

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

**TO:** Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

**SPONSOR:** Professor Nicholas Rule, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs  
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**PRESENTER:** Same as above.  
**CONTACT INFO:**

**DATE:** May 6, 2025 for May 13, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** 13

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Proposal to Create Repeating Fail Course Regulation, Faculty of Arts and Science.

**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 Faculty of Arts and Science approved the proposal to create the Repeating Fail Course Regulation at its Faculty Council meeting on March 19, 2025.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

This is a proposal to establish a Repeating Failed Courses policy which will be published in a new sub-section of the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar within the existing Course Enrolment section.

The proposal formalizes in policy a long-standing practice for students repeating failed courses. Faculty of Arts and Science students have been able to re-enrol in a course for which they received a mark lower than 50% or a status of No Credit (NCR) or Failure (FL) for many years; however, this practice is not published as policy in the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar. This proposal seeks to both ensure transparency for students and advisors concerning the existing practice and that the Calendar is an accurate repository of policies applicable to Faculty of Arts & Science students.

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 Faculty of Arts and Science has taken place with the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, 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 Faculty of Arts and Science Design dated February 24, 2025, be approved effective September 1, 2025.

### **DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

- Proposal to Create Repeat Failed Course regulation, Faculty of Arts and Science

# Proposal for the Creation of a New Policy/Calendar Statement or the Modification of an Existing Policy/Calendar Statement

<b>Policy Name</b>	Repeating Failed Courses
<b>Proponent</b>	Lisa Feng, Faculty Registrar & Director, Academic Services Faculty of Arts & Science, University of Toronto
<b>Version Date</b> (Please change the date as you edit the proposal.)	February 24, 2025

## Summary

Please provide a brief description of the policy or calendar statement being proposed/modified and the goals for the change.

## Proposal for Consideration

The proposal is to formalize in policy a long-standing practice for students repeating failed courses. Faculty of Arts & Science students have been able to re-enrol in a course for which they received a mark lower than 50% or a status of No Credit ([NCR](#)) or Failure ([FL](#)) for many years, however this practice is not published as policy in the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar. This proposal seeks to both ensure transparency for students and advisors concerning the existing practice and that the Calendar is an accurate repository of policies applicable to Faculty of Arts & Science students.

Pending approval, the policy will be published in a new sub-section of the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar, Repeating Failed Courses, within the existing [Course Enrolment](#) section of the Calendar.

## Goals

- To ensure transparency for students and advisors concerning the existing practice for students repeating failed courses.
- To place the existing practice, formalized as policy, in the context of the [repeating passed courses](#) policy, published in the Academic Calendar, by including both policies in the [Course Enrolment](#) section

of the Calendar.

- To ensure that the Calendar is an accurate repository of policies applicable to Faculty of Arts & Science students.

## Policy Statement or Calendar Language

<b>Current Text</b>	<b>Proposed Text</b>
<i>State the current policy statement or the current language as it appears in the Academic Calendar.</i>	<i>State the proposed policy statement or the proposed language as it would appear in the Academic Calendar.</i>
[Information concerning repeating failed courses is not currently included in the Academic Calendar.]	<p><b>Repeating failed courses</b></p> <p>Students may re-enrol in a course if they have received a mark lower than 50% or a status of No Credit (<a href="#">NCR</a>) or Failure (<a href="#">FL</a>), as long as they have not previously obtained credit for the course with a mark of 50% or higher or a status of Credit (<a href="#">CR</a>) or Pass (<a href="#">P</a>).</p> <p>Each attempt at the course will appear on students' academic records and the mark in the course will contribute to <a href="#">grade point average</a> calculations, unless an attempt has been declared <a href="#">Credit/No Credit</a> or designated Extra.</p> <p>Students considering re-enrolling in a course are encouraged to contact their <a href="#">College Registrar's Office</a> for advising.</p>

## Rationale or Case for Action

You may wish to speak to when the policy or calendar statement was first created or last modified; past success/failure of the policy being modified. What has led to the decision to propose/modify the policy or calendar statement? Where appropriate, include relevant metrics and/or explain alignment with the division's academic plan.

Faculty of Arts & Science students have been able to re-enrol in a course for which they received a mark lower than 50% or a status of NCR or FL for many years, however this practice is not published as policy in the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar.

In the context of the publication of the policy concerning repeating a passed course and not a policy concerning repeating a failed course, advisors receive inquiries from students about whether they can repeat a failed course, and although advisors can speak to the practice, neither they nor students can currently refer to publicly available policy information.

The practice is being formalized as policy to both ensure transparency concerning the existing practice for students and advisors and that the Calendar is an accurate repository of policies applicable to Faculty of Arts & Science students.

The 2024-2025 Academic Calendar of the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) contains a section referencing the division's [policy](#):

- **“Repeating Failed Courses**
  - A student may re-register for a course which they have failed. Both registrations are shown on the student's record and both grades count in the student's CGPA.”

The John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (Daniels Faculty) will also be moving ahead with a proposal to publish as policy the division's existing cognate practice.

## Impact and Implementation of Proposed Change(s)

Indicate the positive and negative implications that need to be considered in the creation/modification of the policy or calendar statement. State the impact of the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement on the divisional student experience as well as potential effects on other University of Toronto divisions.

Pending governance approval, the existing practice formalized as policy will be in effect for all current and newly admitted students. The new Calendar sub-section will ensure that students and advisors have access to transparent policy information concerning whether a student is able to repeat a course in which they received a mark lower than 50% or a status of NCR or FL, and the implications of doing so.

## Consultation Undertaken

Please provide evidence of consultation with any stakeholders (e.g., students, staff, faculty members, alumni, U of T divisions, third-party stakeholders if applicable) to be affected by the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement. Indicate how stakeholders will be notified of the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement following approval.

### **In the Faculty of Arts & Science**

Consultation has been undertaken with the following stakeholder groups:

October 2, 2024: Presentation at the Faculty Management Team (FMT) meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

October 2, 2024: The College Registrars confirmed support of the proposal, concerning which feedback had been shared on the text to be published in the Calendar, in a meeting. The College Registrars also provided additional feedback on the proposed Calendar text on November 4, 2024.

October 28, 2024: Presentation to advisors in College Registrar's Offices; feedback was provided on the text to be published in the Calendar and support was expressed for the proposal.

October 31, 2024: Presentation at the Arts & Science Communication & Consultation (C&C) meeting; feedback was provided on the text to be published in the Calendar and no objections were put forward by this stakeholder group.

November 7, 2024: The proposed Calendar text was shared with the Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU); no objections were put forward by this stakeholder group.

January 17, 2025: The proposed Calendar text was discussed with the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS); support was expressed for the proposal.

### **Across the University**

The proposal was shared with the Registrars of, and additional registrarial colleagues at, the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and UTSC, as well as with the Registrar of the Daniels Faculty, in November 2024. Support was expressed for the proposal.

# Policy Implementation

Please indicate when the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement will go into effect as well as where and how this will be implemented.

## Effective Date

Pending governance approval, the new Calendar sub-section, Repeating Failed Courses, will be published in the 2025-2026 Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar, in effect as of September 1, 2025; note that the practice, not yet formalized as policy, is already in effect.

## Implementation Timeline

This proposal does not require any implementation in addition to the publication of the new Calendar sub-section, since the practice, not yet formalized as policy, is already in effect.

## Consultation/Governance Pathway

Steps/Stakeholders	Date(s) of Sign-offs/Approvals
Office of the Faculty Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Science	October 2, 2024
Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science	October 2, 2024
VPAP Sign-off	February 19, 2025
Arts & Science Council	March 19, 2025 (for approval)
Committee on Academic Policy and Programs	May 13, 2025 (for approval)