

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

II. Recommendations Concerning the U-Grade Policy

The Committee on General Educational Affairs recommended the following which the Faculty approved on 11/29/82:

- A. The present U-grade policy be abolished.

Justification

The U-grade policy was established with the explicit purpose (a) of facilitating the passage of students with a weak high school background from high school to college, (b) of helping these students to improve their skills by allowing them to repeat the course or courses in which they failed to achieve a satisfactory grade without the penalty of an F, and (c) of encouraging these students to continue their education at Morgan. However, the present U-grade policy seems to frustrate the very aims for which it was established in the first place:

- Students do not have to repeat the course in the following semester. They can continue and repeat the course in their senior year, if they so choose.
- Students are still penalized because it is common knowledge that the U grade means a "Freshman F."

- B. The following I(R) grade policy be adopted:

1. An I(R) grade means that the student who receives such a grade must repeat the course in its entirety. The parenthetical "R" stands for "Repeat."
2. The I(R) grade will be given (a) if the student is enrolled in a 100 level course, and (b) if the average of the student for that course is lower than a C.
3. The student must repeat the course the following semester in which he is enrolled.
4. Upon completion of the course as repeated, the I(R) grade will be changed to an NC (No Credit). The student will receive the grade earned for the course as repeated.
5. If the student does not repeat the course within the proper time limit, the I(R) grade will be changed into an F.

6. The instructor must inform the department chairperson in writing of the I(R) given.
7. Students may not take the proficiency examination to change an I(R) grade.

Justification

- Ad 1. The “R” is not a standard symbol. However, the faculty has the power to introduce this symbol for the internal practices of the institution.
- Ad 2. This condition is the same as in the present U-grade policy.
- Ad 3. This proviso is in line with the remedial purpose of the U-grade policy.
- Ad 4. The NC grades do not penalize the student. NC grades cannot be interpreted simply as a hidden failing grade. It does not affect the student’s overall average.
- Ad 5. This proviso enforces the I(R) policy.
- Ad 6. The reason for this proviso is that department chairpersons must know at the least the number of I(R)s in a course so that he/she can plan accordingly and students affected by this policy will not be locked out from the course the following semester.
- Ad 7. This is in line with the I-grade policy.

Respectfully submitted,

For the Committee on General Educational
Affairs

Otto Begus, Chairman

Members of the Committee:

Dr. M. Ayele
Dr. J. Hayden
Dr. B. Hollis
Dr. W. Jackson
Mr. P. McGuire
Mrs. C. Ricks
Dr. F. Ritter
Dr. J. Robinson
Dr. E. Silversmith
Dr. E. von Zemenszky