



Morgan State University
School of Graduate Studies

October 10, 2016

**Supplement to the
Regulations and Procedures Section of the 2016-2017 Graduate Catalog**

Revised C Grade Rule: Regarding retaking courses with grade of C earned

Approved by the Graduate Council (March 15, 2016) and by the Dean's Council (October 10, 2016)

Approved Modifications:

From 2016 Catalog (Modifications include strikeouts in ~~red~~ and added language in blue print):

Section I. Standards of Scholarship:

10. GROUNDS FOR ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

Students who accumulate two (2) consecutive semesters with a cumulative GPA of less than the minimum required in their degree program and who do not restore the GPA to a satisfactory level by the conclusion of the semester of the second probation will be dismissed from the School of Graduate Studies. Also, students who otherwise fail to make satisfactory academic progress will be dismissed from the School of Graduate Studies. Grounds for academic dismissal also include:

- Failing to meet the specific academic requirements of the degree program;
- Failing to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (i.e., "B" average);
- Exceeding the statute of limitations for time to completion and exhausting all extensions;
- Being deemed by the department to have failed the comprehensive examination;
- Failing the dissertation defense with the committee's determination that no further revision be granted;
- ~~Earning "C" grades totaling more than 20 percent of the credits needed to satisfy degree requirements;~~ or,
- Receiving more than two grades of "F" (even F grades that have been retaken count).

A recommendation for dismissal of students meeting one or more of these conditions may also be made by the program coordinator/director according to the lines of authority (typically department chair or comparable unit head), and copied to dean of the school in which the student is registered. The recommendation is then forwarded by the dean of that school/college to the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies. Final decision for academic dismissal is made by the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies in consultation with the dean of the school.

Section II. Policies on Grading

5. UNSATISFACTORY GRADES “C” AND “F”

Both grades of “C” and “F” indicate unsatisfactory academic progress in graduate courses. Students may not possess “C” grades totaling more than 20 percent of the total credit hours required for satisfying degree requirements and individual programs have established additional restrictions. Students do not earn credit towards their degree for any courses where they receive a grade of F. Grades of “F” are computed, however, as part of the GPA. Once a student retakes the course for which the “F” grade was received and earned a grade of “C” or better, the higher grade will replace the “F” grade as part of the GPA computation. ~~A course in which a grade of “C” has been earned cannot be repeated.~~

5.A Retaking Grades of F.

Any course in which a grade of F has been earned or assigned (following the expiration of the time to resolve an Incomplete) must be retaken so that the grade can be replaced using the same original grade option. In Pass/Fail circumstances, the course must be retaken as Pass/Fail. When the course was originally taken for a letter grade, the retake must be registered for a letter grade. Any grade of F must be retaken at Morgan.

5.B Retaking Grades of C.

A graduate student cannot graduate with grades of C in more than 20% of the academic credit earned as defined by the program’s curriculum guide. The School of Graduate Studies requires that the student must retake a sufficient number of these courses to remedy the overall percentage. This retake must occur even if the Grade Point Average (GPA) remains above 3.0 with the excess percentage of C credits still included in the GPA calculation. Programs may adopt this minimum standard or may require one of the two following, more specific options:

Option 1: Demonstration of the required competency in core courses requires that any grades of C in core courses must be retaken. Student must retake any core course in which a grade of C has been earned, even if the student has not accumulated 20% of the curriculum in C grades.

Option 2: All courses in which grades of C have been earned must be retaken.

If a program has elected to follow either of these options, this requirement will be published in the program description. Use of transfer courses to replace a grade of C is not allowed. Transfers only transfer credit and not course grades. If a student remains eligible for School of Graduate Studies funding after earning a grade of F or C, that funding cannot be applied to courses being retaken. Federal loans carry additional restrictions regarding funding for courses being retaken. The student must consult with the appropriate University Financial Aid Officer regarding funding eligibility and retaking courses.

5.C Limitations on Course Retakes

No course in which a grade of A or B has been earned may be retaken unless the course is specifically designed for repeats. Those authorized, repeated courses will not have the original grades excluded from GPA. The repeatable status of a course is noted in the catalog description of that course and is usually a topics, research, seminar, or guidance course. Use of a transfer course to replace a grade of F or C is not allowed. Transfer credits only apply credit and not course grades.

END of modificaitons language.