

April 22, 1999

50 Legislative Council Bill #22

University of Colorado Student Union

Sponsored By:	Sarah Thompson	Representative
Authored By:	Trey Lyons	Student Administrator to Academic Affairs
	Lynea Hansen	Tri-Executive

A BILL

BILL HISTORY

The University of Colorado at Boulder (UCB) currently employs the following academic policy:

Repetition of Courses

If a student takes a course for credit more than once, all grades are calculated into the grade point average. However, the course is only counted toward graduation once, unless a course description specifically states that it can be taken more than once for credit.

Thus, the University of Colorado has made the provision for students not receiving a sufficient grade (defined as grade of C- or better) in the required course work to retake the course. This policy is very effective for ensuring that students have acquired sufficient knowledge and skills for future success. However, this policy makes no concession in regards to a student's grade point average (GPA), which still reflects BOTH the first and the repeated grades, though no additional credit is granted.

Students who take advantage of this option - students who take the academic initiative to make sure that they acquire the knowledge they need to be successful - have their GPAs suffer from the effects of the first grade. This policy "takes the edge off" students after receiving one low grade.

Many other institutions have policies in place that encourage students to retake courses for a "forgiven" grade; these schools offer to exempt the first grade from calculation when determining a cumulative GPA. Universities that WE CONSIDER OUR PEERS - Berkeley, Cal-Davis, UCLA, Michigan, Ohio State, and Nebraska - allow students to retake a certain number of credit hours for "forgiven" or exempted grades. These institutions ensure the acquisition of knowledge and scholastic motivation remains intact.

BILL SUMMARY

Amends the current University of Colorado at Boulder course repetition policy.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union THAT:

SECTION 1: The Student Administrator to Academic Affairs shall present the following policy change to administration for approval:

Repetition of Courses and Course Forgiveness

Individual courses may be repeated. Degree credit for a repeated course will be given only once, but the grade assigned at each enrollment will be recorded on a student's transcript. Students will be able to apply for "course forgiveness" for two repeated courses, not to exceed eight credit hours. If Course Forgiveness is pursued, the first grade in the sequence will be "forgiven" from calculation in a student's cumulative GPA, and only the most recently earned grade and grade points used in that calculation. In case of repetitions beyond the eight credit hours, or repetitions in which Course Forgiveness was not approved, the student's GPA will be based upon all grades awarded. If a student received a grade of I upon repetition of a course, the original grade will continue to be computed in the grade-point average until the I grade is replaced. If you repeat an I in a letter-grade course, the I will lapse to an F unless you have the permission of the Dean of your College or School to retain the I grade for a longer period. Departments and Programs reserve the right to designate equivalent courses for the purpose of repetition, in the event of the discontinuance or unavailability of a course.

SECTION 2: This bill takes effect upon passage.

4/15/99	Passed First Reading	12-1-1
4/22/99	Passed Second Reading	14-1-0

Andrew Luxen, Leg. Council President

Lynea Hansen, Co-Executive

D. Scott Martinez, Co-Executive