

Grades, Progress to Degree and Dismissal

Grades: The work of all students on the UC Merced campus is reported in terms of the following grades:

- A** (excellent)
- B** (good)
- C** (fair)
- D** (barely passing)
- F** (not passing)
- P** (passed at a minimum level of C- or better by an undergraduate student)
- S** (satisfactory - passed at a minimum level of B or better by a graduate student)
- NP** (not passed)
- U** (unsatisfactory)
- I** (incomplete)
- IP** (in progress)
- NR** (No report, when an instructor fails to report a grade for a student).

Grades of A, B, C and D may be modified by a plus (+) or minus (-).

Credit Toward Degree Requirements: A course in which the grade A, B, C, D, P or S is received is counted toward degree requirements. A course in which the grade F, NP or U is received is not counted toward degree requirements. Grades of I or IP are not counted until such times as they are replaced by grades A, B, C, D, P or S.

Grade Points: Grade points are assigned as follows: A+ = 4.0, A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, B+ = 3.3, B = 3.0, B- = 2.7, C+ = 2.3, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7, D+ = 1.3, D = 1.0, D- = 0.7, F = 0.0, I = 0.0, and P/NP = N/A. The grades P, S, NP, U, I and IP carry no grade points and the units in courses so graded are excluded in determination of the grade point average.

Grade Point Average: A student's grade point average is computed on courses undertaken in the University of California, with the exception of courses undertaken in University Extension. Grades A, B, C, D and F are used in determining the grade point average; grades I, IP, P, S, NP and U carry no grade points and are excluded from all grade point computations. The grade of I is excluded from computations.

Change of Grade: All grades except Incomplete and In-Progress are considered final when assigned by an instructor at the end of a term. An instructor may request a change of grade when a computational or procedural error occurred in the original assignment of a grade, but a grade may not be changed as a result of re-evaluation of a student's work. No final grade may be revised as a result of reexamination or the submission of additional work after the close of term.

Grade I (Incomplete): The grade of I may be assigned when the instructor determines that a student's work is of passing quality and represents a significant portion of the requirements for a final grade, but is incomplete for a good cause. (Good cause may include current illness, serious personal problems, an accident, a recent death in the immediate family, a large and necessary increase in working hours, or other situations of equal gravity). It is the student's responsibility to obtain written permission from the instructor to receive an I grade as opposed to a non-passing grade. An Incomplete petition is available from the Office of the Registrar's website and must be filed prior to the end of the final examination period.

If an I grade is assigned, students may receive unit credit and grade points by satisfactorily completing the coursework as specified by the instructor. Students should not re-enroll in the course; if they do, it is recorded twice on the transcript. Once an I grade is assigned, it remains permanently on the transcript along with the passing grade students may later receive for that course.

I grades are not counted in computing the grade point average. An I grade received in the fall term must be replaced by the first day of instruction in the following fall term. An I grade received in the spring or summer terms must be replaced by the first day of instruction in the following spring term.

Except as noted below, any I grade that has not been replaced within the deadlines above will be converted to grade F (or NP/U if taken passed/not passed). After that time, but not retroactively, the grade is counted in computing a student's grade point average.

Exception: If a degree is conferred before the end of the deadlines above following the assignment of an I grade, the grade will not be converted to an F (or NP/U). However, the student still has the option of removing the I grade within the

deadlines above. Students with 15 or more units of I on their record may not register without permission of the appropriate dean.

Grade IP (In Progress): For a course extending over more than one term where the evaluation of the student's performance is deferred until the end of the final term, provisional grades of In Progress (IP) shall be assigned in the intervening terms. The provisional grades shall be replaced by the final grade if the student completes the full sequence. The grade IP is not included in the grade point average. If the full sequence of courses is not completed, the IP will be replaced by a grade of Incomplete. Further changes in the student's record will be subject to the rules pertaining to I grades.

Passed/Not Passed (P/NP): Undergraduate students in good standing who are enrolled in at least 12 units may take certain courses on a passed/not passed (P/NP) basis. Students may enroll in one course each term on a P/NP basis (two courses if they have not elected the P/NP in the preceding term).

Changes to and from the P/NP option must be made during the enrollment period. No changes can be made after the first two weeks of classes without the approval of the appropriate dean. A student may not repeat on a P/NP basis a course that was previously taken on a letter-graded basis.

The grade P is assigned for a letter grade of C- or better. If the student earns a grade of D+ or below, the grade will be recorded as NP. In both cases, the student's grade will not be computed into the grade point average.

Credit for courses taken on a P/NP basis is limited to one-third of the total units taken and passed on the UC Merced campus at the time the degree is awarded.

A course that is required or a prerequisite for a student's major may be taken on a P/NP basis only upon approval of the faculty. Schools may designate some courses as passed/not passed only. Students do not have the option of taking these courses for a letter grade.

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U): The grade of S is awarded to graduate students for work in graduate courses that otherwise would receive a grade of B or better.

Graduate students, under certain circumstances, may be assigned grades of S or U, but units earned in this way will not be counted in calculating the grade point average. Petitions to elect S/U grading are available from the Graduate Division's website at graduate.division.ucmerced.edu and must be signed by the student's graduate advisor. Graduate students may petition to take no more than one course per semester on an S/U grading basis. A graduate course in which a C, D or F grade is received may not be repeated with the S/U option.

Grading Options

Unless otherwise stated in the course description, each course is letter graded with a P/NP or S/U option (unless required for your major or graduate program.)

Retroactive Grade Changes

All grades except I and IP are final when filed by an instructor at the end of the semester. No final grade except I may be revised by examination or the submission of additional work after the close of the semester.

If a clerical or procedural error in the reporting of a grade by the instructor can be documented, the student may request a change of grade with a petition available from school dean's office. The request must be made by the fifth week of the following semester.

Grade changes for "clerical" errors (such as incorrect addition of points), upon documentation, are automatically granted. Requests to interchange P, NP, S or U grades with normal letter grades based upon student need (such as to allow graduation or to meet entrance requirements for professional school) do not involve clerical or procedural errors and are automatically denied. Thus, students should exercise the passed/not passed or satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading options with caution.

Students are reminded of their responsibility to be aware of the procedures and regulations contained in this catalog and the Schedule of Classes, to verify their class schedules, and to familiarize themselves with the expectations of their instructors. No changes, except completion of an I grade as noted above, can be made to the student's record once he or she has graduated.

Final Grades

Grades are generally available as soon as possible after a semester has ended. Students can check their grades online using the MyUCMerced enrollment/records system.

Grade Reports: After grades are recorded for a semester or summer session, they are available online via MyUCMerced. With the availability of online grade reporting, students can print their grade reports from the Internet. Grade reports printed by the Office of the Registrar will be provided at the request of the student.