

To: Dr. Jennifer Bird-Pollan,  
Senate Council Chair

From: Ruth E Beattie,  
Associate Dean for Advising,  
College of Arts and Sciences

Date: April 22, 2020

Re: Proposed Changes to Senate Rule 5.3.1.1 Repeat Option

At an Associate Dean's meeting this afternoon, the need for clarity with the use of a repeat option in the case of pass/fail graded courses was discussed.

Senate Rule 5.3.1.1 clearly indicates that a repeat option cannot be used when a course is taken for a letter grade on the first attempt and on a pass/fail basis on the second attempt.

What the Senate Rule does not mention is whether a repeat option can be used if a course is taken pass/fail on the first attempt and letter grade on the second attempt. It was the sense of the group that as this scenario was not mentioned in the rule, that it would be permitted.

The Associate Deans recommend the clarification of this rule with the addition of the following language to Senate Rule 5.3.1.1: ***A student MAY use a repeat option when repeating a course for a letter grade if the course was originally taken pass/fail.***

## 5.3.2 STUDENTS IN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

### 5.3.2.1 Repeat Option

[US: 11/14/83; US: 4/13/87; US: 11/14/88; US: 4/23/90; US: 9/20/93 US: 4/11/94; US: 12/11/95; US: 2/9/98]

A student shall have the option to repeat once as many as three different completed courses (including special exams as provided in SR 5.2.1.2) with only the grade, credit hours and quality points for the second completion used in computing the student's academic standing and credit for graduation. The limit of three repeat options holds for a student's entire undergraduate career (including when academic bankruptcy is exercised as per SR 5.3.2.4), no matter how many degrees or programs are attempted. A student may not use the repeat option when retaking a course on a Pass/fail basis if the course was originally taken for a letter grade. [A student may use a repeat option when repeating a course for a letter grade if the course was originally taken pass/fail.](#)

A student exercising the repeat option must consult the student's advisor and must notify the Office of the Registrar. A student may exercise the repeat option at any time prior to graduation and must be enrolled at UK. [US: 4/11/94; US: 11/12/2007]

If a student officially withdraws from the second attempt, then the grade, credit hours and quality points for the first completion shall constitute the grade in that course for official purposes. Permission to attempt again the same course may only granted by the Instructor of Record and the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled (see SR 4.3.3). [US: 4/11/94]

The repeat option may be exercised only the second time a student takes a course for a letter grade, not a subsequent time (excluding audits). [US: 2/14/94]

The repeat option shall not be exercised for any course in which the grade of XE or XF was received.

- \* The Senate Rules do not prohibit a student from using a cheating grade of E or XE in a repeat option exercise to apply in place of a regular E that was conferred the first time the course was taken. [SREC: 1/16/2006]
- \* Any course taken by an undergraduate student prior to an awarded degree cannot be changed by the repeat option process after the award of the degree; however, that student may in a subsequent nondegree status use the repeat option on a course that was taken after the prior degree was awarded. [SREC: 10/1/2012]
- \* The repeat option does not allow for the original grade of a repeated course to be removed from the transcript, but rather only allows for removal of that original grade from the calculation of the GPA. [SREC: 12/22/2016]