



College of Liberal Arts & Education Academic Grievance Policy, Procedure, and Petition

The moral center of a university is the relationship between teacher and student. The expertise of each faculty member is evaluated by peers in his or her discipline and that peer review forms the basis of the faculty member's moral authority to assign grades. It is the responsibility of the university to protect the integrity this academic evaluation process. At the same time, the University recognizes its responsibility to protect and promote student rights and freedoms in the classroom:

The professor in the classroom and in conference should encourage free discussion, inquiry, and expression. Student performance should be evaluated solely on an academic basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.

A. *Protection of Freedom of Expression*

Students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.

B. *Protection Against Improper Academic Evaluation*

Students should have protection through orderly procedures against prejudiced or capricious academic evaluation. At the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled (AAUP, 1995; p. 228).

It is the policy of the College of Liberal Arts & Education that instructors are solely responsible for assessing and evaluating student work. Instructors have the authority to create grading criteria. Nevertheless, students have the right to appeal faculty decisions where they believe they find evidence of capricious academic evaluation.

deductions for absences, etc.). However, the grading of essays and research papers are necessarily based on subjective stan

performance in the course;

5. A standing CLAE Academic Grievance Committee composed of faculty, administration, and 2 students will review all formal submissions in the case and may meet with the student and faculty member to review relevant issues. The committee may hold a grievance hearing. There may be a separate meeting with the student and faculty member, unless both parties agree to a joint meeting.

6. The Committee will prepare a written recommendation, which shall be regarded as the **final resolution** of the matter within the college². The written Committee recommendation must be submitted to the Dean within **thirty (30) days** of receipt.



College of Liberal Arts & Education Academic Grievance Petition Form

Grade Grievance Overview

In some instances, a student may believe that the final grade received in a particular course is unjustified. In such cases the student may ch



College of Liberal Arts & Education Academic Grievance Process Checklist

Step	Date	Responsible Party
<input type="checkbox"/> Step 1. Meeting with faculty member		Student
<input type="checkbox"/> Step 2 Grievance filed with Dean		Student
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentation complete?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Transferred to Chair/Designate		
<input type="checkbox"/>		Dept. Chair/Designate
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and Instructor informed		
<input type="checkbox"/> Step 4 Student Appeal filed with Dean		Student

- Step 5 Appeal transferred to CLAE
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