

Extracted from the document *Proposed New Academic Policy Revisions and Guidance on Policy Interpretation* posted on the CoC web site and approved by the Committee on Instruction November 4th 2009.

Exception to “R” grade policy.

From time to time, the Dean is asked by petition to consider exceptions to various parts of the current “R” grade policy, particularly situations where a petitioner wishes to have the “R” grade policy extended to a course taken at another institution. Generally speaking, this is never allowed, in that even equivalent courses, which may substitute for credit, are not identical, and the fact that, in any event, grades do not transfer from other institutions, only credit hours.

There are, however, occasionally instances which may merit consideration for the application of the “R” grade outside the normal parameters of the current policy. Most of these instances concern courses taken at Syracuse University, from which we already accept grades for courses taken by matriculated students. The specific instance now noted for consideration is when a course that may be offered only periodically at ESF, but is offered every semester at SU, and is essentially the same course (i.e. MAT 295, MAT 296 and APM 205, APM 296). In this instance, if a student fails the ESF course, they are forced to place their educational progress in their chosen academic program “on hold” for at least a year until they can proceed to retake the ESF course. This proposal suggests that when an ESF course is offered as an alternative to an identical SU course, and when the SU course is offered more often than the ESF alternative, and when the course is a required element and essential to the timely progress within the degree program, the “R” grade may be successfully petitioned for interchangeable use between the ESF course and its corresponding SU counterpart.