3.6 Provisional Courses

1) Courses offered by departments as provisional courses must fit into one of the following categories:

   a. Trial or experimental courses.
   
   b. Courses of immediate relevance or of current, rather than lasting, issues.
   
   c. Special opportunities courses (for example, a visiting professor could offer a course in his/her particular area of expertise, which could not be taught by a regular faculty member and, therefore, could not become a permanent catalog offering).

2) No course may be offered as a provisional course for more than two years. **No course may be offered as a provisional course more than twice and must be done within a single two-year timespan. Changing a provisional number is not permitted to reset the timeline.**

3) Provisional courses are proposed by departments. Each must be approved by the dean of the college in which the offering department is located. If a proposed provisional course may have a material effect on course offerings or enrollments in another college.

4) Interdisciplinary provisional courses for which a departmental designation is inappropriate may be offered, subject to the approvals of the programs involved and the dean(s) of the college(s) in which the offering is located. If a proposed interdisciplinary provisional course may have a material effect on course offerings or enrollments in another college, it must be designed in consultation with the affected department(s). Interdisciplinary provisional courses will bear a course designation of the relevant college or program.

5) Provisional courses are given course numbers ending with 95, 96, 97, or 98.

6) The titles of provisional courses shall appear on students’ transcripts.

**Rationale for revision:**

The repeat time limit is introduced to reduce proliferation of provisional courses. The added wording helps clear ambiguity regarding practice of renumbering a provisional course for the purpose of extending its time limit.