

Repeating Courses

If a student does not meet this minimum, they must retake that course before progression to the next term. Only the higher grade is used in average calculations when repeated. A student can normally repeat a failed course only once.

Progression From 2B to 3A

Students progress to the 3A term at SGU if they obtain:

- a minimum 60% in each 2B course;
- a minimum cumulative average of 77% across all 2A and 2B courses;
- a minimum cumulative average of 73% across all 2A and 2B Science courses (excludes Communication and Learning Strategies courses);
- a minimum 60% grade on each component of the comprehensive exam.

A standing of "Satisfactory" or "May not Proceed" will be assigned as appropriate.

Repeating courses

SGU will determine progression and may offer students who do not meet one or more of the above requirements an opportunity to take courses in the following term at SGU so that their grades can meet requirements.

Progression From 3A up to 4C

Progression through the five terms in Year 3 and Year 4 (Years 1 and 2 of the M.D. program at SGU):

- Progression from 3A to 3B requires: a minimum 59%.
- Progression from 3B to 4A requires: a minimum 61.5%.
- Progression from 4A to 4B requires: a minimum 63%.
- Progression from 4B to 4C requires: a minimum 63%.

A Standing of "Satisfactory" or "May not Continue" will be assigned as appropriate.

Repeating Courses

Students are permitted to repeat these M.D. courses to achieve the average requirement needed to progress.

Progression From 4C to the Remaining Years of the M.D. Program

Students must complete the 4C term with a minimum 63% to be eligible to meet graduation requirements for the BMSci degree, and for continuation in the final two years of the M.D. program.

Academic Standings - Doctor of Optometry

The School of Optometry and Vision Science sets and administers its examinations in accordance with the rules and regulations set down by the University of Waterloo and the Faculty of Science. Decisions regarding course grades are those of the instructor. Students' academic standings are considered each term by the Optometry faculty and are made in accordance with the regulations listed below. All decisions on academic standing and grades are reported to the student through the Office of the Registrar.

The factors considered in academic standings in Optometry are the term average, the overall average, the number of failures, and the student standing (e.g., Satisfactory, Conditional).

Satisfactory

A student receives a Satisfactory standing if the student achieves minimum term and cumulative overall averages of 60%, with no failures.

A Satisfactory standing entitles the student to proceed to the next term.

Note

In the first two years of the program, a student with only one failure per term may proceed to the next term; however, any failed course must be cleared before proceeding into the next academic year. There are a couple of mechanisms for clearing a failed course as described on the Regulations for Doctor of Optometry page.

Conditional

A student receives a Conditional standing for,

- a minimum of two terms upon returning to the Optometry program after a Failed - Required to Withdraw standing.
- the remainder of the program after accumulating a total of four course failures in the Optometry program.
- the repeated term(s) after a May Not Proceed standing.
- the remainder of the program after any failed course in fourth year.

A Conditional standing requires that the student maintain a standard of performance during the conditional term(s). The student must clear the conditional term(s) by achieving minimum term and cumulative overall averages of 60% while having no failures or incomplete courses. Failure to achieve these conditions will lead to a Failed standing.

May Not Proceed

A student receives this standing if,

- the student achieves a minimum term average of 60% but has failed two courses in a term.
- the student, at the end of the third year, has not successfully completed all Optometry courses in the first three years.

A student will be required to leave the program until the next term the courses are offered. A student clearing failed courses under this rule must achieve a passing grade in the courses; otherwise the student will receive a Failed standing from Optometry. Only after the failed courses are cleared will the student be permitted to proceed to the next degree term.

Failed - Required to Withdraw

A student receives this standing and is required to withdraw if,

- the student fails to achieve either a minimum term or cumulative overall average of 60%.
- the student fails three or more courses in an academic term.
- the student, who is on conditional standing, fails to achieve a minimum term and/or cumulative overall average of 60%, fails one or more courses, or receives an incomplete (INC) grade.
- the student leaves the program without proper notification and fails to write examinations (a grade of DNW - did not write, is assigned for these courses).

A Failed - Required to Withdraw standing requires that the student's registration in the Optometry program be revoked. Readmission is not guaranteed. If granted, readmission cannot occur during the two academic terms following the Failed standing.

Failed – May Not Continue in Optometry Academic Plan

A student receives this standing if,

- the student has been readmitted and upon return has not achieved a minimum term and cumulative overall average of 60% and/or has failed one or more courses.
- the student has accumulated five course failures in the Optometry program.
- the student has failed the same course twice.
- the student is deemed by the Examinations Committee of the Faculty of Science to be unlikely to benefit from further participation in the Optometry program.

A Failed – May Not Continue in Optometry Academic Plan standing requires that the student's registration in Optometry be revoked. Readmission into the Optometry program is not possible.

A student receiving this standing may, however, be considered for admission to another program in the Faculty of Science.

Recommended for Doctor of Optometry Degree

A student qualifies for this decision if the student has successfully completed all requirements of the Optometry program.

Recommended for Doctor of Optometry Degree entitles the student to graduate with the Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree.

Academic Standings - Doctor of Pharmacy

The School of Pharmacy sets and administers its examinations in accordance with the rules and regulations set by the Faculty of Science and the University of Waterloo. Student academic standings are considered each term by the School of Pharmacy and are made in accordance with the regulations listed as follows:

- The factors considered in academic standing in Pharmacy are the term average and the number of failed courses.
- A number of courses will be graded on a credit/no credit (CR/NCR) basis.

Satisfactory

Requires that a student achieves a minimum term average of 60% with no failed courses. This entitles a student to proceed to the next term.

May Not Proceed

Results if a student achieves a minimum term average of 60% but fails a maximum of two term courses. The failed courses must be cleared (passed) before the student is permitted to proceed to the next academic term.

Notes

A student with only one failure per term may be permitted to proceed to the next term; however, any failed course must be cleared. The student must make arrangements with the course instructor as to the mechanism for clearing the failed course.

1. In the event that the failed course is a prerequisite for a course in the following academic term, and it is not cleared before the start of the term, the student must obtain the appropriate approvals by completing a Course Override Form. This form should be accompanied by a statement of the arrangements made with the instructor to clear the failed course. If the instructor of the subsequent course does not approve the course override, the student will be required to clear the failed course before proceeding to the next academic term. Due to the limited scheduling of Pharmacy courses, this will typically result in the student falling behind and extending the time required for program completion.
2. In the event that the next term is a co-op work term, the student will be permitted to begin the co-op work term. Depending on individual circumstances, the School of Pharmacy may contact the student's employer, who may elect to terminate the student's employment. For work terms that continue to completion, the student will be required to submit the appropriate evaluations and the work-term report.

Failed - Required to Withdraw

Results if a student fails to achieve the minimum term average of 60%, the student fails three or more courses in a term, or the student leaves the program without proper notification and fails to write the final examinations. This standing will also result if the student fails three attempts at the Final Year Objective Structured Clinical Examination milestone (OSCEm) as described under Pharmacy's Graduation Requirements.

Failed - May Not Continue in Pharmacy Plan

Results if a student has accumulated five failures in the degree requirements of the Pharmacy program (i.e., failures in courses and/or co-op work terms). This status will also result if a grade of less than the passing grade is obtained for a repeat course or approved alternative. Readmission into the Pharmacy program is not possible; however, a student receiving this standing may be considered for admission to another program in the Faculty of Science.

Existing

Regulation Details 

This page presents academic standing information for the degrees of Bachelor of Science, Doctor of Optometry, and Doctor of Pharmacy.

Academic Standings - Bachelor of Science

The Bachelor of Science operates under a unit-weight system in which student progress is measured by units successfully completed rather than by years. See Determination of Level and Term of Study in this Calendar for details.

At the end of each term, the Faculty of Science determines the academic standing for students in the Faculty. Grading Systems and Processes defined in this Calendar are used to make these evaluations. Academic standings are viewable in Quest.

Excellent, Good, or Satisfactory Standing

Students who meet, or exceed, the minimum academic requirements for their plan, will be in Excellent, Good, or Satisfactory academic standing, depending on their plan and their cumulative term and overall averages.

Assuming all other requirements are met, most majors in Science use the standings as follows:

- Excellent: minimum cumulative overall average greater than or equal to 80%
- Good: minimum cumulative overall average greater than or equal to 70% and less than 80%
- Satisfactory: minimum cumulative overall average greater than or equal to 60% and less than 70%

Students should consult individual Science academic programs and plans for exceptions.

Conditional Standing

Students with average(s) 1.5% below the minimum requirements for their plan may be placed in Conditional academic standing and are normally given only one additional term in which to attain a Satisfactory or better academic standing.

Students with a Conditional academic standing are strongly advised to meet with their academic advisor for plan-specific advice and the Science student success officer to determine their best course of action and to discuss strategies to overcome barriers to academic success.

Students are not able to graduate while in Conditional academic standing.

Standings Requiring a Change in Major

Unsatisfactory - Eligible for Honours Science

Students whose minimum cumulative overall, major, or special major average does not qualify for Conditional standing, will be moved into Honours Science. In a future term, depending on minimum cumulative overall, major, or special major average, students may be eligible to resume their original honours plan. Readmission to a co-operative program is not guaranteed and depends on availability of space and academic averages. Students with averages below the requirements for Honours Science could receive an Unsatisfactory - Eligible for General Science Only academic standing.

Unsatisfactory - Eligible for General Science Only

When students in an honours plan do not qualify for Conditional standing or movement into Honours Science, they may be moved to General Science, depending on their averages. Students are deemed to be successful in their subsequent term if both the minimum cumulative Science and overall averages are at least 55%. In a future term, depending on minimum cumulative Science and overall averages, students may be eligible to resume their original honours plan or can continue in General Science. Readmission to a co-operative program normally does not occur.

Must Change Academic Plan

Students must change their academic plan if they exceed a plan-specific failure limit or have average(s) below plan requirements. In instances where the failure limit is exceeded, the plan will be changed to one outside the academic unit/discipline. Instances where average(s) are below the conditional threshold for plan minimums will trigger a change from the student's plan to another plan within the same academic unit/discipline.

Decision Deferred

A standing decision will be deferred when there is insufficient information for a decision to be made. A decision deferral will occur in instances where the student has:

- two or more incomplete (INC) grades
- an IP, MM, and/or UR grade
- insufficient numeric grades in their first term
- insufficient courses completed in their first conditional readmission term

Revised INC, IP, MM, and/or UR grades may lead to an updated academic standing and average calculation.

Decision Not Applicable

A standing decision will not be made in certain circumstances, e.g. a term with a petition decision, when there are no numeric grades (WDs, CR/NCRs), or when there is no program benchmark to compare progress such as post-degree studies.

Failed Standing for Students in 1A or 1B

Failed

Students in 1A or 1B will normally receive a Failed academic standing from the Faculty of Science under the following conditions:

- after failing a minimum of 1.5 units in a single academic term;
- after failing to achieve a minimum overall cumulative average of 55% and a minimum cumulative Science average of 55%; or
- if the associate dean, undergraduate studies judges that a student is unlikely to profit from further study.

Students receiving this standing have three options:

1. Foundation Term: Student will be moved to General Science and must follow a structured term of courses as determined by the Science student success officer. The course load will be UNIV101 and either two science courses, or one science and one mathematics course, excluding SCI or SCBUS courses. Students must obtain a minimum grade of 60% in each lecture and lab. General requirements, principles, and outcomes can be found in the Foundation Term page of this Calendar.
2. Science Non-degree Term: Students who wish to pursue studies in another faculty must enrol in a Science non-degree term in preparation for the transfer.
3. Readmission Term: Students can apply for readmission after an absence of two consecutive academic terms (eight months).

Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty

Students will normally receive a Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty academic standing in the following situations:

- not meeting the conditions for readmission;
- not meeting the average requirements for the Foundation Term.

Failed Standing for Students in 2A or Above

Failed

Students will normally receive a Failed academic standing from the Faculty of Science in the following situations:

- after failing a minimum of 1.5 units in a single academic term;
- after failing to achieve a minimum overall cumulative average of 55% and a minimum cumulative Science average of 55%; or
- if the associate dean, undergraduate studies judges that a student is unlikely to profit from further study.

Students receiving this standing have two options:

1. Students who receive their first Failed academic standing may normally apply for readmission after an absence of two consecutive terms (eight months).
2. Students who are already enrolled in courses for the following term, when they receive this standing, can either withdraw or be moved to a Science non-degree term and allowed to finish that term. However, students who continue in a Science non-degree term will not be eligible to apply for readmission into any Science degree program in the future.

Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty

Students will normally have a Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty academic standing in the following situations:

- not meeting the conditions for readmission;
- after failing more than 5.0 cumulative units, regardless of the Science or overall averages;
- not meeting program/plan average requirements and/or failing 1.5 units or more, in any given term, following a previous Failed standing from the Faculty of Science.

Co-op Standing Rules

Students will be removed from their co-op program in the following situations:

- Two unemployed or failed work-term opportunities.
- Three missing or failed PD courses.
- Failure to successfully meet academic program requirements.
- Failure to successfully complete PD1 before the start of the second work term.
- Failure to successfully complete PD11 by the end of the second work term.

Readmission Following a Failed Standing

Students who have received a Failed academic standing must submit an Application for Undergraduate Readmission two months before the requested term of readmission.

Readmission Conditions

Students will be readmitted into General Science and must maintain a minimum cumulative average of 55% and a minimum cumulative Science average of 55%. This determination will be made based on a minimum of five lecture courses that must be taken within a maximum of two terms. Students must complete a minimum of two approved Science lecture courses, plus any related labs where applicable, each term. Successful completion of this term will result in clearing of failed and below-average course grades up to a maximum of 3.0 units. Cleared grades will be removed from averages but not removed from the student's academic record. When conditions are not met, students will receive a Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty academic standing.

Science Non-Degree Term

Students are normally allowed to enrol in one Science non-degree term following a Failed or a Required to Withdraw - May Not Continue in Faculty academic standing. Students enrolled in such a term are ineligible to return to any Science degree program. Enrolment in a Science non-degree term is done in consultation with the appropriate academic advisor in the Science Undergraduate Office and an advisor from the faculty in which the student is anticipating admission.

Academic Standings - Doctor of Optometry

The School of Optometry and Vision Science sets and administers its examinations in accordance with the rules and regulations set down by the University of Waterloo and the Faculty of Science. Decisions regarding course grades are those of the instructor. Students' academic standings are considered each term by the Optometry faculty and are made in accordance with the regulations listed below. All decisions on academic standing and grades are reported to the student through the Office of the Registrar.

The factors considered in academic standings in Optometry are the term average, the overall average, the number of failures, and the student standing (e.g., Satisfactory, Conditional).

Satisfactory

A student receives a Satisfactory standing if the student achieves minimum term and cumulative overall averages of 60%, with no failures.

A Satisfactory standing entitles the student to proceed to the next term.

Note

In the first two years of the program, a student with only one failure per term may proceed to the next term; however, any failed course must be cleared before proceeding into the next academic year. There are a couple of mechanisms for clearing a failed course as described on the Regulations for Doctor of Optometry page.

Conditional

A student receives a Conditional standing for,

- a minimum of two terms upon returning to the Optometry program after a Failed - Required to Withdraw standing.
- the remainder of the program after accumulating a total of four course failures in the Optometry program.
- the repeated term(s) after a May Not Proceed standing.
- the remainder of the program after any failed course in fourth year.

A Conditional standing requires that the student maintain a standard of performance during the conditional term(s). The student must clear the conditional term(s) by achieving minimum term and cumulative overall averages of 60% while having no failures or incomplete courses. Failure to achieve these conditions will lead to a Failed standing.

May Not Proceed

A student receives this standing if,

- the student achieves a minimum term average of 60% but has failed two courses in a term.
- the student, at the end of the third year, has not successfully completed all Optometry courses in the first three years.

A student will be required to leave the program until the next term the courses are offered. A student clearing failed courses under this rule must achieve a passing grade in the courses; otherwise the student will receive a Failed standing from Optometry. Only after the failed courses are cleared will the student be permitted to proceed to the next degree term.

Failed - Required to Withdraw

A student receives this standing and is required to withdraw if,

- the student fails to achieve either a minimum term or cumulative overall average of 60%.
- the student fails three or more courses in an academic term.
- the student, who is on conditional standing, fails to achieve a minimum term and/or cumulative overall average of 60%, fails one or more courses, or receives an incomplete (INC) grade.
- the student leaves the program without proper notification and fails to write examinations (a grade of DNW - did not write, is assigned for these courses).

A Failed - Required to Withdraw standing requires that the student's registration in the Optometry program be revoked. Readmission is not guaranteed. If granted, readmission cannot occur during the two academic terms following the Failed standing.

Failed – May Not Continue in Optometry Academic Plan

A student receives this standing if,

- the student has been readmitted and upon return has not achieved a minimum term and cumulative overall average of 60% and/or has failed one or more courses.
- the student has accumulated five course failures in the Optometry program.
- the student has failed the same course twice.
- the student is deemed by the Examinations Committee of the Faculty of Science to be unlikely to benefit from further participation in the Optometry program.

A Failed – May Not Continue in Optometry Academic Plan standing requires that the student's registration in Optometry be revoked. Readmission into the Optometry program is not possible.

A student receiving this standing may, however, be considered for admission to another program in the Faculty of Science.

Recommended for Doctor of Optometry Degree

A student qualifies for this decision if the student has successfully completed all requirements of the Optometry program.

Recommended for Doctor of Optometry Degree entitles the student to graduate with the Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree.

Academic Standings - Doctor of Pharmacy

The School of Pharmacy sets and administers its examinations in accordance with the rules and regulations set by the Faculty of Science and the University of Waterloo. Student academic standings are considered each term by the School of Pharmacy and are made in accordance with the regulations listed as follows:

- The factors considered in academic standing in Pharmacy are the term average and the number of failed courses.
- A number of courses will be graded on a credit/no credit (CR/NCR) basis.

Satisfactory

Requires that a student achieves a minimum term average of 60% with no failed courses. This entitles a student to proceed to the next term.

May Not Proceed

Results if a student achieves a minimum term average of 60% but fails a maximum of two term courses. The failed courses must be cleared (passed) before the student is permitted to proceed to the next academic term.

Notes

A student with only one failure per term may be permitted to proceed to the next term; however, any failed course must be cleared. The student must make arrangements with the course instructor as to the mechanism for clearing the failed course.

1. In the event that the failed course is a prerequisite for a course in the following academic term, and it is not cleared before the start of the term, the student must obtain the appropriate approvals by completing a Course Override Form. This form should be accompanied by a statement of the arrangements made with the instructor to clear the failed course. If the instructor of the subsequent course does not approve the course override, the student will be required to clear the failed course before proceeding to the next academic term. Due to the limited scheduling of Pharmacy courses, this will typically result in the student falling behind and extending the time required for program completion.
2. In the event that the next term is a co-op work term, the student will be permitted to begin the co-op work term. Depending on individual circumstances, the School of Pharmacy may contact the student's employer, who may elect to terminate the student's employment. For work terms that continue to completion, the student will be required to submit the appropriate evaluations and the work-term report.

Failed - Required to Withdraw

Results if a student fails to achieve the minimum term average of 60%, the student fails three or more courses in a term, or the student leaves the program without proper notification and fails to write the final examinations. This standing will also result if the student fails three attempts at the Final Year Objective Structured Clinical Examination milestone (OSCEm) as described under Pharmacy's Graduation Requirements.

Failed - May Not Continue in Pharmacy Plan

Results if a student has accumulated five failures in the degree requirements of the Pharmacy program (i.e., failures in courses and/or co-op work terms). This status will also result if a grade of less than the passing grade is obtained for a repeat course or approved alternative. Readmission into the Pharmacy program is not possible; however, a student receiving this standing may be considered for admission to another program in the Faculty of Science.

Workflow Information

Change to Undergraduate Communication Requirement

No

Workflow Path

Committee approvals

Faculty/AFIW Path(s) for Workflow

Faculty of Science

Senate Workflow

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For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate Undergraduate Council
From: Secretariat
Agenda Item: **12.1 Annual Senate Survey**

Background

The annual survey of Senate, and that of Senate's committees/councils, will be distributed in the coming weeks.

In advance of the survey distribution, a copy of the survey for Senate committees/councils is provided here for information. This was reviewed by Senate Executive Committee at its meeting on February 18, 2025.

Documentation Provided

- i. Attachment - Senate Committee/Council Self-Assessment Survey, 2024-25

Senate Committee/Council Self-Assessment Survey, 2024-25

This survey is designed for members to provide feedback on their experience with the committee/council. Your feedback is essential to understanding the strengths of the committee/council, as well as to identify specific areas where improvement can be made.

Data from respondents will be compiled and aggregated to provide Senate with a high-level overview of how members as a group view Senate governance at the University of Waterloo. Comments provided as part of the survey will also be reported in aggregate and without attribution.

For all questions, please indicate your response by selecting a value on the corresponding rating scale:

- 5 = I strongly agree
- 4 = I agree
- 3 = Neutral
- 2 = I disagree
- 1 = I strongly disagree
- N/A / not enough information to evaluate

You will also have the opportunity to offer comments to support your rating.

2. How long have you served on this committee/council? [required response, multiple choice]

- Less than 1 year
- 1-3 years
- 3 or more years

3. *Meeting preparation and logistics* – meetings are intended to operate effectively and efficiently. This section examines how members prepare for and operate within meetings. [required response, matrix]

- The pre-meeting information package and other information provided for decision-making frame the issues at the right level with sufficient detail.
- Committee/council meetings are focused on the right topics, aligned with its role and mandate.
- Committee/council meeting practices (e.g., meeting times, venues, facilitation, etc.) help foster inclusion.
- Meetings address issues of substance.
- The Committee/Council chair(s) and/or administration effectively frame issues and topics for discussion
- Staff support before, during, and after meetings is effective.

4. Please provide any additional comments in relation to the above. [short text entry]

5. Group dynamics and relationships – Relationship dynamics influence the effectiveness of the Committee/Council. This section explores your perception of how members relate to each other. [required response, matrix]

- Meeting dynamics encourage critical dialogue and discussion.
- Member disagreement is viewed as a search for solutions rather than a “win/lose”.
- Meetings are conducted in a respectful manner that ensures open communication and meaningful participation.
- At committee/council meetings I ask questions and provide input based on my knowledge, experience, analytical skills, and common sense.
- At committee/council meetings I ask constructive questions and seek additional information to clarify issues I do not understand
- At committee/council meetings I ask tough questions when the need arises.

- At committee/council meetings I have the freedom to express a dissenting opinion in a constructive matter.
- At committee/council meetings I feel heard.
- At committee/council meetings where I participate by videoconference, I feel appropriately engaged (e.g., my feedback is actively solicited and/or I am encouraged to participate as if I were there in person).
- The chair(s) of the committee/council carries their duties well

6. Please provide any additional comments in relation to the above. [short text entry]

7. Overall experience – Please provide your observations on your overall experience as a member of the committee/council, as well as any other observations you would like to share. [required response, matrix]

- I feel knowledgeable about my role and responsibilities as a member of the committee/council.
- I find my responsibilities as a member to be stimulating and rewarding.
- Involvement in committee/council work provides a connection between my efforts and the success of the University.

8. Please provide any additional comments in relation to the above. [short text entry]

9. What does the committee/council do particularly well? [short text entry]

10. What would help the committee/council to function more effectively? [short text entry]

11. Do you have any suggestions for committee/council education or other areas of professional development for the Committee/Council? [short text entry]

12. Please provide any additional comments you would like to offer. [short text entry]