Challenge Examinations

Students may request a challenge examination. These exams allow students to receive credit or waive the requirement for a course by passing a comprehensive test of the course material. Courses available through challenge exam are determined by department policy. (Students who have attempted and received a grade in a class including “W” and “Audit” taken at NM Tech may not take a challenge exam in that course).

Permission must be granted by the instructor of the course. A challenge examination fee is charged (page 58). The form of the examination (written, oral, practical, combination, etc.) will be determined by the instructor. At the option of the student and instructor, the examination may be graded on either the standard or S/U basis, and the examination points earned will be equivalent to a final grade in the course. Some departments offer challenge exams on an S/U basis only. Credit hours and grade points earned in this way are exactly equivalent to those earned through successful completion of that course. The following regulations will apply to all challenge examinations:

- Permission of the instructor of the course is required and the examination is given at a time of the instructor’s choosing.
- Information as to the nature of the challenge examination will be made available to a student upon request.
- The student will be told the grade earned and has the right to decide whether the credit and grade will be entered on the transcript.
- If a student is registered for the course, the challenge exam must be taken before the census date of the fall or spring semester so the student’s schedule can be adjusted.