

3341-3-9 Grading Policies- Graduate.

Applicability	All University Units – Graduate Students
Responsible Unit	Office of the Provost
Policy Administrator	Graduate College

(A) Policy Statement and Purpose

This policy describes grading policies and incomplete policy.

(B) Policy**(1) Unit of Credit**

The unit of credit is the semester hour which is ordinarily earned by one hour of recitation or lecture a week per semester.

Depending upon the amount of outside preparation required two or three hours of laboratory work carry the same credit as one hour of recitation or lecture.

(2) Grading System

The following system of grades is used in reporting and recording a graduate student's proficiency in courses:

- A excellent 4.0 points
- B acceptable 3.0 points
- C below standard 2.0 points
- D failure 1.0 points
- F failure 0.0 points
- WF withdraw failing 0.0 points

Some courses are graded on an S/U (satisfactory/unsatisfactory) basis and are so indicated in the individual course descriptions. A grade of S is equivalent to a letter grade of B or higher (with the exception of 6910, 6990, or 7990, see below). If a graduate course has been approved for S/U grading, a graduate student is not eligible to receive a letter grade in that course.

A course taken for graduate credit in which the grade of D, F, or U is received may not be used to meet degree requirements or to meet the minimum credit hour requirements for a graduate degree. Some academic departments prohibit the use of courses with C grades for degree requirements; students should consult the student handbook in their program area.

Prior to Spring 2018, grades for courses numbered 6910, 6990, and 7990 are reported as IP (in progress) until the completed final capstone experience or experiences (e.g., research paper, portfolio, or academic equivalent), thesis, or dissertation is approved when the final grade of S (satisfactory) is substituted.

Starting Spring 2018, grades for courses numbered 6910, 6990, and 7990 are graded on an S/U basis only. A grade of S in one of these courses denotes satisfactory progress that semester, and a grade of U in one of these courses denotes unsatisfactory progress that semester, based on criteria determined at the program level. The evaluation of the final experience, thesis, or dissertation is an independent judgment of the final status of the experience, thesis, or dissertation, and is independent from S or U grades earned.

Master's students are not permitted to use any 6990 thesis credits toward their Plan II requirements, regardless of the grade received.

(3) Grading Options – Graduate Courses

Students and instructors do not have an option concerning the grading system for a graduate course. Each graduate course is approved for either letter or S/U grading. Unlike undergraduate grading, it is the university's decision, not the student's option that determines the grading system to be used in graduate-level courses.

(4) Grading Options – Undergraduate Courses

Graduate students who take undergraduate courses are graded according to the undergraduate grading system. Such students receive a letter grade unless they register to be graded on an S/U basis. Regardless of the grading option, undergraduate courses taken by graduate students are not calculated in the graduate GPA.

(5) Incomplete Policy

An INC (incomplete) may be given only when, for some justifiable reason, a student fails to take the final examination or to fulfill a specified requirement in a course.

An INC may be removed and a grade substituted if the student completes course requirements to the satisfaction of the instructor prior to the deadline established by the Graduate College. The Graduate College deadlines for removal of incomplete grades for the respective academic semesters are:

- (a) Fall semester: June first
- (b) Spring semester: September first
- (c) Summer semester: January first

However, an individual instructor may come to an agreement with his or her student for an earlier deadline for removal of an incomplete grade.

For an extension, the student must petition their academic dean or designate for such consideration in writing prior to the expiration of the deadline stated above. The instructor's support is required for approval of the request. See <http://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/documents-and-forms.html> for "Incomplete Extension Request."

For courses taken S/U, any mark of INC not removed by these deadlines will change to U. For courses taken for a letter grade, any mark of INC not removed by these deadlines will change to F.

A student cannot graduate with a grade of INC in a graduate level course.

Registered Date: March 24, 2015
Amended Date: October 26, 2017