



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY MANUAL

<Division>

Approved By: <Office Use Only>
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Policy Number: <Office Use Only>

Effective Date: <Office Use Only>

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Policy on Course Grade Appeals (Amendment to SP 03-02)

Purpose: to limit course grade appeals to students whose degrees have not been granted.

Background: At the present time, there is no policy prohibiting students who have graduated from appealing course grades.

Accountability: Provost, Dean of the Faculty, Program Chairs, University Registrar

Applicability: All CSUCI students

Policy:

1. Each student has the right to appeal the final course grade, but only the final course grade. For example, a student may not appeal grades on individual assignments and/or examinations.
2. Appeals are limited to situations in which the student believes the grade was "prejudicially", "capriciously", or "arbitrarily" assigned.
3. The appeal must be initiated within the first seven weeks of the first regular semester after assignment of the grade* (See item 6 below). A student who believes that a course grade has been assigned inappropriately must follow the proper steps in the appeal process, observing the time limits for completion of the steps as follows:
 - Step 1: The grade appeal must first be directed to the instructor of the course, in writing by the end of the seventh week of the semester and copied to the Chair. If the grade is not correct, the instructor can change the grade with a change of grade form. The instructor has two weeks to respond to the student's request in writing and copied to the Chair. Students who file after the fifth week may not have their appeals settled by the end of the semester.
 - Step 2: If the grade is correct and the student is not satisfied with the instructor's explanation, and intends to appeal the grade, the student must make an appointment to speak with the program chair. If the instructor is not available or does not respond to the student's appeal within the given



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time frame, the Program Chair may act on behalf of the instructor. If the program chair is the instructor, the student should speak with the Vice President of Academic Affairs (or designee). The program chair or Vice President of Academic Affairs (or designee) cannot change the grade, but will then discuss the issue with the instructor and provide a response by the end of the ninth week of the semester to the student.

Step 3: If the student is not satisfied after receiving the response from the appropriate administrator, the student should submit a written appeal by the end of the eleventh week of the semester to the University Appeals Committee through the office of Academic Affairs.

Step 4: The University Appeals Committee will forward the student's statement to the instructor. The instructor will be required to respond in writing by a specified date within the semester. The student's statement and the instructor's response will be reviewed by the entire committee, after which the committee can:

- a. Request more information from the student and/or the instructor
- b. Decide to change or maintain the grade

Step 5: When the committee has made its decision, it will notify the student and instructor in writing, and the student will be given copy of the instructor's written response by the end of the semester.

4. The University Appeals committee shall consist of faculty and at least one student.
5. Individuals may not participate as a member of the University Appeals Committee in review of an appeal if they are a participant in the appeal. The decision of the University Appeals Committee is final.
6. If a student is a candidate for graduation, the office of the registrar must be notified in writing of the intent to appeal the grade, within 30 days of the last day of the semester. The final degree evaluation will not be performed and the degree will not be granted until the grade appeal process has been completed.
7. No grades can be appealed or changed for any reason after a degree has been granted.