

Department of Economics

Policy on re-assessment and re-grading (undergraduate)

This policy applies to the formal re-evaluation of work in an undergraduate course by a party other than the course instructor, not to an instructor's review of grading in his or her own class. A request for an informal review of the latter type should always be a student's first step before requesting a formal re-evaluation.

Rules pertaining to re-evaluation of work in graduate courses have been established by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Department is governed by those rules.

Preamble

A core principle governing the assessment of all student work is that all students must be evaluated impartially, on the same basis and to the same standard. When a student requests re-assessment or re-grading of work, the aim of the department is to ensure that this principle is maintained, that is, that the work in question is evaluated to the same standard and according to the same criteria as was the work of other students.

Reassessment of student work is governed by the University Student Assessment Policy and by Arts and Science regulations:

http://www.mcgill.ca/study/2015-2016/university_regulations_and_resources/undergraduate/gi_final_examinations#booknode-38003

In particular, these regulations note that re-assessment of coursework (including term papers) shall be in accordance with rules stated by the academic unit. Regrading of examinations requires a preliminary formal step that takes place through Service Point and requires the payment of a fee. The time limits within which re-assessment or re-grading may be requested shall be as provided for in these University rules.

As well, the regulations note that in either the case of a coursework re-assessment or an examination re-read, a reviewer (assigned by the department Chair) assesses the appropriateness of the original grade, rather than indicating the grade that he or she would have assigned. Only in the event that a grade is deemed inappropriate does a reviewer suggest a revised grade, which may be either higher or lower than the original grade.

In the Department of Economics, it is our policy that a student wishing either a coursework re-assessment or an examination re-read must state in writing to the department Chair the reasons for requesting this review. In the case of an examination, the student must indicate the particular question or questions which he or she feels were inappropriately graded, giving detailed reasons. In the case of re-evaluation of coursework, the student's stated reasons for requesting the review may be more general, but nonetheless must indicate reasons for believing that the coursework was evaluated inappropriately. Any re-evaluation that subsequently takes place will be of the entire piece of work, not merely any parts to which attention is drawn by the student.

The Chair may judge that the reasons given are insufficient to justify a review, and may in that case choose either to require the student to give a fuller or better explanation, or to terminate the process.