

Policy on Repeated Courses for Undergraduate Students

Courses designated as “repeatable for additional credit”

A small percentage of Boston University courses (e.g., special topics or variable-credit directed study courses) are explicitly designated as “repeatable for credit”; they can be taken more than once for credit toward graduation. Depending on the course or the student’s academic program, there may be limits on the allowable number of repeats and/or total credits applicable to degree completion.

Courses not designated as repeatable for additional credit

Most Boston University courses are NOT designated as repeatable for additional credit. The following policy applies to all such courses that are nonetheless repeated, e.g., because the student has not earned the minimum grade required for his/her current or intended degree program:

1. When a course not explicitly designated as “repeatable for additional credit” has been taken for a grade, that same course can be taken again for a grade only once.
2. Repeated courses receive credit toward the degree only once. For example, a student who takes the same four-credit course twice receives four, not eight, credits toward the total required for completion of his/her degree program.
3. Students should consult with their advisor about the usefulness of repeating a course.

Grades for Repeated Courses

When a course has been repeated, all of the credits and grades earned are included in the calculation of the student's grade point average (GPA). The grade for the repeated course does not replace the original grade. This grading policy applies to all repeated courses, whether or not they are designated as “repeatable for additional credit.”

This policy becomes effective June 1, 2015, the beginning of the 2015-16 Bulletin year.

Approved March 18, 2015 by the University Council