AGC Decision

7.10 Grading Policy

Decision

On December 12, 2023, the AGC membership voted to approve revisions to the Grading Policy as part of a routinely scheduled review.

The revised policy reads as follows:

Grand Rapids Community College's grading system is a letter and numerical based system that includes both plus (+) and minus (−) grades. Each letter grade corresponds to honor points which are used to calculate a student's semester and cumulative grade point average (GPA). A student's grades and GPA are recorded on the student's academic transcript. Clock hour programs use a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade scale.

Faculty members are responsible for
● outlining their grade calculation in each course syllabus
● assigning grades to each student enrolled in a course
● keeping grade records as required under the faculty collective bargaining agreement
● maintaining confidentiality of students' grades
● submitting final grades by the deadline indicated in the Academic Calendar
● reporting students that do not attend in accordance with College Policy 8.8 to initiate an administrative withdrawal

Students have the right to
● audit a course for no credit
● withdraw from a course prior to the published withdrawal deadline for the class
● grieve a final grade in accordance with the Grade Appeal Process

Sponsor/Champion of Proposed Policy

Chair: Valerie Butterfield (Registrar)
Members: Lyttron Burris (Faculty, English) and Raynard Ross (Associate Dean, Student Success)

Rationale/Supporting Data

● The current policy reads as the rationale for the grading policy and the bulk of the policy requirements are listed in the procedures. The revisions include the responsibility of college officials.
● The revised policy:

- o Indicates the college official's responsibility regarding the transparency of earned grades
- o Indicates the college official's responsibility regarding the timeliness of official grades
- o Indicates the college official's responsibility regarding record retention
- o Indicates the student's rights regarding their grade and transcript

The team reviewing this policy:
- Sought and included input from AGC members at three meetings.
- Received and responded to input from departments, programs, and individual faculty members.

Implications for Action
Changes to this policy will require changes to the accompanying procedures for consistency in language.

Date of Decision by AGC
Date Passed: December 12, 2023
Yes: 47 member votes, 10 proxy votes
No: 2 member votes, 1 proxy vote

Section to be Completed by the Provost

Evaluation Plan
The Grading Policy will be evaluated according to the next scheduled review of the policy. This evaluation and review will include feedback from GRCC faculty members and College stakeholders as well as benchmarking from peer institutions.

Next scheduled review of policy: Academic Year 2030-31

Response from Provost
I approve of the revised policy statement recommended by the AGC as outlined above. Implementation of this revised policy statement will include updates to the appropriate policy definitions and procedures for posting the finalized policy document to the College website. The Registrar will lead this implementation and present the final draft of the policy document to the Deans' Council with expected implementation and publication on the GRCC Policies page by August 2024.

February 8, 2024