

# GRADING SYSTEM

Grades for undergraduate and graduate students are reported by the following letters: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, or F. In addition, the symbols of SA (Satisfactory) and UN (Unsatisfactory) may be recorded on a student's transcript in accordance with Senate Policy 49-60 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#47-60>). Courses that do not carry credit shall be graded NCP if passed and NCF if failed. The symbols of W, LD (Late Drop), R (Research) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#49-40>), DF (Deferred Grade) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#48-40>), AUS (Audited, Regular/Satisfactory Attendance) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#48-80>), AUU (Audited, Unsatisfactory Attendance) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#48-80>), and CRX (Credit by Examination) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/42-00-acquisition-of-credit/#42-50>) also may be recorded in place of grades. Note that CRX does not apply to graduate students.

READ SENATE POLICY 47-40: GRADING SYSTEM (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#47-40>)

## Grades and Grade Points

Grades are assigned to individual students on the basis of the instructor's professional judgment of the student's scholastic achievement. Instructors should provide written (paper or electronic form) notification of the basis for grades to students on or before the first class meeting.

Grade	Grade-Point Equivalent
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
D	1.00
F	0

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GRADES (<https://www.registrar.psu.edu/grades/grading-system.cfm>)

READ SENATE POLICIES 47-00, 48-00, AND 49-00: GRADES (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/>)

## GPA

The number of grade points obtained by a student in any course is computed by multiplying the number of credits in the course by the grade-point equivalent of the grade received in the course. Courses taken under the satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading system are not used in computing grade points.

READ SENATE POLICY 51-30: METHOD OF CALCULATION OF GRADE POINTS (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/51-00-grade-point-average/#51-30>)

## Semester GPA

Semester GPA applies to courses completed in a specific semester.

## Cumulative GPA

A student's cumulative grade-point average is the weighted mean value of all grade points earned either by enrollment or examinations in courses at the University. The cumulative GPA for a student who is completing more than one undergraduate major program, either a sequential or concurrent degree, will be computed using the grades earned in all courses taken at the University, except for the following: (Note: the words student and undergraduate student are used to designate a baccalaureate or associate degree candidate, or a nondegree student.)

1. a student who has been approved for academic renewal—cumulative grade-point average will be computed in accordance with Senate Policy 54-90 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/54-00-academic-progress/#54-90>).
2. A student repeating a course, in accordance with Senate Policy 47-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/54-00-academic-progress/#47-80>).

READ SENATE POLICY 51-50: CUMULATIVE GRADE-POINT AVERAGE (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/51-00-grade-point-average/#51-50>)

## Deferred Grades

If, for reasons beyond the the student's control, a student is prevented from completing a course within the prescribed amount of time, it is possible to have the grade for that course deferred for completion at a later date. In order to receive a deferred grade: 1) permission must be requested by the student and granted by the instructor before the beginning of the final exam period of the semester in which the course is taken; and 2) approval must be given by the instructor of the course. In an emergency situation in which the instructor is not available, a student may obtain authorization for a deferred grade from the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled.

If permission for a deferred grade is granted, the symbol DF will appear on the student's transcript until the course has been completed. Courses with a deferred grade will not be included in the grade-point average calculations.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DEFERRED GRADES (<https://www.registrar.psu.edu/grades/deferred-grades.cfm>)

## No Grade

If an instructor does not submit a grade for a student by the grade-reporting deadline and a deferred grade was not requested and approved, the symbol NG (no grade) appears on the student's transcript until a grade is submitted. If a student receives an "NG" in place of a permanent grade, the grade-point average is calculated and appears with the letter "I" (incomplete) printed next to the course on the grade report and transcript. Students should contact their instructor (or the department offering the course) as soon as possible to determine what needs to be done so that a grade can be assigned.

The NG must be reconciled within five weeks following the grade reporting deadline. If a grade is not forthcoming by that deadline, the

Office of the University Registrar will automatically change the NG to an F.

A NG grade that is automatically converted to an F can later be corrected in accordance with Senate Policy 48-30 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#48-30>). Students with NG on their transcripts will not be allowed to graduate.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NO GRADE REPORTED (<https://www.registrar.psu.edu/grades/no-grade-reported.cfm>)

READ SENATE POLICY 48-50: NO GRADE (NG) (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#48-50>)

## Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grades

Students who do not want to receive a letter grade for a credit course may choose the satisfactory/unsatisfactory "SA/UN" grading system subject to the regulations of the University (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#49-60>) and the students' degree programs. Baccalaureate degree candidates are allowed a total of twelve "SA/UN" credits per college career. Associate degree candidates are allowed a total of six "SA/UN" credits per college career. Students cannot enroll for more than two satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade option courses per semester. Students should consult with their adviser prior to processing since some colleges have restrictions on this grading option. It is important to note that General Education courses cannot be taken under this option.

Courses taken through the satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading option are considered part of a student's credit load when qualifying for financial aid. Satisfactory/unsatisfactory courses are not used in computing grade-point average.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY GRADES (<https://www.registrar.psu.edu/grades/satisfactory-unsatisfactory-grades.cfm>)

READ SENATE POLICY 49-60: SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY–BACCALAUREATE AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/47-00-48-00-and-49-00-grades/#49-60>)