

Remediation Policy

Philosophy:

As a teacher my main job is to help students understand the curriculum. No one wants them to succeed in my class more than I do! I try hard to watch for students who are struggling but, sometimes, I don't find them as quickly as I would like. Please, if a student is having any problems or concerns they should visit with me as soon as possible. I am very happy to work with each student individually. Currently, I have first lunch and I am usually available to help them at that time. Also, I am always in my classroom after school. Please have them come and see me (I promise not to bite!!).

Policy:

My policy on remediation depends on when it is being done. There are three timeframes for remediation;

- During the term itself
- In the following term
- Anytime after the following term

During the Term:

1. I am available for individual help at lunch and after school every day. I try hard not to keep this a secret. Every student knows about it and it is also in my disclosure document.
2. I do accept late work (for reduced points).
3. I offer extra credit in my classes at the end of each term. The extra credit is only available to those students who have turned in all the assignments and homework. I feel that extra credit is for those students who have done the best they can and still want to improve their grade. Extra credit is **not** a substitute for the class homework and assessments.
4. I have a website where I post my test reviews in audio format so the students can listen to the review multiple times while preparing for the test.
5. When we have approximately 30% of the term left I try to have a private meeting with each student to discuss attendance, homework, tests and grades. Unfortunately, this only helps the students that attend the class.
6. My website also has Resource Websites for students to be able to study the curriculum concepts with slightly different wording and examples.
7. In addition, my Website has a link to my Partnering with Parents Program where I make suggestions to Parents on how they can be effectively involved in their child's education.

During the Following Term:

If a student desires to get credit for a class that they previously received an “F” in I certainly will work with them. My first step will be to analyze what happened during the semester to cause them to fail. Once I understand where the problem occurred and its magnitude, I will put together a customized action plan for the student. If the deficit is small, the plan might consist of a few homework assignments, an essay or two, and/or one of the missed tests. If the deficit is large then I will probably expect the student to retake some of the unit exams. If the work is made up in the following semester I will usually change the grade on the transcript to a passing grade.

I believe that using the actual exams from the curriculum is the best (and fairest) way to assess whether or not the student has mastered the material.

After the Following Term:

If a student comes to me in the year following the class and wants to earn credit for the class I require the class exams to be re-taken. If the student successfully passes the exams I will leave the “F” on the transcript but provide the student with credit towards graduation for the class.

My policies towards remediation are attempts to achieve the delicate balance of allowing students who have made mistakes to “save” themselves and, at the same time, maintaining some rigor in the curriculum. I truly believe that the vast majority of students can be successful in school if they will properly apply themselves. My job is to guide them towards that success!

If you have any questions or concerns about my policies don’t hesitate to discuss them with me.