ACSM Certification Exam Requirements for All EXSS Students:

EXSS students must take and pass the ACSM CPT or the HFS certification exam in EXSS 461 to fulfill the requirements for graduation.

The minimum score necessary for graduation is 495 (same for either test). Students who do not achieve the minimum score can retake the exam after paying the associated fee to retake the exam or appeal the passing requirement. (A score of 550 is necessary to obtain the certification certificate from ACSM).

Appeal process:

To appeal the ACSM passing score requirement, students must write a justification as to why they should be exempted from the requirement to the chair of the HHP department.

Most successful appeals will include one or both of these rationales:

1. Lack of study time due to an extenuating circumstance, (ie. Admitted to hospital, Family crisis, etc.).
2. Demonstrated increase in scores on second attempt.

Upon meeting with the chair and discussing the appeal the chair will decide whether to allow the appeal. The exemption may include, but not limited to:

1. Retaking the exam.
2. Oral examination on the test sections failed.
3. Retake classes related to the sections of the test failed.
4. Write a paper on the test sections failed.
5. Waive the minimum score.

Taking an alternate test:

Students who would like to take the NSCA, CPT or CSCS, exams may do so only by appeal to the chair of the HHP department.

To appeal taking the NSCA test, rather than the ACSM requirement, students must write a justification as to why they should be allowed to take the NSCA test to the chair of the HHP department. Upon meeting with the chair and discussing the appeal the chair will decide whether to allow the exemption.

Students taking either NSCA exam will be required to achieve a 70% passing score to meet graduation requirements. No other certification exams may be taken for this graduation requirement.