

Proposition Number 02-13/14

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Proposed Committee University Affairs

Actual Committee Long Range Planning

Title A Proposition to Amend the Undergraduate Catalog
Concerning Satisfactory Performance

Prior Approvals
ADAC Oct 14, 2013

Proposal This proposition requests three things:

- a) change the language in the “General Information” section of the Undergraduate Catalog to specify that satisfactory performance in general education courses, developmental courses, and prerequisites is a grade of C- or better,
- b) request that the Registrar’s office ensure that Banner perform all checks of satisfactory performance for all units in the University to be consistent with the language in the catalog regardless of the GPA value attached to each grade (e.g. B is differentiated from B-), and
- c) include editorial changes in the “General Information” section of the Undergraduate Catalog to clarify some criteria with respect to fractional grading and the calculation of GPA.

The changes requested associated with items (a) and (c) above are shown in Attachment 1: Proposed Changes.

Rationale

In the section of the Undergraduate Catalog titled “GENERAL INFORMATION” the phrase “grade of C or better” or similar phrases appears in the following sections/subsections:

- Admissions/Transfer Students (Domestic)/Transfer of Credits at NMSU
- Regulations/English Basic Skill Requirement Options
- Regulations/Mathematics Basic Skill Requirement Options
- Regulations/University Grading System

- Regulations/Repeating Courses

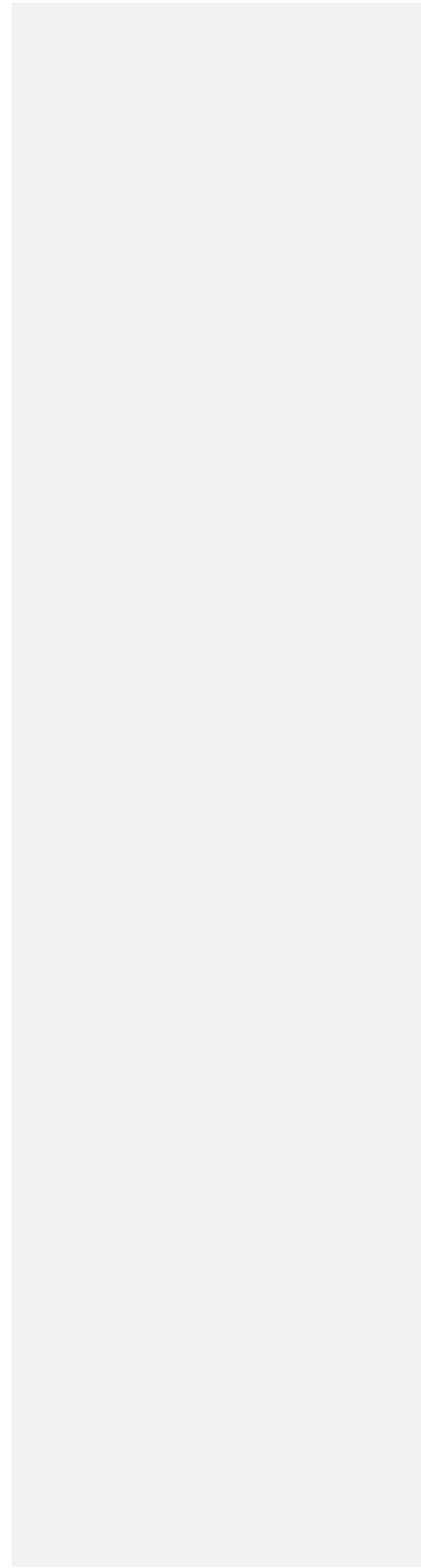
Currently, Banner uses a criterion of C- or better when determining satisfactory performance. The proposed changes are to ensure clarity and consistency between the Undergraduate Catalog and its implementation in Banner. These sections of the catalog along with the proposed changes are shown in **Attachment I: Proposed Changes**. In all cases, the proposed changes are to replace the phrases per the table below.

Original Phrase	Replacement Phrase
grade of C or better	grade of C- or better
graded C or higher	graded C- or better
grade of C or higher	grade of C- or better
with a satisfactory grade	with a grade of C- or better

Also, editorial changes are proposed in these subsections to:

- reflect the change to fractional grading,
- clarify the calculation of the GPA, and
- specify “satisfactory” performance as a C- or better in Developmental Courses and Prerequisite Courses.

No changes are proposed to other sections of the catalog. Nor does this proposal change any higher standards that individual departments or other units within the university may require.



Attachment I: Proposed Changes

The following sections from the NMSU Undergraduate catalog were downloaded from the NMSU website in September 2013. They have been reformatted to better fit the printed page and to enhance readability.

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE UNIVERSITY

(no changes proposed to this section)

ADMISSIONS

(changes are only proposed in the following subsection)

TRANSFER STUDENTS (DOMESTIC)

Transfer of Credits at NMSU

NMSU evaluates courses from postsecondary institutions that are regionally accredited or are candidates for regional accreditation. Transfer students will receive full credit for coursework completed with a grade of C- or better grade of C or better, provided the classes are similar or equivalent to courses offered at NMSU. A transfer student may, on the basis of an evaluation of his or her transcripts, receive credit for courses taken at other institutions in which a grade of D+, D, or D- was received. However, NMSU does not accept the transfer of courses with D+, D, or D- grades that satisfy basic academic competency (basic skills) in English and mathematics. NMSU will not accept transfer credit for 4 credit basic skills courses (such as ENGL 111G and CCDM 114 N) when the incoming course carries less than 3 credit hours. Also, colleges or departments may choose to accept only courses graded C- or better graded C or higher in their programs for both transfer and native students. Any lower-division course from another institution receiving transfer credit from NMSU at the 300 or above level will still count as a lower-division course. Transcripts will be reevaluated when students transfer from one NMSU college to another.

Each college determines which transferred courses are applicable toward a degree or a minor.

Grades earned in courses taken at other institutions are not included in the calculation of the NMSU GPA, except for grades earned by approved National Student Exchange students.

(no changes proposed to the remainder of this section)

ACCREDITATION

(no changes proposed to this section)

Comment [SM1]: Editorial change to reflect fractional grading

Comment [SM2]: Editorial change to reflect fractional grading

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

(no changes proposed to this section)

TUITION, FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

(no changes proposed to this section)

FINANCIAL AID

(no changes proposed to this section)

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

(no changes proposed to this section)

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

(no changes proposed to this section)

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

(no changes proposed to this section)

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

(no changes proposed to this section)

RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

(no changes proposed to this section)

MILITARY/VETERANS & FAMILY MEMBERS

(no changes proposed to this section)

REGULATIONS

(changes are only proposed in the following subsections)

English Basic Skill Requirement Options

- 30 ACT English Score – Students may satisfy basic skills requirements in English by scoring 30 or higher on ACT English exams. However, students must still earn credit for ENGL 111G by one of these options.
- ENGL 111G or ENGL 111GH – Students may satisfy English basic skills by passing ENGL 111G or ENGL 111GH with a grade of C- or better grade of C or higher.
- CLEP Credit – Students may earn credit for ENGL 111G or ENGL 111GH by taking the College Level Examination Program subject exam in freshman college composition with a score of 57 (top quartile) or higher. See "Credit by College Level Placement Examination" later in this chapter for details.
- Advanced Placement Credit – Students may receive advanced placement credit for ENGL 111G or ENGL 111GH by scoring 3, 4, or 5 on the English

Comment [SM3]: Note that the formatting in both the on-line and printed catalog do not make it clear which of the following are the options being referred to here.

Advanced Placement Exam. See "Advanced Placement" later in this chapter for details.

- Transfer Credits – Students may receive credit for ENGL 111G by transferring 3 or more credits of college-level English composition, with a grade of C- or better grade of C or above from accredited institutions. International students may be required to satisfy the requirements under "SPCD 111G" below.
- Transfer Credits – from Nonaccredited Institutions. Students may receive credit for ENGL 111G by transferring 3 or more credits of college-level English composition with a grade of C- or better grade of C or higher from a nonaccredited institution, and by writing a theme which is judged adequate by the Department of English.
- SPCD 111G – International students who took the TOEFL examination must complete SPCD 111G with a grade of C- or better satisfactory grade.
- Developmental Courses – Students who score 12 or below on the ACT English exam must pass two developmental English courses (CCDE 105N, CCDE 110N) with a grade of C- or better before enrolling in ENGL 111G. Students who score 13 to 15 on the ACT English exam must pass one developmental English course (CCDE 110N) with a grade of C- or better before enrolling in ENGL 111G. Developmental courses are included on the transcript and will be included in the calculation of the GPA; however, credits in developmental courses will not count toward a degree.

Comment [SM4]: Editorial change to specify satisfactory performance.

Comment [SM5]: Editorial change to specify satisfactory performance.

Mathematics Basic Skills Requirement Options

- 23 ACT Mathematics Score – Students may satisfy basic skills requirements in mathematics by scoring 23 or higher on ACT mathematics exams. However, students must still fulfill the general education math requirement.
- Coursework – Students scoring below 23 on ACT mathematics exams may satisfy basic skills in mathematics by earning a grade of C- or better grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or course combinations: (a) CCDM 112N and CCDM 113N; (b) CCDM 114N; (c) MATH 111 and MATH 112G; (d) any mathematics course numbered 120 or above. New students are placed in these courses according to their high school GPAs and their ACT scores in mathematics. However, new engineering students must take the mathematics placement exam (MPE), and any new student may choose to take the MPE to test towards a higher placement. Placement does not earn academic credit, and placement in a mathematics course numbered 120 or higher does not satisfy the basic skills requirement.
- Basic Skills Exam – Students may take the Basic Skills Exam, which is offered twice a semester by the Department of Mathematical Sciences. A passing score will meet the basic skills requirement, although it will not appear as credit on the student's transcript.
- Advanced Placement Credit – Students may receive credit for courses which may satisfy basic skills in mathematics by taking the math Advanced Placement Exam. See "Advanced Placement" later in this chapter for details.

- Developmental Courses – Students who score below 23 on the ACT mathematics exam and whose score on the math placement exam, if taken, does not qualify them for placement into university-level mathematics courses will be placed into the appropriate development mathematics course or courses (CCDM). Placement into CCDM course(s) is dependent upon the student's ACT score and high school GPA. Students must pass the CCDM course or courses with a grade of C- or better before enrolling in university-level mathematics courses. Developmental courses are included on the transcript and will be included in the calculation of the GPA; however, credits in developmental courses will not count toward a degree.

Comment [SM6]: Editorial change to specify satisfactory performance.

University Grading System

Grade reports are not automatically mailed to students. Students can access grades and credits by the web using my.nmsu.edu. It is the responsibility of the student to provide updated grade addresses to the Office of the Registrar. At the request of the student, the instructor will provide information on progress in the course prior to the last day to drop a course.

The NMSU system of grading is expressed in letters, which carry grade points used in calculating the cumulative grade-point average:

Letter grade per unit of credit	Grade points
A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	2.0
D+, D, D-	1.0
F	0
W — Withdrawal	0
N — Grade not submitted	0
CR — Credit authorized, but not letter grade	0
IP — In progress	0
RR — Progress in undergraduate course	0
PR — Progress on graduate thesis	0
S* — Satisfactory work	0
U — Unsatisfactory work	0
I — Incomplete	0
AU — Audit	0

*An S grade is a grade satisfactory to the professor and is normally equivalent to the letter grade of C- or better grade of C or higher.

In computing the overall grade–point average, the total credits in which grades of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, ~~D-~~, or F have been assigned is divided into the total number of grade points earned.

A course for which only CR, but no letter grade, is given and a course in which an S or PR grade is earned will be included in earned hours but is not computed used in the computation of in the grade–point average.

Prerequisite

A prerequisite is an enforceable entry requirement for a particular course. Students must have successfully completed the prerequisite with a grade of C- or ~~better~~ before enrolling in the subsequent course.

Repeating Courses

A student may repeat a course in which a D+, D, ~~D-~~, or F grade has been earned at this university. A computable grade (excluding I, W, RR, AU, CR, S, or U) in a repeated course may be substituted in the calculation of the grade–point average, though the original grade also remains on the transcript. The first occurrence with a grade of C- or better C or better grade will count in earned hours. Future attempts will not count in earned hours. If a student repeats a course eligible for grade substitution in which they have earned a D+, D, or ~~D-~~ and then fails the course, the second grade of F will not be substituted for the original grade.

Neither credits nor grade points may be earned by repeating a course for which a grade of C- or better grade of C or higher has already been received.

(no changes proposed to the remainder of this section)

Comment [SM7]: Editorial change to reflect fractional grading

Comment [SM8]: Editing change to specify satisfactory performance.

Comment [SM9]: Editorial change to reflect fractional grading

Comment [SM10]: Editorial change to reflect fractional grading