

GRADING SYSTEM

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| Approval Authority | Senate |
| Responsible Executive | Provost and Vice-President, Academic |
| Related Policies / Legislation | Course Withdrawal (81) Course Repeat (86) Grade Reporting (109) Undergraduate Continuance (92) Prerequisites and Co-Requisites (84) <i>University Act, s. 35.2 (5)(h)</i> |

PURPOSE

This policy establishes a consistent and fair grading system to measure and articulate students' performance at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV).

SCOPE

This policy governs grading for all UFV courses and programs.

DEFINITIONS

Cumulative grade point average (CGPA): A numerical average of grades based on all courses taken at UFV within a particular level of study, e.g. preparatory, undergraduate, graduate, etc.

Grade point average (GPA): Academic performance expressed as a numerical average of grades in UFV courses.

Grade point value: A numeric value for each letter grade that is used to calculate the grade point average.

Graduate level: Post-secondary education beyond the bachelor degree level

Preparatory: Pre-undergraduate or developmental education designed to upgrade or enhance academic skills in preparation for undergraduate studies

Semester grade point average: A numerical average of grades based on all UFV courses taken in a single semester.

Undergraduate level: Post-secondary education that is considered university or college level, up to and including the level of the bachelor degree.

POLICY

Grades are a measure of the academic performance of a student. The university's grading system reflects a commitment to high academic standards and provides a consistent and defined system to articulate students' academic achievement.

A grade point average (GPA) is calculated as a measure of students' academic performance in credit courses. The GPA is used to determine a student's academic standing and eligibility to continue in a program, to receive awards, and to graduate. Final grades, semester GPA, and cumulative GPA are recorded on the student's permanent record.

REGULATIONS

Grading systems

There are two grading systems at UFV, the letter grading system and the credit/no credit grading system, outlined in sections A and B, below. The grading system for a course is established through the undergraduate or graduate course approval process.

Other grades and notations are listed in section C.

A. Letter grading system (grades applicable to the GPA)

Letter grades are used for most academic, technical, and career-oriented courses. Letter grades also may be used for non-credit courses, in which case the grades do not apply to the GPA.

Standard percentage equivalencies are used to determine the final letter grade. The final percentage will be rounded to the nearest integer, using standard mathematical practice (i.e. if the first digit after the decimal place is 5 or higher, rounding is to the next higher integer) before converting to a letter grade.

Undergraduate and preparatory level grading scale

| Grade | Percentage equivalent | Grade point value |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| A+ | 90-100 | 4.33 |
| A | 85-89 | 4.0 |
| A- | 80-84 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 77-79 | 3.33 |
| B | 73-76 | 3.0 |
| B- | 70-72 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 67-69 | 2.33 |
| C | 63-66 | 2.0 |
| C- | 60-62 | 1.67 |
| D | 50-59 | 1.0 |
| F | <50 (fail) | 0.0 |
| FD | 0 | 0.0 |

Note 1 -Some programs may require that courses be completed with a specified letter grade higher than a D; this requirement will be specified in the UFV academic calendar. In these cases, courses graded D or higher, but lower than the program minimum, will not meet the requirements for these programs but

may be accepted as elective credits in other programs.

Note 2 -Some programs, to meet external accreditation and/or certification standards, require a higher minimum percentage to pass program courses. In such cases a fail (F) grade may be assigned at a higher percentage.

Note 3 - An FD grade denotes a fail due to academic discipline and is included in the GPA calculation. Rules for assigning an FD grade are found in the Procedures and Regulations document of Policy 70: Academic Misconduct. The FD grade is changed to an F on the transcript after a period of 12 months provided the student successfully completes a workshop on Academic Integrity through the Academic Success Centre, and commits no further violations during the 12 month period. Otherwise, the FD remains. Once an FD grade is converted to an F, it is subject to the same regulations as any other F grade a student receives.

Graduate level grading scale

| Grade | Percentage equivalent | Grade point value |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| A+ | 90-100 | 4.33 |
| A | 85-89 | 4.0 |
| A- | 80-84 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 77-79 | 3.33 |
| B | 73-76 | 3.0 |
| B- | 70-72 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 67-69 | 2.33 |
| C | 63-66 | 2.0 |
| C- | 60-62 | 1.67 |
| D | 50-59 | 0.0 |
| F | <50 | 0.0 |
| FD (see Note 3 above) | 0 | 0.0 |

Note: Grades below B- are considered unacceptable for graduate programs.

B. Credit/no credit grading system (grades not applicable to the GPA)

Credit/no credit grading may be used in courses where students are graded on the basis of broad performance evaluation or acquisition of defined skills, such as for practica, work placements, internships, or non-credit courses.

| Grade | Interpretation |
|-------|--------------------|
| CR | Credit granted. |
| NCR | No credit granted. |

C. Other grades and notations (not applicable to the GPA)

The grades in this section are used for particular purposes and may be used with either letter grading or credit/no credit grading, as required.

Permanent grades

| Grade | Interpretation |
|-------|--|
| AEG | Aegrotat standing. A compassionate pass, approved by the dean, based on satisfactory term marks when a student is unable to complete a course due to serious, documented, extenuating circumstances. |
| AU* | Audit |
| AN* | Audit expectations not met |
| W* | Withdrawn |
| TRF | Transfer credit granted. Successful completion of course(s) when a grade equivalent cannot be determined. |

*No credit is granted for the course.

Temporary notations

Temporary notations are used in specific circumstances when a final grade is not available. They will be replaced by a permanent grade, when available.

| Grade | Interpretation |
|-------|---|
| I | Incomplete. Course requirements to be completed at a pre-determined time. |
| IP | In progress. Course or thesis work continues into the next semester. |
| NGR | No grade reported |

Grade Point Average

A semester GPA and cumulative GPA is calculated after each semester and is recorded on the student's official transcript. The GPA is calculated as follows:

- Multiply the number of credits for each course by the grade point value for the course grade to obtain grade points;
- Add all the grade points; and
- Divide the total grade points by the number of credits taken.

When a course or an equivalent course is repeated, only the higher grade is included in the GPA calculation (see Course Repeat policy for further details).

Grades which are not included in the GPA calculation are listed in sections B and C, above, and include but are not limited to withdrawals, audit grades, temporary grades, and courses graded on a Credit/No credit basis.

Grades assigned for assessments, including course challenges and portfolio assessments, are not included in the GPA calculation.