to undergo a five-year regular review by the Senate Personnel and Elections Committee during 2010-2011. We will revise this section after that review. In the meanwhile, the following statement about a pending revision will be inserted here:}*

Deleted: When a student repeats a course previously taken at the University, only the last grade received in that course shall be used in computation of the student's grade point average. The mark of NC may not be used to replace any previous grade or mark for a course.¶

*{USER NOTE: As of 2010 this section J is under review for major revision.}*

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[[The president shall appoint the Academic Evaluation and Standards Committee. In addition, academic deans may set up scholarship committees to operate within their respective schools or colleges with the advice and consent of the president. The Academic Evaluation and Standards Committee shall have jurisdiction only in those schools or colleges where such scholarship committees have not been established. It shall be the duty of all scholarship committees to assist in the rehabilitation of the academically delinquent student. These committees shall have the cooperation of all student personnel services maintained by the university, and may administer, subject to the university regulations, such discipline as shall seem proper.]]

K. Scholastic Standards for Undergraduates

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The Undergraduate Council shall have jurisdiction over the scholastic standards for undergraduates and shall delegate to University College the responsibility for administering the scholastic standards policy.

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1. Dean's List and President's Award. A student who earns a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in at least 12 graded hours during any one term shall be placed on the Dean's List. A student who is on the Dean's List during fall and spring semesters of the same academic year will receive the President's Award.

2. All students are required to maintain a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0. The cumulative grade point average of a students who has transferred to the University is computed on the work taken at the University of Utah only.

3. Academic Probation. A student who fails to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above shall be placed on scholastic probation and have a hold placed on his or her registration. To clear this hold, the student must contact University College to determine the conditions under which the student will be allowed to register.

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4. Suspension: A student whose cumulative grade point average has been below a 2.0 for three consecutive semesters is subject to suspension.

A registration hold will be placed on the student's record and will prevent the student from registering for courses at the University during the suspension period. The suspension period will be for a minimum of three (3) semesters unless revoked on appeal.

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5. Appeal of Suspension. A student may appeal suspension, based on extenuating circumstances, to the Scholastic Standards Committee of University College. If the Committee finds extenuating circumstances and revokes the suspension, the student will be readmitted on academic probation and permitted to register for courses. The student must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 during each subsequent semester until

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the student's cumulative grade point average reaches 2.0. A student who does not meet these conditions is subject to ~~re-suspension~~ dismissal.

6. Readmission after Suspension. A student wishing to return to the University after the expiration of the three-semester suspension period must petition the Scholastic Standards Committee of University College for readmission. The Committee will readmit the student if there seems a reasonable likelihood of academic success. The readmitted student must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 each subsequent semester until the student's cumulative grade point average reaches 2.0. A student who does not meet these conditions is subject to ~~re-suspension~~ dismissal. A student who has been dismissed due to the provisions described here will not be re-admitted to the University until the student is eligible for Academic Renewal.

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#### L. Honors for Undergraduates

Honors shall be awarded at graduation to those students who complete with distinction at least 90 credit hours at the University. The basis, terms, and degrees of distinction shall be determined by the Academic Senate. Names of students attaining honors shall be published in the commencement program and elsewhere as the president may direct.

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#### M. Academic Renewal

A currently enrolled undergraduate student may petition University College for academic renewal. This is a Procedure which allows the student to request that his or her academic record be reviewed for the purpose of discounting, University of Utah courses with a D+ or lower grade on the student's academic record. The courses must have been taken seven or more calendar years prior to the request. If approved, the discounted courses will remain on the student's academic record (and the grades received for the courses will be shown), but the discounted courses and grades received for them will not count towards total hours, cumulative grade point computation, or graduation requirements.

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Deleted: for grade point average computation, all courses which were entered on the student's academic record ten or more calendar years prior to the time of the request for renewal. Under this Procedure, courses with a D+ or lower grade would not count toward the requisite total hours needed for graduation.

The renewal option can be used only once during a student's undergraduate career. This Procedure does not apply to graduate students or to students pursuing a second undergraduate degree.

Responsibility for administration of this Procedure rests with the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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#### N. Course Assessment and Feedback (course evaluations)

The University will assess its courses and instruction in multiple ways, including by soliciting students' feedback. Student feedback has several uses: it provides information of interest to students planning their programs of study, it is useful in making improvements in instruction and curricula, and it provides a student perspective on teaching for evaluations of course instructors.

#### 1. Student Course Feedback Oversight Committee, structure and functions.

- a. The University Student Course Feedback Oversight Committee ("Course Feedback Committee") is established. The membership and leadership shall be as follows: There shall be 10 members serving limited terms, 6 members of the faculty and 4 students, and 3 permanent ex officio members.

i) Faculty. One faculty representative shall be a member of the Graduate Council during the term of service on the Committee and shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Graduate Council. One faculty representative shall be [a] member of the Undergraduate Council during the term of service on the Committee and shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Undergraduate Council. Four faculty representatives (no more than one from any one academic college) shall be appointed by the Senate Personnel and Elections Committee. For the Committee's first year of operation, two of the faculty representatives will be appointed to terms of one year, and two to terms of two years. For the second and subsequent years, all new members will be appointed for terms of [two] years (so that the subsequent membership changes will be staggered). Faculty may not serve multiple consecutive terms.

ii) Students. The 4 student representatives will include the ASUU Academic Affairs Director, the ASUU Senate chairperson, and two Student Advisory Committee (SAC) representatives appointed by the ASUU Academic Affairs Director. Students will have annual terms of service.

iii) Ex officios. There shall be three ex officio permanent members with voting rights, including the Associate Dean for General Education (or designee), one representative from the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence, and the Student Course Feedback Program Manager. The Manager reports to the Director of the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence.

iv) The chairperson of the Committee shall be one of the limited-term faculty representatives, and nominated annually by the President of the Academic Senate and elected by the Committee.

v). The Committee will report directly to the Academic Senate.

b. The Course Feedback Committee's primary function shall be to develop (and revise as necessary) a standardized "Student Course Feedback Instrument," and a standardized "Course Feedback Report." The Instrument and Report forms shall be designed to be suitable for use in all credit-bearing courses, of both undergraduate and graduate levels. The Committee shall also develop appropriate Procedures for the administration of the Instrument and Report forms (and other appropriate publication of the resulting data). In developing and periodically revising the Instrument and Report forms, and Procedures, the Committee shall solicit and consider input from the chairpersons of all course-offering units. The Instrument and Report forms and Procedures (and any revisions) shall be presented to the Academic Senate for approval.

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2. The approved Course Feedback Instrument and Report forms shall be made available for use by all course-offering academic units. All credit-bearing courses shall be assessed every term they are offered using the approved Instrument. Chairpersons of each course-offering unit have the responsibility of seeing that assessments are conducted according to regulations, working with the Student Course Feedback Program Manager. For non-credit courses, assessments may be conducted as determined in the discretion of the course-offering unit.

3. Uses of feedback.

a. Course feedback for individual courses, including all collected data, shall be made available to course instructors, and appropriate administrators of the course-offering unit after grades for the course are filed.

b. An appropriate set of data for a given course shall be made available to any University student, as determined appropriate in the standard Report form and Procedures approved as described above.

c. The Student Advisory Committee of the course-offering unit, after meeting pertinent training requirements, shall be provided with an appropriate set of feedback data for individual courses for specified purposes of carrying out approved functions of such Advisory Committees, as determined appropriate in the Procedures approved as described above.

Q. Attendance Requirements

The University expects regular attendance at all class meetings. Instructors must communicate any particular attendance requirements of the course to students in writing on or before the first class meeting. Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with and satisfying the entire range of academic objectives and requirements as defined by the instructor.

Any Students absent from class to participate in officially sanctioned University activities (e.g., band, debate, student government, intercollegiate athletics) or religious obligations, or with instructor's approval, shall be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations. The University expects its departments and programs that take students away from class meetings to schedule such events in a way that will minimize hindrance of the student's orderly completion of course requirements. Such units must provide a written statement to the students describing the activity and stating as precisely as possible the dates of the required absence. The involved students must deliver this documentation to their instructors, before the absence.

Except in cases of sudden illness or emergency, students shall in advance of the absence arrange with the instructor to make up assignments.

Unexpected University facility closures due to weather, emergency or disaster may occur from time to time. Students may be required to complete coursework missed due to these or other class cancellations; however, instructors requiring mandatory make-up sessions may not penalize students if they are unable to attend due to time conflicts, etc.

**Deleted:** The University will evaluate its courses and instruction in multiple ways, including by soliciting students' evaluation. The primary purpose of student evaluation of courses is to provide a measure of the student assessment of the effectiveness of courses and of the effectiveness of faculty, teaching assistants/teaching fellows and other instructional personnel. This information has several uses: it provides base information to student advisory committees for retention/promotion/tenure recommendations, it gives instructors and academic units feedback about their classes and it provides information of interest to students planning their programs.¶

Course Evaluation Procedures ¶  
The University Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council shall jointly develop, approve and amend as necessary a course evaluation instrument with a series of questions suitable for use in all courses and with a series of optional questions suitable for use in various types of courses. The Councils shall also develop appropriate Procedures for the administration of the instrument. The University Administration will make this instrument available to all academic units. ¶

At the beginning of each academic year, the chairperson of each department shall meet with the chairperson of the departmental student advisory committee and develop a policy for course evaluation for the year. The policy shall state the criteria for determining which courses are evaluated and the mechanism by which they will be evaluated. The policy adopted shall be one mutually agreeable to the department administration and the student advisory committee. A written copy of this policy shall be sent to the office of the college dean. A copy § ... [1]

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**Deleted:** Course evaluations or summaries thereof shall be made available to faculty and any University of Utah student requesting them after grades for the course are filed. The departmental student advisory committee and the ASUU shall be provided w (... [2]

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**Deleted:** Any particular attendance requirements of the course must be available to students at the time of the first course meeting.

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P. Noncredit Courses

1. Course development procedures for noncredit courses should be academically sound and as rigorous, though perhaps different, as those applying to credit courses.
2. The national standard for Continuing Education Units (CEU) is "ten contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction." The CEU may be the appropriate unit of measurement for qualifying noncredit courses.
3. For purposes of this subsection, a noncredit course:
  - a. is one for which credit is not awarded, registration is required and payment changes hands.;
  - b. meets criteria established by the offering unit;
  - c. incorporates content, teaching methods and attendance requirements appropriate to the students eligible to enroll;
  - d. is taught or supervised by an instructor who has met institutional qualifications established by the offering unit; and
  - e. recognizes participation of students appropriately.
4. Units offering noncredit courses must report the nature and extent of those activities to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (or designee) annually.

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Q. Accommodations

(Section Q is in effect starting Fall semester 2005)

1. Introduction

The values held most strongly by the University of Utah community are those of academic freedom and integrity as they are expressed collectively by the colleges and departments as well as individually through research and teaching and as they exist within the wider context of advanced study as commonly understood by all universities. The community also values diversity and respect, without which there can be no collegiality among faculty and students. In addition, the University community values individual rights and freedoms, including the right of each community member to adhere to individual systems of conscience, religion, and ethics. Finally, the University recognizes that with all rights come responsibilities. The University works to uphold its collective values by fostering free speech, broadening fields of inquiry, and encouraging generation of new knowledge that challenges, shapes, and enriches our collective and individual understandings.

This policy Section addresses course content accommodations. Regardless of any accommodation that may be granted, students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives, requirements and prerequisites as defined by the instructor and by the University. Because the burdens and appropriate criteria are different for scheduling accommodations and content

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accommodations, granting of one type of accommodation has no bearing on the granting of the other type.

2. Definitions

- a. Scheduling Accommodations permit students to be absent from class meetings or to arrange to fulfill assignments on days other than their scheduled dates. Such accommodations are addressed above in Section O.
- b. Content Accommodations are modifications of otherwise generally applicable reading, writing, viewing, listening, or performing requirements.
- c. Legislated Accommodations are modifications made in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other State and Federal statutes and are not included in this policy.

a. ***(Drafting NOTE: the contents of this section formerly labeled "Scheduling Accommodations" are deleted because it merely repeats what is already stated above in Section O (Attendance Requirements). An explanation of the relationship of Sections Q and O is added to the definition of Scheduling Accommodations, above. No changes are proposed for the "Content Accommodations" section—and if any changes are ever to be considered for this section, it must be remembered that this section is the product of a 2005 settlement of a federal civil rights lawsuit.***

3. Content Accommodations

- a. Consistent with principles of academic freedom, the faculty, individually and collectively, has the responsibility for determining the content of the curriculum.
- b. Students are expected to take courses that will challenge them intellectually and personally. Students must understand and be able to articulate the ideas and theories that are important to the discourse within and among academic disciplines. Personal disagreement with these ideas and theories or their implications is not sufficient grounds for requesting an accommodation. Accommodations requested on such grounds will not be granted. The University recognizes that students' sincerely-held core beliefs may make it difficult for students to fulfill some requirements of some courses or majors. The University assumes no obligation to ensure that all students are able to complete any major.
- c. It is the student's obligation to determine, before the last day to drop courses without penalty, when course requirements conflict with the student's sincerely-held core beliefs. If there is such a conflict, the student should consider dropping the class. A student who finds this solution impracticable may request a content accommodation from the instructor. Though the University provides, through this policy, a process by which a student may make such a request, the policy does not oblige the instructor to

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<#>Scheduling Accommodations  
<#>Students should register only for those courses for which they have no scheduling conflicts that will interfere with their ability to complete course requirements.  
<#>In accordance with the Attendance Policy of the Student Code (ref.), students who must be absent from a specific class to participate in officially sanctioned University activities (e.g. band, debate, student government, intercollegiate athletics), religious obligations, or other obligations meeting with the instructor's approval will be permitted to make up or otherwise receive credit for both assignments and examinations.  
<#>Except in cases of sudden illness or emergency, students shall in advance of the absence arrange with the instructor to make up materials.  
Students whose religious obligations, University activities, or other legitimate obligations as determined by the instructor may interfere with their ability to fulfill any course requirements on their scheduled dates shall in advance of those dates arrange with the instructor to fulfill the requirements

grant the request, except in those cases when a denial would be arbitrary and capricious or illegal. This request must be made to the instructor in writing, and the student must deliver a copy of the request to the office of the department Chair or, in the case of a single-department college, to the office of the Dean. The student's request must articulate the burden the requirement would place on the student's beliefs.

- d. The instructor must respond to any accommodation request within two school days of receiving it. The response must be made in writing and a copy must be delivered to the office of the department Chair or, in the case of a single-department college, to the office of the Dean. In the event that the class does not meet on the day by which the Instructor must respond, the student must make arrangements to receive the response in a timely manner. *Instructors are not required to grant content accommodations, as long as the subject course requirement has a reasonable relationship to a legitimate pedagogical goal, but they may do so, only if a reasonable alternative means of satisfying the curricular requirement is available and only if that alternative is fully appropriate for meeting the academic objectives of the course, after considering the following:*
- i. the difficulty of administering an accommodation;
  - ii. the burden on the student's sincerely-held core belief;
  - iii. the importance of the particular requirement to the course.

In considering whether or not to make an accommodation, the faculty member may evaluate the sincerity but not the validity of the student's belief. If an instructor in a course makes content accommodations for any reason other than those covered under ~~[[Section 2-c (Legislated Accommodations)]]~~ of this policy, the instructor must similarly consider requests made during the same semester for the same course for accommodations based on conflicts with sincerely-held core beliefs. Requests will be individually evaluated in relation to the above considerations; the granting of one such request will not guarantee that all requests will be granted. Because the criteria and requirements discussed above will apply differently to each instructor and to each course, accommodations granted by an instructor in one course will not affect decisions by the same instructor in other courses or by other instructors in the same or other courses.

- e. If an instructor does not grant a content accommodation request, the student may appeal that denial in writing to the Dean of the college. If the Dean is the Instructor of the course, the student may appeal the denial to the cognizant Vice President.

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- f. The Dean (or Designee) will, in consultation with the faculty member and the department Chair (or Designee), act within two school days. The Dean (or Designee) will uphold the denial unless she or he finds that the denial was arbitrary and capricious or illegal. In the case of single-department colleges, the decision will rest with the Dean alone. The Dean's determination shall be final as it pertains to the specific accommodation request. Faculty challenges to the appropriateness of this decision should follow established channels. The student may but is not required to participate in these further reviews.
  - g. If the instructor disagrees with the dean's decision that the instructor's denial of the student's request was arbitrary and capricious or illegal, the instructor may not be compelled against his/her professional judgment to administer the requested content accommodation for the student. If the faculty instructor disagrees with the dean's decision that the instructor's denial of the student's request was arbitrary and capricious or illegal, the faculty instructor may not be compelled against his/her professional judgment to administer the requested content accommodation for the student. If the faculty instructor declines to administer the accommodation, it will be the responsibility of the dean in consultation with the department chair to design and administer the alternative academic requirement for the student in order to satisfy the student's content accommodation request. The dean (or dean's appropriate designee) will determine the student's grade on that specific alternative assignment and will report that grade to the course instructor, who will incorporate that grade for the assignment into the total grade for the course. The final grade in the course will be determined by the faculty instructor and will be calculated in the same way as the final grade is determined for all other students in the course.
  - h. If a student determines, after the last day to drop courses without penalty, that course requirements may conflict with the student's sincerely-held core beliefs, and the instructor has denied the student's written accommodation request, the student may seek permission in writing from the Dean to withdraw without receiving a W on his/her transcript and to receive a refund of tuition for that class. In making this request the student must demonstrate the following:
    - i. that the student is in good standing in the course as defined by the department.
    - ii. that he or she could not have made this determination prior to the last day to drop courses without penalty.
5. The Dean's determination shall be final.
- a. Decisions on accommodation requests may not be considered adversely to a faculty member in faculty code, Retention,

Promotion and Tenure, or other proceedings as long as those decisions are made in good faith. Faculty may not take adverse academic action against students who make accommodation requests. The Dean or Department Chair may not take any adverse action against an instructor based on his/her decision to make or not make a content accommodation for a student.

- b. Instructors who believe that course materials may conflict with students' deeply held core beliefs may include a statement in the syllabus for the course that advises students that some of the writings, lectures, films or presentations, or other requirements in the course include materials that may present such conflicts. However, this policy recognizes that Faculty will not always be able to predict in advance which if any materials may conflict with the beliefs of a given student or group of students.
- c. The Academic Senate will evaluate this policy in January 2007.

#### IV. Rules, Procedures, Guidelines, Forms and other related resources

##### A. Rules

R6-100A, Election of CR/NC Grading for Undergraduate Students

##### B. Procedures

##### C. Guidelines

##### D. Forms

##### E. Other related resource materials

#### V. References:

**Policy 6-001: Faculties, Committees and Councils**

**Policy 6-303, Rev. 19: Retention, Promotion, and Tenure**

**Policy 6-310: Appointment, Reappointment and Evaluation of Auxiliary Faculty and Other Instructional Personnel**

**Policy 6-316-Section 4-A & B Code of Faculty Rights and Responsibilities**

**Policy 6-400: Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities ("Student Code")**

**Policy 6-404: Undergraduate Admission**

**Policy 5-105: Employment or Supervision of Immediate Family**

**Policy 5-107: Sexual Harassment and Consensual Relationships**

**Regents Policy R470. General Education, Common Course Numbering, Lower-Division Pre-Major Requirements, Transfer of Credits, and Credit by Examination**



**Regents Policy R510, Tuition and Fees**

**VI. Contacts:**

Policy Officers:

Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs, 801-581-5057

Sr. Vice President for Health Science, 801-581-7480

Policy Owner:

Sr. Associate Vice President - Undergraduate Studies, 801-585-3582

Faculty\_Policy@utah.edu

Students\_policy@utah.edu

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**VII. History:**

Renumbering: Renumbered as Policy 6-100 effective 9/15/2008, formerly known as PPM 9-7, and formerly as Faculty Regulations Chapter VII.

Revision history:

Current version: Revision 20,

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Approved by Academic Senate: ~~[?? 2010]~~ March 7, 2005

Approved by Board of Trustees: ~~[?? 2010, with Effective Date ???]~~

Deleted: March 21, 2005

[Background on Revision 20 \[link\]](#)

Deleted: Editorially revised: October 24, 2008

Earlier versions:

**Revision 19:** effective dates March 21, 2005 to [ ?? 2010]. Editorially revised October 24, 2008. [Background on Revision 19 \[link\]](#)

**Revision 18:** effective dates July 7, 2004 to March 20, 2007 ~~{March 21, 2005?}~~

**Revision 17:** effective dates May 15, 2000 to July 6, 2004

**Revision 16:** effective dates January 10, 2000 to May 14, 2000

**Revision 15:** effective dates December 27, 1999 to January 9, 2000

**Revision 14:** effective dates January 12, 1998 to December 26, 1999

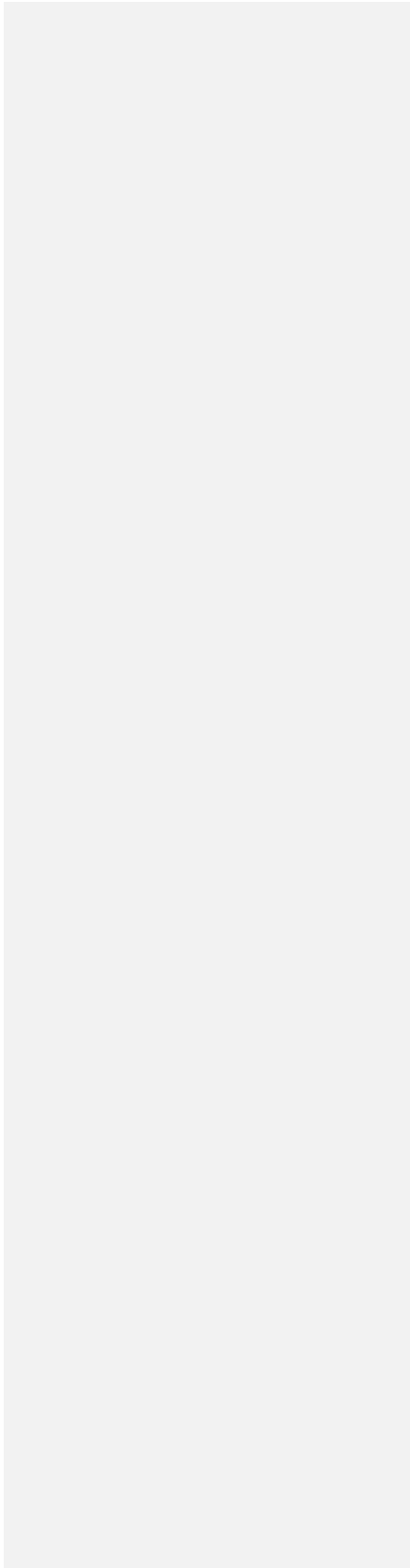
**ENDNOTES**

<sup>i</sup> The college of law, the school of medicine, and other academic units offering professional degrees, may be permitted to vary from the specific terms of this Policy for their professional degree curriculum when such variations are determined to be appropriate for compliance with accreditation requirements and principles applicable to such professional degree curriculum. Such variations shall be described in a supplemental rule (see Policy 1-001-II-F) adopted pursuant to this Policy, which shall be approved by the faculty (and, if applicable, chairperson) of the academic unit, the cognizant college council and dean, and the cognizant senior vice president, and shall be published in a form accessible to the affected students and course instructors. **{Drafting note: This footnote recognizes a need for professional degree programs to vary from the otherwise applicable specific terms of this policy, and sets forth a careful process for such variations to be formally adopted and approved. This footnote replaces passages from the older version of the policy which much less effectively addressed the issue. This will bring Policy into line with current practices of the professional degree programs, and better ensure that**

*students and faculty within such programs are given adequate notice of the proper relationship of University general policies and the specific internal rules of such programs.*

<sup>ii</sup> These standards are all based on a report of the American Council on Education adopted September 27, 1983 by ACE and November 1, 1983 by the Board of Directors, National University Continuing Education Association. Any changes reflect adaptation to our governance model. Some language is identical to the ACE recommendations; any additions specific to the University of Utah are the work of the Task Force. All other language is intended simply to translate the ACE and Task Force recommendations.

<sup>iii</sup> ACE report, "Procedural Guidelines", p. 3.



The University will evaluate its courses and instruction in multiple ways, including by soliciting students' evaluation. The primary purpose of student evaluation of courses is to provide a measure of the student assessment of the effectiveness of courses and of the effectiveness of faculty, teaching assistants/teaching fellows and other instructional personnel. This information has several uses: it provides base information to student advisory committees for retention/promotion/tenure recommendations, it gives instructors and academic units feedback about their classes and it provides information of interest to students planning their programs.

#### Course Evaluation Procedures

The University Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council shall jointly develop, approve and amend as necessary a course evaluation instrument with a series of questions suitable for use in all courses and with a series of optional questions suitable for use in various types of courses. The Councils shall also develop appropriate Procedures for the administration of the instrument. The University Administration will make this instrument available to all academic units.

At the beginning of each academic year, the chairperson of each department shall meet with the chairperson of the departmental student advisory committee and develop a policy for course evaluation for the year. The policy shall state the criteria for determining which courses are evaluated and the mechanism by which they will be evaluated. The policy adopted shall be one mutually agreeable to the department administration and the student advisory committee. A written copy of this policy shall be sent to the office of the college dean. A copy shall also be made available to interested parties by the departmental office.

Completed course evaluation forms may be returned to the departmental office by a non-instructional staff member, a student advisory committee member, or a volunteer from the class, but under no circumstances are the course evaluations to be handled by the evaluated instructor between the time they are completed by the students and the time that grades are issued.

Department chairpersons have the responsibility of seeing that evaluations are conducted according to regulations, including, but not limited to, arranging distribution and collection, and paying costs arising from tabulation of any optional questions chosen by the department. Provided the department has used the course evaluation instrument developed by the Graduate and Undergraduate Councils, the University Administration shall provide for the tabulation of the questions developed for use in all courses.

Course evaluations or summaries thereof shall be made available to faculty and any University of Utah student requesting them after grades for the course are filed. The departmental student

or publishing this data are the responsibility of the departmental student advisory committee or the ASUU