

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
THE FACULTY SENATE

PROGRAM REVISION APPROVAL FORM

50 COPIES REQUIRED

PROGRAM TITLE: Raising the Passing Grade for Kinesiology Degree Course Requirements

PLEASE CHECK: GRADUATE \_\_\_\_\_ UNDERGRADUATE X

DEPARTMENT KINESIOLOGY HEAD/CHAIR: Dr. Patty Freedson

SCHOOL OR COLLEGE SPHHS DEAN: Dr. Marjorie Aelion

Submission Date: July 25, 2011 Proposed Starting Date: Beginning of Spring Term 2012

**I. PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT**

**A. Describe the Proposal.**

To raise the passing grade for Kinesiology Degree Course Requirements from of a C- (1.75) to a C (2.0).

The current requirement to successfully pass a class for the major and minor in Kinesiology is a C-. This current passing grade requirement presents several problems:

1. If a student achieves a cumulative C- average in all courses (not just Kinesiology classes) they would be placed on an Academic Status of Probation, Suspension or Dismissal, depending on the number of times they earned an overall GPA of C-;
2. The University overall GPA for graduation is a C average. We are sending the wrong message to students to say it is sufficient to pass a class for your degree but the passing grade is less than what the University requires for graduation. The standards for the Department of Kinesiology should be at least equal to those for the University.
3. A course in which a student earns a grade of C or higher would not be able repeat the course for either credits or a grade substitution as this is an acceptable passing grade;
4. If approved, notify all advising offices on campus and change all information from the Department indicating passing grade information. This will include handouts, flyers, websites, SPIRE information and course syllabi;
5. Any such change in the grading policy will not affect current students. It will be implemented for those students entering the major for the Fall of 2011.

**B. PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE PROPOSAL.**

The entire Faculty in the Department of Kinesiology contributed to this proposal through a series of faculty meetings and the editing of several drafts resulting in the final version.

**II. PURPOSE AND GOALS**

The purpose of this proposal is to encourage students to meet the University Grade Point Average to graduate by achieving that same grade criteria in each course required to meet the course degree requirements to receive an Undergraduate degree in Kinesiology.

**III. RESOURCES**

This Proposal should not require any additional resources.