DOCTOR PATIENT CONTINUUM (DPC) CURRICULUM

SECTION IV – ACADEMIC AFFAIRS INFORMATION
A. ACADEMIC POLICIES

7. PRE-CLINICAL EDUCATION MAKE-UP EXAMINATION/QUIZ POLICY
A make-up examination/quiz for DPC courses (Clinical Science or Biopsychosocial Science), may be given in exceptional circumstances (i.e., documented medical issues, verified emergencies, or verified religious observances) approved by the Director of the DPC curriculum. The make-up exam/quiz may be written/computerized and/or oral. The question format(s) may be multiple-choice, short-answer, essay, and/or other question format variations. Students who take a make-up exam/quiz or reassessment exam are ineligible to receive a grade of Honors (H) in that course unless it is an approved make-up due to (1) a verified religious observance and/or (2) a documented exceptional circumstance, to be evaluated on a case by case basis. Students who remediate a course are ineligible to receive a grade of Honors (H) in that course.

SECTION IV – ACADEMIC AFFAIRS INFORMATION
B. GRADING SYSTEMS AND POLICIES

5. UNSATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN A D.O. PROGRAM COURSE OR CLERKSHIP

c. UNSATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN A DOCTOR PATIENT CONTINUUM CURRICULAR COURSE (DPC)
DPC policies and procedures for the first and second year pre-clinical courses are described below:

1. Reassessment Policy

Clinical Sciences Courses: DPC students earning a final course grade of less than 70% in either the OMM or Clinical Skills component of the Clinical Sciences Course will be issued a grade of “I” (Incomplete). Such students will be offered the opportunity to reassess the appropriate portion of the course. Successful completion of the reassessment examination will result in the awarding of a grade of P (Pass), providing all other course requirements have been achieved. Failure of the reassessment exam will result in the awarding of a grade of U (Unsatisfactory) for this course. The student may be approved to remediate the appropriate portion of the DPC Clinical Science course at the end of the academic year. See the Remediation Policy, section #2, below.

Biopsychosocial Sciences Courses: DPC students, who earn an overall yearly average of less than 70% in the Biopsychosocial Sciences courses and/or an overall yearly average of less than 65% for their content exams for the academic year, will be awarded a grade of Incomplete (I). DPC students may send a letter of petition to sit for a comprehensive reassessment examination to the Associate Dean of Student Administration. After receiving the letter of petition, the Associate Dean of Student Administration will schedule a hearing for the student with the Student Progress Committee. Following the hearing, the Student Progress Committee will recommend to the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs either that the petition should be
approved and the student should be allowed to take the comprehensive reassessment exam, or the petition should be denied and as a result the student should be suspended from the College.

Note: Only the student and the committee members can attend a Student Progress Committee Hearing. Formal hearings are recorded by NYITCOM only via audio (at the sole discretion of the chair), and the recording will act as the official record of the hearing.

After considering the advice of the Student Progress Committee and reviewing the student’s written petition and the student’s academic record, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs will make a final determination as to whether to approve the petition to take the cumulative reassessment exam, or to recommend to the Dean academic suspension of the student from the College.

If permission is granted, and if the comprehensive reassessment exam is passed, the Incomplete (I) grade will be changed to Pass (P) for both terms. If permission to take the comprehensive reassessment examination is denied, or if the student is unsuccessful in passing the comprehensive reassessment exam, the Incomplete (I) will be changed to a grade of Failure (F) for both terms, and the student will be subject to academic suspension with the right to petition for reinstatement. The student will be notified of the academic suspension (in writing) in an email and letter from. Effective the date of the suspension letter, the student is no longer permitted to attend classes, laboratories, examinations or other college related activities.

Failure to achieve an overall yearly average of 70% in the Biopsychosocial Sciences courses due to low facilitator assessment scores, presents a special concern. The student has been determined, by his/her facilitators, to be deficient in the skills necessary to effectively interact with patients and colleagues. This deficiency may not be resolvable by examination. Such failures will be evaluated by the Director of the DPC program, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and/or the Student Progress Committee to determine possible remediation programs or to consider other options including academic suspension.

Note: DPC students who are repeating the academic year are not eligible to take or petition to take a reassessment examination.

2. Remediation Policy

Students who have earned an unsatisfactory final grade in a pre-clinical course or clinical clerkship may be approved to remediate that course or clerkship in the scheduled remediation period.

Only one course or clerkship may be remediated per student, per academic year. In such case, the student will be placed on Academic Warning status. A grade of Unsatisfactory (U) will be recorded on the official transcript until the pre-clinical DPC course or clerkship is successfully remediated, upon which the grade will be changed to Pass (P). If unsuccessful in remediating the course or clerkship, the student will be placed on academic suspension with the right to petition to repeat the year and the Unsatisfactory (U) will change to a grade of Failure (F).
Students on Academic Probation Status are not eligible to remediate any course or clerkship. In such case, if the student earns an unsatisfactory final grade in a course or clerkship, the student will receive a grade of Failure (F) in that course or clerkship and will be subject to dismissal from the College.

Clinical Sciences Course: Students, who have earned an unsatisfactory final grade in a year one or year two DPC Clinical Science course may be approved to remediate that DPC Clinical Science course at the end of the academic year. Only one DPC Clinical Science course may be remediated per student, per academic year. In such case, the student will be placed on Academic Warning status. A grade of Unsatisfactory (U) will be recorded on the official transcript until the DPC Clinical Science course, is successfully remediated, upon which the grade will be changed to Pass (P). If unsuccessful in remediating the DPC Clinical Science course or if not approved for remediation, the Unsatisfactory (U) will change to a grade of Failure (F), and the student will be subject to academic suspension.

Biopsychosocial Sciences Course: DPC students cannot remediate a Biopsychosocial Sciences course.

Note: Students on Academic Probation Status are not eligible to remediate any pre-clinical course. In such case, if a student on Academic Probation earns an unsatisfactory final grade in a pre-clinical course, the student will receive a grade of Failure (F) in that pre-clinical DPC course and will be subject to dismissal from the College.

3. Academic Warning

Any DPC student, who, by the end of a DPC course, fails to meet the minimum academic requirements for their Content Exams, Biopsychosocial Sciences course or Clinical Sciences course, will automatically be placed on academic warning until (s)he receives a satisfactory grade. The student must contact the Learning Specialist within one week to establish an individualized enrichment program (may include attending tutorials as scheduled and meeting with a health professional chosen by the College). A second year student on Academic Warning may not take COMLEX I until he/she has successfully completed the remediation. The student, in consultation with the DPC Academic Coordinator and the DPC Director, will present an academic improvement plan designed to address the deficiency. This information will also be forwarded to the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for tracking purposes. Failure to meet with the Learning specialist or to comply with the terms of the enrichment program or the academic improvement plan may result in academic suspension. In addition, a DPC student who has been placed on academic warning may not participate in any off campus school sponsored conferences, workshops or trips; may not hold an officer’s position in any national or local College related organization (they must resign any position held) or may not be elected to an honorary organization; and will not be eligible for a Leave of Absence (except personal medical or military; if a student qualifies for a personal medical or military leave of absence and is on academic warning status at the time of the leave of absence, upon his/her return to NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine (s)he will be on academic warning).
4. Academic Suspension

If a DPC Pre-Clinical student earns an unsatisfactory final grade in both of the DPC Clinical Science courses within the same academic year, the student will receive a grade of Failure (F) for both DPC Clinical Science courses, and will be placed on academic suspension from the College, with the right to petition for reinstatement to repeat the academic year. The student will be notified of the academic suspension (in writing) in an email and letter from the Dean. Effective the date of the suspension letter, the student is no longer permitted to attend classes, laboratories, examinations or other college related activities.

A student has the right to petition to repeat a year only once during their academic program.

d. STUDENT PETITION DPC FOR REINSTatement AFTER SUSPENSION

3. DPC ACADEMIC PROBATION

Following the petition process, if a student is granted the right to repeat an academic year as a member of the following year’s class, the student will be placed on academic probation. Within the first two weeks of the beginning of the repeat academic year, a student who has been placed on academic probation is required to meet with a Learning Specialist to arrange an academic enrichment plan. After the student successfully completes all the required courses/clerkships during the probationary year, the student will be returned to good academic standing.

Earning an Unsatisfactory (U) grade in any course or clerkship, or not meeting any of the minimum academic requirements outlined below, during the probation period will result in immediate dismissal from the College.

a. DPC students on academic probation are not eligible to take reassessment exams.

DPC students on academic probation, who fail to achieve a minimum grade of 70% in any of the DPC courses (DPC 502 – Biopsychosocial Sciences I; DPC 503 – Clinical Sciences I; DPC 504 – Biopsychosocial Sciences II; DPC 505 – Clinical Sciences II; DPC 602 – Biopsychosocial Sciences III; DPC 603 – Clinical Sciences III; DPC 604 – Biopsychosocial Sciences IV; DPC 605 – Clinical Sciences IV), will be dismissed from the College. In addition, earning a Fall or Spring Term Content Exam grade average (midterm and final) of less than 65% for any Biopsychosocial Sciences Course (DPC 502, DPC 504, DPC 602, or DPC 604), or earning a final course grade of less than 70% for Clinical Sciences Courses (DPC 503, DPC 505, DPC 603 or DPC 605), or failing to meet the minimum requirements (earning a grade of less than 70%) for any of the following components: Clinical Skills and OMM (written & practical) of the Clinical Sciences Course (DPC 503, DPC 505, DPC 603 or DPC 605) will result in dismissal from the College.

Please note: In addition, during the probation period, the student may not participate in any off campus school sponsored conferences, workshops or trips; may not run for or hold an officer’s position in any national or local College related organization (must resign any position held) and may not be elected to an honorary organization.
b. DPC Students Repeating the First Year:

If a DPC student is approved to repeat the first year after being suspended at the end of the first year, the student must return to the first year in the LDB track.

If an LDB student is approved to repeat the first year in the DPC track after being suspended at the end of the first year, the conditions described above will apply to the student.

c. DPC Students Repeating the Second Year:

If a DPC student is approved to repeat the second year, the student will be allowed to repeat the second year curriculum as a member of the following year’s DPC class. Students repeating the second year will be familiar with cases discussed in the small group sessions during the previous year. Therefore, so as not to interfere with the learning experience of students naive to the case, the repeating student’s participation in small group meetings will be limited to the discussion of learning issues and wrap-up; the student is not to reveal any information about current and/or future cases to other members of the small group (or class). The repeating student will have the following restrictions imposed as to avoid any unintentional influence or biasing of the group’s clinical problem solving and learning experience:

● The student may not participate in the role of doctor, patient or scribe.
● The student may not participate in the discussion related to the case, specifically including:
  − The formulation and discussion of the differential diagnosis and problem lists
  − The ordering and interpretation of lab tests or diagnostic imaging
  − The formulation and selection of learning issues