

FOR APPROVAL**PUBLIC****OPEN SESSION**

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Professor Nicholas Rule, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs
CONTACT INFO: (416) 978-3948, vp.academicprograms@utoronto.ca

PRESENTER: Same as above
CONTACT INFO:

DATE: May 6, 2025 for May 13, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 7

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to Create Repeating Fail Course Regulation, John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The establishment, termination or major amendment of University-wide policies governing academic regulations are considered by the Committee and forwarded to the Academic Board for approval, for example, but not limited to, policies on academic appeal procedures and standards of professional practice behaviour for students in professional faculties. Minor amendments to University-wide policies may be approved by the Committee. Amendments to divisional academic regulations that will have a major affect in the division or that would require an exception to some element of University-wide policy are considered by the Committee for approval. (AP&P Terms of Reference, Section 4.3)

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **Committee of Academic Policy and Programs [For Approval] (May 13, 2025)**

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, Faculty Council approved the proposal to change its Transfer Credit regulation on March 28, 2025.

HIGHLIGHTS:

This proposal seeks to establish a Repeating Failed Courses policy which will be implemented in a new section in the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (Daniels) Academic Calendar under the Course Enrollment section.

Students at the Daniels Faculty have been allowed to repeat failed courses, but without an official policy published in the Academic Calendar, there is no central reference for students or advisors. Currently, academic advisors receive frequent inquiries about this policy. While advisors can verbally communicate the rules, neither they nor students have a clear, published reference in the Academic Calendar. The lack of transparency can lead to confusion and inconsistent advising. By formally including this policy in the Daniels Faculty Academic Calendar, students will receive the same clarity and access to policy information as their peers in other divisions.

The change is effective for all new and in progress students and it will reflect in policy what has been the established practice.

Consultation outside the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design has taken place with the Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto Mississauga; and University of Toronto Scarborough. All divisions were supportive of the change.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Any new financial obligations resulting from this change will be met at the divisional level.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed creation of the Repeat Failed Course regulation, as described in the proposal from the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design dated March 25, 2025, be approved effective September 1, 2025.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

- Proposal to Change Transfer Credit Regulations, John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design

Proposal for the Creation of a New Policy/Calendar Statement

Policy Name: Repeating Failed Courses

Proponent: John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, University of Toronto

Version Date: March 25, 2025

Summary

This proposal seeks to establish a Repeating Failed Courses policy which will be implemented in a new section in the Daniels Faculty Academic Calendar under the Course Enrollment section. While the practice of allowing students to repeat failed courses has been in effect for years, it is currently not a formal policy in the Academic Calendar.

The goal of this new policy section is to:

- Ensure transparency for students and advisors regarding the process of repeating failed courses.
- Align Daniels' policies with existing policies at other U of T divisions, including the Faculty of Arts & Science (FAS) and University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC).
- Clarify regulations for academic advising and student decision-making.

This policy change will provide much-needed transparency for Daniels students and advisors, ensuring that the Academic Calendar serves as a reliable and comprehensive resource for academic regulations. Additionally, it will align Daniels with broader U of T policies and reinforce best practices in student academic support.

Proposed Policy Statement

Current Text

There is currently no official text regarding repeating failed courses in the Daniels Faculty Academic Calendar.



Proposed Text

Repeating Failed Courses

You may re-enroll in a course if you have received a mark lower than 50% or a status of No Credit (NCR) or Failure (FL). While the Faculty does not limit the number of times you can repeat a failed course, it is important to note that all attempts will appear on your academic transcript and will be included in the calculation of your cumulative grade point average (CGPA), unless an attempt has been declared Credit/No Credit or designated as Extra.

Repeated failures can negatively impact academic standing. If you are considering re-enrolling in a course you are encouraged to consult Daniels Undergraduate Student Services for academic advising before proceeding.

Rationale for Change

Students at the Daniels Faculty have been allowed to repeat failed courses, but without an official policy published in the Academic Calendar, there is no central reference for students or advisors.

Currently, academic advisors receive frequent inquiries about this policy. While advisors can verbally communicate the rules, neither they nor students have a clear, published reference in the Academic Calendar. The lack of transparency can lead to confusion and inconsistent advising.

By formally including this policy in the [Daniels Faculty Academic Calendar](#), we will ensure Daniels students receive the same clarity and access to policy information as their peers in other divisions.

Impact & Implementation

Expected Benefits

- Increased transparency for students and advisors.
- More consistent academic advising across Daniels.
- Alignment with other academic divisions at UofT, increasing consistency across faculties to create greater equity for students.



Potential Considerations

- The policy could lead to increased re-enrollment in some courses, potentially affecting course capacity. However, similar policies at FAS and UTSC have not shown significant enrollment surges, so this risk is minimal.
 - There may be minor administrative updates required for student services and advising teams to ensure they are aligned with the newly published policy.
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Consultation Undertaken

Consultations were conducted with key stakeholders to ensure alignment and support for this policy change:

Across the University

- Faculty of Arts & Science (FAS) Registrar's Office: Made minor suggestion regarding clarifying language for the proposal that was incorporated. FAS is in support of this proposal
- University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC): UTSC made one minor editorial suggestion that was incorporated. UTSC is in support of this proposal.
- University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM): was interested in the proposal as their curriculum does not have a repeating failed course policy. They had no comments but thanked us for sharing the proposal with them.

Within the Daniels Faculty

- Associate Dean, Academic was consulted and is in full support of this proposal.
 - Curriculum Committee was consulted and is in full support.
 - Academic Advisors: Daniels Undergraduate Student Services provided feedback based on advising trends and student inquiries.
 - Registrar's Office: The Daniels Registrar's team reviewed the proposal and confirmed feasibility.
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Policy Implementation

Effective Date: September 1, 2025.

The new Repeating Failed Courses policy will be included in the 2025–2026 Daniels Faculty Academic Calendar.

Implementation Timeline

- **Spring 2025** – Update Academic Calendar with new policy language.
- **Summer 2025** – Student Services and Academic Advising teams incorporate policy into advising materials.
- **September 2025** – Policy officially goes into effect for the **2025–2026 academic year**.

Consultation & Governance Pathway

Steps/Stakeholders	Date(s) of Sign-Off/Approval
Daniels Registrar's Office	Dec, 2024
VPAP Sign-off	March 21, 2025
Daniels Faculty Council	March 28, 2025
Committee on Academic Policy and Programs	May 13, 2025