Remediation in the Common Curriculum

There has been some confusion regarding what students with low grades need to do to fulfil the common curriculum requirement. The issue is that all Yale-NUS students need to satisfy all the requirements of the common curriculum, which means that if they do unsatisfactory work in a common curriculum course they must remediate or retake that course in order to proceed onward and graduate. They cannot substitute a different course for the common curriculum course, as might happen in a distribution system.

- **Remediation**: The student can carry out some extra work immediately to put themselves back in a passing situation – this might be appropriate if there was one or a few papers or exercises that caused the student to fall below the standard, and that successful completion of these particular exercises would suffice to satisfy the requirement.
- **Retake**: The other option is to retake the course altogether. The latter option is problematic, in that they can only do that a full year later, but sometimes it is the right thing to do.

This process has led to some confusion and administrative difficulties, so we have clarified the rules somewhat in an effort to make this move more smoothly. Basically the way this works in terms of grading is as follows. Note that everything that follows applies both to courses in the first semester (for which the grades are not recorded) and for subsequent courses. However it does not apply for CI and HI – if students get a grade of D or F in those courses, they must simply take another one to satisfy the requirement.

- A grade of C or better means the student satisfies the common curriculum requirement, and none of this is relevant. This is true both for courses in the first semester and subsequent semesters.
- A grade of D means that the student does not satisfy the common curriculum requirement, and will be given the opportunity to remediate the course without retaking it. A grade of “IP” (for “in progress”) is temporarily recorded. The Remediation Committee will determine the nature of the student’s remediation and assess the success of the remediation. If the student successfully completes the remediation by the end of the second week of the subsequent semester, that grade is changed to C (or CS for 1st semester courses) and the student can continue. If the remediation is not successfully completed, that grade is changed to F (or to CU for 1st semester courses) and the student must retake the course.
- A grade of F, awarded in the first instance by CC Facilitator or due to unsuccessful remediation, means that the student must retake the course, and that other forms of remediation are not acceptable.

Note that the consequence of this is that for common curriculum courses a grade of D is an unsatisfactory grade, but one that holds open the possibility of remediation without retaking the course. Note also that no student ends up with a D on their transcript in a common curriculum course – they either successfully remediate and end up with C or CS on the transcript, or they get an F or CU on their transcript and retake the course.

For Semester 1, Academic Year 2015-16 (this semester), the deadline date for Common Curriculum Coordinators to submit names of ‘D’ grade students for publication of IP grades (list of students to be remediated) is by Monday 7 December 2015. Subsequently after the remediation, the final grade must be submitted by the Friday of the first instructional week of the next semester.

The relevant academic regulations regarding this can be found on pages 11-12 of the Yale-NUS Undergraduate Regulations: [https://share.nus.edu.sg/ync/aa/students/Policies%20and%20Regulations/Yale-NUS%20Undergraduate%20Regulations.pdf](https://share.nus.edu.sg/ync/aa/students/Policies%20and%20Regulations/Yale-NUS%20Undergraduate%20Regulations.pdf)