


Francis Marion University
Grade Appeals Petition Form

Complete this petition form and attach it to a letter and any additional supporting documentation, submitting these materials within 60 days from the date your grade was given.

1. Attempt to resolve the issue by consulting with the instructor.


Student's signature 01/13/2014
date


Instructor's signature 01/13/2014
date

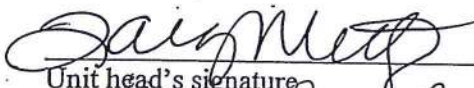
2. Notify your faculty advisor concerning this issue.


Student's signature 01/13/2014
date


Advisor's signature 01/13/2014
date

3. Consult with the appropriate academic unit head to attempt a resolution.


Student's signature 01/13/2014
date


Unit head's signature 1/13/14
date 1/15/14

4. Ask the instructor's academic unit head to forward this petition form promptly (with your letter and any supporting documents) to the chairperson of the Grade Appeals Committee. Appeals submitted to the academic unit head after the 60-day deadline may not be accepted.

5. The Grade Appeals Committee will try to deliberate within thirty calendar days of receipt of the petition (except during holidays and some summer breaks). Within ten workdays after the decision you should be notified of the committee's findings and recommendations. (If in addition to these steps you seek a formal hearing with the committee, the decision will take longer.)

Without the required signatures a petition is incomplete and will not be acted upon. If the instructor is no longer employed by FMU or if circumstances make that person unavailable, the unit head may sign for that person. If the student's faculty advisor is gone for the summer or a sabbatical, the unit head may sign for that person. The unit head's signature always is required.

Note: the complete grade appeals process is described in the FMU Student Handbook.

Dear Appeal Board,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am appealing my withdrawal from Health 301. My reason for my appeal is because how my professor took attendance is not what her syllabus stated how she would take attendance. Her syllabus stated that she would take attendance at the beginning of class; however she mainly took attendance through what she called critical thinking questions. With her doing this some classes that she said that I missed is because some classes I did not have any questions to turn in. The class asked her one day if she took attendance for the day and she replied to class saying that she knew who was there in the class that day. She did not know who we were because kept mixing us up and calling us by the wrong name. I know that I did not miss eight classes that she said I miss because I kept up with my attendances and I know I missed at the most five. My friend that was in the class missed eight and was looking for a letter to be withdraw ,however he never got a letter from her. He knows that he missed more classes than I did. So I believe that she got us two mixed up. I did go meet with her on November 20 when she gave me her letter stating that she was withdrawing me from the class. When I went to meet with her she called me by the wrong name. When she did this it drew up red flags in my head making me think that she had me mixed up with another person. She asked me to write her a letter to appeal her if I wanted to appeal her decision. I wrote her a letter back on November 22 stated what classes that I believe that she had me absent on according to blackboard where she kept our grades. She wrote me a letter back saying that she is glad that I wrote to her and told her what days according to blackboard that I believed that I did not miss. Also it said that if I had any questions that I can contact her. To me reading the letter I took it as that everything was okay and I would not be withdraw. So as the last couple of classes came she called the role with everyone's name on the role including my name. She graded my paper and graded my final exam. Then on December 11th came my grade for her class was posted and my grade was wrong. So I went to talk to her that day to get my grade change because it was completely wrong. When I went to see her she was not there so I went and met with the dean of education Dr. Metts. I told her my situation about my grade and she tried to contact her and she never came until later. Then I got a phone call from doctor Metts stating that professor Wang had withdrew my from her course. So that same day I went back to the dean of education to resolve the matter. Professor Wang and I talked about my situation about me being withdraw and nothing was being resolve I try to explain that how she was taking attendance with taking up critical thinking questions was not right because days I were there she would mark me absent for not having anything to turn in. So we started discussing about my grade in her class and she stated that the way she average my grade was completely different from everyone else in the class. This is not right and shouldn't be possible. The dean of education was in the room during the whole conversation. At the end of the conversation the dean told professor Wang to email me if she was going to drop me for sure. However she never emailed to let me know if I was withdrawn from the class. This is the reason why I am appealing her decision. I just want the grade I earn since she kept me in the class and graded all of my assignments'. I just want a C even though my grade could be higher since I only fail one test in her class. I believe it could be a B but I just want to receive my grade however the outcome is. I just think it's wrong that she kept calling the role with my name on it and let me take the exam plus gave me a final grade and then stating that I was withdrawn. Please consider my appeal.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY

Department of Political Science
and Geography

March 25, 2014

[REDACTED]
3608 West Highway 76
Marion, SC 29571

Dear [REDACTED]

The Grade Appeals Committee has reviewed your appeal of a grade of W in HLTH 301. The charge of the Grade Appeals Committee is to determine if an instructor has "acted in an arbitrary or capricious manner" in assigning the course grade or if "the instructor's grading policy is in violation of the guidelines established by the University or his/her own policies as noted in the syllabus or other written documents."

In addition to your documentation, the Committee sought, received and discussed additional information from the course instructor, Dr. Claudia Wang.

Based upon all the information it received, the Committee noted that the method used to take class attendance sometimes differed during the semester. Consequently, attendance records could differ based upon the method(s) used to take attendance during the semester. However, a majority of the Committee concluded that Dr. Wang did not use arbitrary, capricious, or nonstandard approaches in deciding to drop you from HLTH 301 for too many absences.

The Committee therefore recommends that your grade of W stand.

We wish you success in all your future academic endeavors.

Sincerely,

David R. White

Dr. David R. White, Chair
FMU Grade Appeals Committee

Cc: Dr. Claudia Wang
Dr. Tracy Meetze
Dr. Shirley Bausmith
Dr. Richard Chapman
Prof. D. Keith Best

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