

Spring 2020 grading options – updated

Undergraduate courses:

The Academic Council has approved a temporary (Spring 2020 only) change to both the regular grading options and the S/U grading options. For the spring only, for the regular letter grade option the grades of D+, D, and D- will be replaced with a grade of CR (credit), the grade of F will be replaced with the grade of UN. For the S/U grading option the grade of S will remain to be the equivalent of the C- or better, the grade of CR will be the equivalent of D+, D, and D-, and the UN will be used for grades equivalent to an F.

What does this mean for students?

If you elect to retain regular grading for the Spring 2020 semester, no final grades below C- will be issued. If you earn a D+, D, or D-, you will receive the grade CR. The CR will mean you receive credit for the course towards your graduation and degree requirements, but it will not affect your GPA. If your final grade is an F, you will receive a grade of UN. The grade of UN will not earn any credit nor will it affect your GPA.

If you elect to change to the S/U option, your final grade will be an S (if equivalent to a C- or better), a CR (if equivalent to a D+, D, or D-), or a UN (if equivalent to an F).

Do I need to opt-in or select this grading option?

No, the CR/UN will automatically be applied for any undergraduate course.

How will a grade of CR work for my LIFE, Hope or Palmetto Fellow Scholarship?

Any course with the grade of CR will count towards the hours needed for the scholarship, but will not be included in your Winthrop GPA or your scholarship GPA.

How will the grade of CR work towards meeting a course prerequisite?

The grade of CR will be recorded instead of a D+, D, or D-. If the prerequisite only requires successful completion of the course, the CR will meet the prerequisite. If the prerequisite required a C- or better, the CR will not meet the prerequisite.

Faculty grading instructions:

If the student elected to retain the regular grading option, you will be able to record final grades of: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, CR, UN, or Incomplete. If the student elected the S/U option, you will be able to record final grades of S, CR, UN or IU (incomplete).

What is my final average?

C- or better

Did I elect to take course as S/U?
(Deadline: April 28th)

No

Yes

Final grade: **Letter grade**
Counts toward GPA and Earned Credit Hours

Final grade: **S**
Counts toward Earned Credit Hours; will not be counted in computing GPA

D+, D, or D-

Final grade: **CR**
Counts toward Earned Credit Hours; will not be counted in computing GPA

F

Final grade: **UN**
Does not count toward Earned Credit Hours; will not be counted in computing GPA

Example #1:

| Example Course | Course Credit Hours | Traditional Grade | Spring 2020 Grade |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| WRIT101 | 3 | D- | CR |
| MATH 150 | 3 | B- | B- |
| NUTR 201 | 4 | B | B |
| PSYC 101 | 3 | B+ | B+ |
| PESH 101 | 1 | A | A |

Traditional Semester GPA Calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Semester GPA} &= \frac{(3 \times 0.67) + (3 \times 2.67) + (4 \times 3) + (3 \times 3.33) + (1 \times 4)}{(3+3+4+3+1)} \\ &= \frac{36.01}{14} \\ &= \mathbf{2.575} \end{aligned}$$

Spring 2020 Semester GPA Calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Semester GPA} &= \frac{(3 \times 2.67) + (4 \times 3) + (3 \times 3.33) + (1 \times 4)}{(3+4+3+1)} \\ &= \frac{34}{11} \\ &= \mathbf{3.09} \end{aligned}$$

*Note that in both grading systems, the earned credit hours = 14; the only difference is that the D- did not contribute to the GPA calculation in Spring 2020.

Example #2:

| Example Course | Course Credit Hours | Traditional Grade | Spring 2020 Grade |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| WRIT101 | 3 | C+ | C+ |
| MATH 150 | 3 | D- | CR |
| NUTR 201 | 4 | F | UN |
| PSYC 101 | 3 | B | B |
| PESH 101 | 1 | A | A |

Traditional Semester GPA Calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Semester GPA} &= \frac{(3 \times 2.33) + (3 \times 0.67) + (4 \times 0) + (3 \times 3) + (1 \times 4)}{(3+3+4+3+1)} \\ &= \frac{22}{14} \\ &= \mathbf{1.571} \end{aligned}$$

Spring 2020 Semester GPA Calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Semester GPA} &= \frac{(3 \times 2.33) + (3 \times 3) + (1 \times 4)}{(3+3+1)} \\ &= \frac{19.99}{7} \\ &= \mathbf{2.855} \end{aligned}$$

*Note that in both grading systems, the earned credit hours = 10; in the Spring 2020 grading system, 3 credit hours were awarded for the grade of CR but the UN earned 0 credit hours. However, in the Spring 2020 grading system, neither the CR nor the UN were used in the calculation of the semester GPA.