

**SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****SUBJECT:** Academic Appeals**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2000/ Revised: May 19, 2008

Southwest Tennessee Community College (STCC) students have the right to know and understand the reasons for decisions affecting their academic standing and their progress through the curriculum; however the burden of proof rests with the student.

**Matters Appealable**

Students may appeal decisions of faculty or other College personnel affecting the following:

1. Course grades
2. Academic Probation or Suspension from the College

**A. Course Grade Appeals**

This appeal process recognizes the instructor's right to assign a grade based on any method that is professionally acceptable, submitted in writing as a part of the class syllabus to everyone in the class, and applied equally to all members of the class.

Students have the right to review their examinations and assignments, to know the correct answers to test and examination questions, and to understand how grades were assigned. *In matters of interpretation, however, the judgment of the faculty member as the professional in the discipline shall prevail.* Should instances arise in which a student has evidence that a mistake has been made in calculating or recording his/her grade or that his/her grade has been assigned based on arbitrary or capricious deviation from the instructor's stated grading policy, he/she has the right to appeal the assigned grade. This includes:

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| <p><b>Transition Team II:</b><br/> <b>Source of Policy:</b> <u>Academic Programs</u></p> <p><b>Related Policy:</b> <u>N/A</u></p> <p><b>Approved:</b> _____<br/> <b>President</b></p> | <p><b>Provost/Executive</b><br/> <b>Responsible Vice President for Academic</b><br/> <b>Administrator:</b> <u>and Student Affairs</u></p> <p><b>TBR Policy Reference:</b> <u>2:03:01:01</u></p> <p><b>TBR Guideline Reference:</b> <u>N/A</u></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <u>May 19, 2008</u></p> |
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1. The assignment of a course grade to a student on some basis other than performance in the course;
2. The assignment of a course grade to a student by resorting to standards different from those which were applied to other students in the class; or
3. The assignment of a course grade by an unannounced departure from the instructor's previously articulated standards. (Factual and computational errors are included in this definition).

#### **B. Academic Probation or Suspension Appeals**

Students placed on academic probation or suspension may appeal to the Readmission Committee concerning readmission to the college. *In the absence of the Readmission Committee, students may appeal to the Provost/Executive Vice President and/or the Vice President for Student Services/Enrollment Management or their designee.*