

Temporary Grading Policy for Spring 2020 Semester: Opt-in Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

Considering the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, UWEC students will have the option to obtain a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) grade for **courses that currently allow the option of S/U grades in the Spring 2020 semester**. These changes will not apply to subsequent terms. All students will receive a letter grade for any class they take, but also have the option to replace that letter grade with an alternative *S/U grade for courses where this is allowable. S/U grades for this semester will be transcript notated due to the COVID-19 crisis in a way that differentiates them from typical S/U grading. Students are allowed to take **as many** of their Spring 2020 courses as they would like with the S/U grading option, as long as the courses has not been determined under this temporary policy as ineligible for S/U by a college, department, or program. Students will be able to change to the S/U option after final grades have been given (**7-14 days?**). Students who decide to continue pursuing a letter grade for a course, and not select the S/U option, do not need to take any action.

Spring 2020 S/U Policy Changes Allowed:

- The option of S/U registration is open only to students with sophomore standing (**ALL**) or above and a resident **GPA of 2.00** or higher
- S/U registration must be designated by the student no later than the approved period for dropping courses with no record. (**extended to yet to be determined date after semester ends**)
- S/U registration may not be changed to the standard grading system, or vice versa, after the approved period for dropping courses with no record. (**extended to yet to be determined date after semester ends**)
- When repeating a course initially taken on the S/U basis, the student must also repeat the course on the S/U grade basis (**the waiver on this policy would apply only to courses taken during the spring 2020 academic semester**)
- A student may carry no more than one course on the optional S/U basis for degree credit in any term of enrollment. (Exception: any student in any term of enrollment may enroll in one or more physical activity course(s) on an S/U basis and still take one other degree credit course on an S/U basis. Certain Education field work courses also require multiple S/U enrollments. The student, however, must be otherwise eligible to take the additional degree credit course on an S/U basis). Because of the degree audit limit of 12 S/U credits, students would be limited to 12 credits of S/U in spring 2020 academic semester (see note below).

Spring 2020 S/U Policy Unchanged:

- The grade of S is equivalent to at least a C or above in the standard grading system; it denotes that the student's work was satisfactory, and that credit is granted for the course. The grade of S is not computed in the student's semester and resident GPAs.
- The course must be eligible to be taken on the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade basis.

- A maximum of 12 credits taken on the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade basis can be applied to the minimum 120 credits for graduation. The degree audit will check for 108 credits taken for a grade.
- A maximum of two S/U courses can count toward a comprehensive major and one course toward a standard major. Colleges and departments may place further restrictions on major, minor, or professional programs and sequences, and dean's list criteria also vary by college.
- Academic Honors & Distinction "Dean's List" – college maintains its own criteria

Students interested in the Optional Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading Policy should:

- Read the details of your college, department, or program's options for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. (*provide link to information*)
- Keep in mind that letter grades can be important in admission to a competitive major, improving GPA, meeting prerequisites for upper division courses, advancing to professional/graduate school, maintaining certain types of financial aid and in other circumstances. (*provide link to information*)
- Contact your **faculty and academic** advisors to discuss your options — your advisors will need to sign off on your request.
- An online S/U request form will be available (*link under the "Registrar's Office"*) that will route information to your advisors for **review and approval**.

Should more specific considerations be bulleted under this section for students?