

University Graduate School Announcement

(Emailed to All Graduate Students and Programs on February 4, 2011)

Grade Forgiveness Policy for Graduate Programs will be discontinued beginning Fall 2011

FIU's Faculty Senate passed a resolution to discontinue the grade forgiveness policy (stated below*) for all graduate programs beginning the Fall 2011 semester. With this policy change, students may still repeat courses, but all graduate coursework, including repeats, will be calculated in the GPA.

Because the policy change goes into effect in Fall 2011, the forgiveness policy cannot be applied to any graduate course taken in Fall 2011 or later. The forgiveness policy can be applied, however, to graduate courses taken prior to Fall 2011, but only if the "repeat" course is completed no later than summer 2012. In other words, graduate students will have one full academic year, Fall 2011, Spring 2012 and Summer 2012, to complete a repeat of courses already taken before the Fall 2011 semester.

Forgiveness Policy Discontinuation Timeline:

- **Fall 2011** – Forgiveness policy cannot be applied to any graduate course taken in fall 2011 or later.
- **Fall 2011 – Summer 2012** - Repeat course for coursework taken prior to fall 2011 will have the forgiveness policy applied.
- **After Summer 2012** – Forgiveness policy is permanently discontinued.

***Current FORGIVENESS POLICY (to be discontinued Fall 2011)**

The forgiveness policy allows students to repeat two courses (the same course prefix and number) to improve their GPA. Only the grade received on the last repeat is used in the GPA calculation. Under the University's forgiveness policy, students must file a "Repeated Course" form with the Office of the Registrar. There is no time limit on the use of the forgiveness policy for grades; however, the forgiveness policy cannot be used once a degree has been posted. All courses taken with the grades earned will be recorded on the student's transcript. The "Repeated Course" form will not be processed if the first grade received is 'DR', 'DP', 'IF', 'W', 'WI', 'WP', 'AU', 'NR', or 'EM'. Repeated courses will be appropriately designated with a transcript comment. A course taken on a letter grade basis must be repeated on the same basis. Students will not be allowed additional credit or quality points for a repeated course unless the course is specifically designated as repeatable (independent study, studio courses, etc.). Students may repeat no more than two courses under this policy with no course being repeated more than once. Students not using the forgiveness policy may still repeat a course. All attempts will apply to computation of the GPA but credit for only one attempt will apply toward graduation. Students must check with the appropriate academic department to determine whether there are additional restrictions on repeating courses.

The forgiveness policy cannot be used to change the grade in a course in which the grade was determined as the result of either a formal or informal resolution of a charge of academic misconduct.