

Course Repeat

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1. What has changed with the course repeat policy?**

A major change is that, effective fall 2019, students may repeat any undergraduate course (00000-40000 levels), and the university will count only the highest grade from all attempts of the same course in the student's undergraduate GPA. Before fall 2019, this policy extended only to lower-division (0000-20000 levels) courses.
- 2. Will the revised course repeat policy affect current or returning students even if they are not in the 2019 catalog (or later)?**

The revised policy affects all students **IF** they repeat an upper-division course in fall 2019 or later. Below are some scenarios:

 - Student repeated an upper-division course prior to fall 2019. Both grades (initial attempt and repeat) count in the student's GPA under the previous course repeat policy
 - Student attempted an upper-division course prior to fall 2019 and repeats the course in fall 2019 or later. The highest grade from the two attempts counts in the student's GPA.
 - Student repeated an upper-division course prior to fall 2019. The GPA includes both grades. Then, the student repeats the course a second time in fall 2019 or later. The highest grade from the three attempts (initial attempt and two repeats) counts in the student's GPA.
- 3. If a student who repeated a course under the previous course repeat policy upgrades to the 2019 catalog, will the student be able to take advantage of the revised policy?**

No, the revised policy is enacted by a student's course repeats in fall 2019 or later, and not by the student's catalog year.
- 4. Can the student request that the Registrar's Office forgive a grade for an upper-division course that was repeated before fall 2019?**

No, the policy revision that counts upper-division courses in the recalculation of the GPA became effective for fall 2019. No exceptions will be made for individual students.
- 5. Are there any situations where all the grades and/or credit hours are counted for repeated courses?**

Yes, for courses that are designated as "repeatable for credit," students earn credit for each successful attempt, and the university counts all grades (passed and failed) for all attempts in the GPA. Courses designated as repeatable for credit are noted as such in their description in the [University Catalog](#). In another situation, all grades from all attempted Kent State courses are counted in the GPA for Latin Hours (e.g., magna cum laude) and With Distinction at graduation.
- 6. The policy indicates that a student may attempt undergraduate courses no more than three times (maximum two repeats per course). What counts as an attempt?**

A course attempt is any Kent State course for which a grade or mark is given and displayed on the student's transcript and GPS degree audit. Marks include withdrawal (W), pass/fail (Y/Z), audit (AU), never attended-F (NF) and stopped attending-F (SF). Courses that a student dropped before the 14th day of the semester (or earlier for short-term courses) are not counted as an attempt.

7. Does the three-attempt rule mean that a student can never register for a course again after the third attempt?

The three-attempt limit was implemented in fall 2015 with the goal to prevent students from unsuccessfully attempting a course multiple times without advisor intervention. Students in this situation should be directed to meet with their advisor to discuss next steps, which may range from guiding the student to a different course/program to entering a registration override for the student to repeat the course again. Each advising unit is strongly encouraged to develop criteria and a process that is consistent and equitable when reviewing student requests for exceptions to the three-attempt rule.

8. If a college permits a student to repeat a course after three attempts, which grade(s) from the attempts count in the student's GPA?

No matter the number of attempts of the same course, only the highest grade earned in all attempts counts in the student's GPA. (Note: For an upper-division course, the student must repeat the course in fall 2019 or later for this statement to be true.)

9. Do the grades excluded from the GPA for repeated courses display on the transcript?

Yes, all grades for all attempted Kent State courses appear on the student's transcript, even grades that were excluded from the student's GPA through the course repeat or academic forgiveness policy. No exceptions will be made.

10. Does repeating a course affect a student's financial aid?

Repeating a course that is not designated as repeatable for credit (i.e., students do not earn credit for each attempt) may affect a student's satisfactory academic progress for federal financial aid. More information can be found on the [Student Financial Aid website](#), and students should contact the [One Stop for Student Services](#) at 330-672-6000 with questions.

11. If students repeat a course that now has fewer credit hours, will they lose credit hours if they earn a higher grade for the repeat?

In that situation, yes. Credit hours follow the grade. Therefore, the highest grade and the credit hours associated with that grade count in the student's GPA and overall credit hours. If the course is revised to be more credit hours between the student's first attempt and the repeat, the student gains credit hours if the student earns a higher grade for the repeat.

12. Which course will be counted if the student earns the same grade when repeating a course?

If the same grade is earned in a course repeat, the first attempt of the course will count in the student's GPA and overall credit hours.

13. Where is it displayed what is counted or not counted in a student's GPA for repeated courses?

All attempts of the same (or equivalent) Kent State course will have either the letter "I" (include) or "E" (exclude) next to the grade on the student's transcript and GPS degree audit. Those with the "I" count in the GPA; those with the "E" do not count in the GPA. In addition, courses with an "E" next to the grade are listed with 0 credit hours.

14. Can students who already have a bachelor's degree take advantage of the course repeat policy?

The previous course repeat policy excluded post-baccalaureate students from grade forgiveness when repeating courses (i.e., all attempts counted in their GPA, even lower-division repeats). The revised policy removes that exclusion. Therefore, any student who previously earned a bachelor's (from Kent State or elsewhere) and repeats an undergraduate course in fall 2019 or later will have only the highest grade from all attempts counted in the GPA. Please note that if the student holds a Kent State bachelor's degree, the GPA for the previously awarded degree does not change for a future repeat of a course.

15. What happens if a student repeating a course selects the pass/fail grade option for the course?

The Pass grade has the same weight as the D grade, although it does not count in the student's GPA. Therefore, if a student earned a grade higher than D in first attempt and Pass grade in second attempt, the grade in the first attempt will be counted in the GPA. If the first grade is D and the second grade is Pass or Fail, the D grade will be counted in the GPA. Please note that any course with the Pass grade will not count toward the Kent Core or any requirement in the student's major, minor or certificate. Students must submit [a form to the Registrar's Office](#) to request the pass/fail option.

See the table below for how using the Pass/Fail grade for a repeated undergraduate course will affect your GPA.

Grade in 1st attempt	Grade in 2nd attempt	What grade counts in GPA
C	Pass (Y)	C
C	Fail (Z)	C
C-	Pass (Y)	C-
C-	Fail (Z)	C-
D	Pass (Y)	D
D	Fail (Z)	D
F	Pass (Y)	Neither
F	Fail (Z)	F

16. What happens if a student attempts a course that is equivalent to a course the student attempted previously?

Courses coded as equivalent are treated as the same course in Banner. Therefore, only the highest grade from the two attempts will count in the GPA. The same is true for courses that previously had a different course ID (i.e., different course subject and/or number).

17. If a student attempts a course at Kent State and then repeats the course at another institution (or vice versa), will only the highest grade count in the GPA?

If the two courses are coded on the Kent State transfer tables as equivalent, only the first attempt is counted in the GPS degree audit. If the first attempt is a Kent State course, the grade and credit hours are counted in the GPA and overall credit hours. If the first attempt is a transfer course, only the credit hours are counted.

18. Will a course that is forgiven under academic forgiveness be counted if the student repeats the course?

A course for which a student has received academic forgiveness is excluded from any GPA recalculation if the student repeats the course. For example, if a student receives academic forgiveness for a course and then repeats the course and earns a grade lower than the one forgiven, the lower grade in the second attempt counts in the GPA.

19. How does repeating a course affect a student's GPA for honors at graduation?

All grades from all attempted Kent State courses count in the GPA for Latin Hours (previously called Institutional Honors) for baccalaureate-seeking students and With Distinction for associate degree-seeking students. Grades that were excluded from the GPA under the course repeat or academic forgiveness policy are included in the GPA for honors.