

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York

Academic Senate
Committee on Course and Standing
Memorandum

TO: Academic Senate Steering Committee

From: Nina Sarkar, Phd., Chairperson, Committee on Course and Standing

SUBJECT: Proposed Grade Change for Nursing Department

DATE: April 4, 2016

Purpose: The passing grade for clinical Nursing courses, which are seven to nine credits is a C. Nursing students who fail with a C- do not benefit from the college's repeat policy.

Current Policy 2016:

Department Policy (QCC College Catalog 2015-2016 page 99)

Nursing Criteria for Retention/ Progression:

A passing final grade in each of the two components of the clinical nursing courses (NU-101, NU-102, NU-201, and NU-202) is necessary to progress to the next nursing course. These two components are:

Clinical/ Laboratory- a passing grade is needed in each of the following: clinical performance, math skills, written assignments and critical elements.

Theory/ Lecture- A student must successfully pass the course examinations with a final average grade of 74% or above to pass the course. (See course manuals for details of examinations).

College Policy (QCC College Catalog 2015-2016 page 48)

If a student earns either a failing grade (F or its equivalent) or a D grade in a course and then repeats the course and earns a grade of C or better, the initial F or D will not be counted in the student's GPA, even though the initial grade will continue to appear on the student's transcript. Only the new grade will be counted in the student's GPA.

Proposed:

The first C – or lower grade (not including a WU) that a student receives in any one nursing course will be changed to a NC (no credit) and will not be included in the calculation of the grade point average (GPA).

If the student repeats the course, only the repeated grade will be computed into the grade-point average (GPA), however, the NC grade will remain on the transcript.

Note: Students should remember that repeating a course may limit their ability to meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements, for receipt of federal financial aid.

Rationale:

This policy is requested because Nursing courses have higher credit hours than most other departments. If a student receives anything lower than a C and repeats the course, it lowers their GPA. This makes our students less competitive when applying to a bachelor's degree completion program. At this time, students need a bachelor's degree in Nursing to gain employment in many of our local healthcare facilities.