

# University of South Carolina Upstate Grade Forgiveness Policy

## History

During the 2006-2007 academic year, the Student Government Association under the leadership of Michael Berry, proposed a grade forgiveness policy. Faculty senate approved a grade forgiveness policy at the March faculty senate meeting. The policy was then modified in order to meet the requirements of the four senior institutions in the USC system and will go into effect in the catalog year 2007-2008.

## Policy

### Course Grade Forgiveness

It is the policy of the University of South Carolina that every currently enrolled fully-admitted, degree-seeking undergraduate earning a “D+”, “D”, “F” or “WF” in a USC course may take up to two (2) undergraduate courses for a second time for the purpose of grade forgiveness. Both the first and second grades shall appear on the USC permanent record, but only the second grade will be used in computing the University of South Carolina cumulative grade point average. An explanatory notice will appear on the record. Once grade forgiveness is applied to a repeated course, the action may not be revoked.

Eligible students wishing to apply the course grade forgiveness policy to a course enrollment may do so at any time during their undergraduate enrollment, but no applications will be honored after the degree is awarded. Grade forgiveness can only be applied once per course for a maximum of two courses (not to exceed 8 credits) on a student’s undergraduate academic record, without regard to the number of degrees sought. Under the grade forgiveness policy, the forgiven and repeated class must both be taken at the same USC campus. Courses transferred from other institutions are excluded from this policy.

This policy does not preclude students from repeating classes multiple times, in accordance with program requirements, but only the second attempt at the class may forgive the original grade of D+, D, F, or WF.

Only a regular letter grade can replace a forgiven grade. Grades of “W”, “I”, “S”, “U”, or “AUDIT” may not replace previous grades. Grades carrying an honor code violation sanction of “X” are not eligible for grade forgiveness.

Established requirements for repeating classes, admission to, or progression in, specific academic programs of the University take precedence over the grade forgiveness policy. Program or progression grade point averages are not affected by this policy. Refer to the catalog guidelines for each program for specific requirements.

Courses intended to be repeated for additional credit, such as research or applied music, are not eligible for grade forgiveness. Semester honors (dean’s or president’s honor list), academic standing (scholastic deficiency, probation, suspension), or previous grade point totals will not change retroactively as a result of applying this policy.

**Students who have been granted Academic Forgiveness to reset the grade point average after readmission are not eligible for course grade forgiveness.** Please refer the bulletin entry for Academic Forgiveness for former USC Students with Less Than a 2.00 Cumulative GPA.

### Effective date

The policy goes into effect starting with the fall 2007 term. This means that both the first time the course is taken and the second time must be during or after the fall 2007 semester. **Courses taken prior to the fall 2007 term cannot be used for grade forgiveness.**

### Implementation

Students wishing to apply for grade forgiveness should complete the grade forgiveness form and contact the Records Office for an appointment. Students must exercise judgment in the use of the grade forgiveness policy **as in no case are more than two courses allowed. Once selected the grade forgiveness cannot be revoked or changed to courses taken later in an academic degree.**

### Specific Academic Programs

The grade forgiveness policy does not supersede an admission or progression policy of a specific academic program or major. Although the GPA is re-calculated for those two courses that are selected, the original grade is still on the record. If a specific policy for a major requires that a student not be allowed to re-enroll in a course after earning less than a C, it is not affected by the grade forgiveness policy.

### Grade failure due to violation of honor code

X, a designator of academic dishonesty, will be available to faculty beginning with the fall 2007 semester. The X suffix will be appropriate if the student is found guilty by the honor court and the faculty elects this sanction for the course. It will not be an option on the grade entry system, but will be the result of working in conjunction with the Dean of Student's office. **Course grades of F, D, D+, with an X designation are not eligible for grade forgiveness.**

### Example of the record using Grade Forgiveness

Fall 2007		Spring 2008	
SEGL W101	C	SEGL W102	C
SPSY W101	C	SSOC W101	C
SMTH W121	C	SMTH W122	C
SMUS W110	F	SMUS W110	B
Semester GPA	1.5	Semester GPA	2.25

<b>Cumulative GPA 1.875</b> <b>Recalculated GPA after grade forgiveness 2.142</b>
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### Scenarios

- Sue's record is as follows:  
Summer I 2006            SPSY 101 D+  
Fall 2007                SPSY 101 B  
Can Sue receive grade forgiveness?
- Bob's record is as follows:  
Fall 2007                SHST 111 F  
Spring 2008             SHST 111 C  
Summer 2008            SHST 111 B+  
Can Bob receive grade forgiveness? What will be the 'substitute' grade?
- Joan's record is as follows:  
Fall 2007                SMUS 110 C  
Spring 2008             SMUS 110 B  
Can Joan receive grade forgiveness?
- Leslie's record is as follows:  
Fall 2007                STHE 161 F  
                              SPSY 101 D+  
Spring 2008             STHE 161 D  
Summer 2008            SPSY 101 A  
                              SBIO 110 F  
Fall 2008                SBIO 110 C  
Which courses can Leslie receive grade forgiveness for?  
What is the best use of the policy for this student?
- Pat's record is as follows:  
Fall 2007                SBAD 290 D+  
                              SEGL 101 F  
Spring 2008             SBAD 290 C  
                              SEGL 101 C  
Grade Forgiveness policy applied for and granted  
Fall 2010                SBAD 371 D  
Spring 2011             SBAD 371 A  
What are the student's options for grade forgiveness at this point?
- Sean's record is as follows:  
Fall 2007                SMTH 121 FX  
Fall 2008                SMTH 121 B  
Can the student receive grade forgiveness?

Please refer all questions to:

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[uscupstate.edu/enrollment\\_services/registrar/grade\\_forgiveness.asp](http://uscupstate.edu/enrollment_services/registrar/grade_forgiveness.asp)