

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92521-0132

April 18, 2018

TO: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair  
Academic Senate

FROM: Kate Sweeny, Chair  
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Change to Regulation R1.6.1

The CHASS Executive Committee discussed the Proposed Change to Regulation R1.6.1 at the regular meeting on April 18, 2018. The committee was generally supportive of the effort to increase consistency across grade-related policies. The C- grade currently falls into a problematic gray area between passing and failing, such that many courses allow a C- in prerequisite classes, and students cannot “retake and replace” a course in which they receive a C- — yet a C- equates to an NC.

Although the revised regulation improves on the issue described above, the committee was concerned that the proposed changes may have several unintended consequences. Most notably, allowing students to retake/replace a course with as high as a C- grade may significantly increase enrollment demand for certain courses that serve as common prerequisites. Because these types of courses already tend to be in high demand, the proposed regulation could increase time to graduation in certain majors.

One solution to the problem just described would be to simplify the proposed changes, maintaining the repeat/replace rule at a D+ cut-off but altering the regulation on prerequisite grade requirements to limit it at a C- rather than a C. However, this revision would worsen a second concern voiced by the committee, namely that the proposed regulation change would substantially restrict the freedom of academic units to determine their standard for performance among their majors.

Ultimately, the committee felt that these concerns were sufficiently significant to warrant further discussion prior to supporting the proposed regulation change.

Kate Sweeny, Chair  
CHASS Executive Committee