

## STUDENT BARGAINING POLICY

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### Policy Information & Responsibilities

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December 09, 2020 – Updated policy format  
January 29, 2021 – Updated policy  
June 21, 2021 - Updated policy



**Shadya Mahfouz – Academic Director**

# 1. Policy

Hanson College BC, hereinafter referred to as Hanson, strives to ensure a respectful academic environment for all students, administrators and faculty. Students are encouraged to follow proper protocols and channels for all academic complaints, appeals, and grievances.

# 2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to give clarity as to what bargaining is, why it is not permitted, and what behavioural consequences can be applied as a result. Refer to the grade appeal policy to obtain a formal review of grades on legitimate grounds and procedures for a grade appeal.

# 3. Application/Scope

This policy applies to all Hanson College BC students.

# 4. Definitions

**Bargaining** is the act of pleading or begging for additional marks, retests, remedial assignments, extensions, or any other method of increasing a student's grade without merit.

**Academic Administrator:** For the purposes of this policy, Academic Administrator is any staff of the academic department.

## 4.1. Examples of bargaining include:

- Using emotional blackmail by implying, directly or indirectly, that the instructor/administrator will be personally responsible for the demise in students' circumstances should they refuse to yield to the student's demands to increase grades.
- Asking for special treatment due to shared nationality or other traits the student may hold (or perceive to hold) in common with the instructor/administrator.
- Using compassion as the grounds for bargaining in the event when the student has faced serious health, financial or personal circumstances for which they did not follow the established procedure of contacting the Academic and Student Services Departments in a timely manner in order to get academic accommodation.
- Using an account of difficult personal circumstances as an excuse for engaging in cheating and plagiarism and losing marks as a result.

## 5. Procedure

- 5.1. When an instructor/administrator finds evidence of a student's bargaining, the instructor/administrator should first refer the student to this policy.
- 5.2. Every student found to be engaging in bargaining for grades will be issued a written warning.
- 5.3. If the student persists despite this warning, the instructor/administrator should report this issue to the Academic Manager/Designate. The Academic Manager/Designate should email the student a behavioural penalty consisting of behavioural probation, up to and including suspension from the college. Penalties will be determined at the discretion of the Academic Department.
- 5.4. Students are cautioned if they are engaging in bargaining, and or repeated requests to faculty for grade altering, they may be subject to penalties, including expulsion.

## 6. Repeated Electronic Requests

Electronic communication, emails and messaging are avenues to contact faculty for opportunities to enhance your education. As the number of communication forms increase in an online environment, students are reminded to remain professional and respect boundaries if they contact faculty. When you are making a request to a faculty to review your grade, wait for a response back before you repeat your request, and respect the response given. Alternatively, you can submit a formal appeal.

## 7. Related Policies

1. Academic Integrity Policy
2. Academic Grievance Policy
3. Dismissal Policy
4. Student Appeal Policy
5. Grade Appeal Policy

Grounds formal review are outlined in the Grade Appeal Policy. To do so, you will need to submit your appeal in writing (see policy) following the return of the graded assignment.