

S/U Policy Consideration Information/Documents

UW System Schools (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/coronavirus/>)

UW-Madison S/U Policy (Optional)

<https://apps.umark.wisc.edu/lighthouse-letters/letters/339/preview?auth=533b35965c8b828618a52e94ab41b96c>

UW-Milwaukee Emergency Grading Accommodation (Optional)

<https://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2020/03/emergency-grading-accommodation.pdf>

<https://uwm.edu/coronavirus/chancellors-update-updates-on-interim-grading-policy-covid-19-leave-and-compensation/>

UW-Green Bay (No Change in Grading Scale)

<https://www.uwgb.edu/coronavirus/questions-answers/>

UW-Oshkosh (Letter Grading Scale Remains/Considering Hybrid Model)

<https://uwosh.edu/coronavirus/updates-on-uwos-course-drop-deadline-and-grading/>

UW-Stevens Point (Exploring/decision might come mid-April)

<https://www.uwsp.edu/coronavirus/Pages/FAQ-students.aspx>

UW-Stout (Optional)

(PDF Attachments)

UW-Whitewater (Exploring/decision will be made soon)

<http://www.uww.edu/uwcs/covid19/#ACADEMICS#will-we-be-moving-to-a-pass/fail-grading-system?>

Information/Media Links for S/U Policy Discussion:

Wisconsin State Journal Article (PDF Attachments): UW-Madison offers students option to receive pass-fail grades this semester amid COVID-19 pandemic

“#PassFailNation”

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/03/19/colleges-go-passfail-address-coronavirus>

(I encourage you to examine the comments section to gain a variety of perspectives-students/teachers)

With Coronavirus Disrupting College, Should Every Student Pass?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/28/us/coronavirus-college-pass-fail.html?fbclid=IwAR2qqbDI1yM-NjilyEGSodzZkdGjJzg1PGag5S2ESV7zgIvnRyyKrcGdao0>

“Board Editorial: Villanova’s Satisfactory /Unsatisfactory Grading Option”

http://www.villanovan.com/opinion/board-editorial-villanova-s-satisfactory-unsatisfactory-grading-option/article_55b993e0-72cd-11ea-9bb0-07a3daf367c9.html

“University System of Georgia deserves ‘F’ for nixing pass/fail option”

<https://www.ajc.com/blog/get-schooled/opinion-university-system-georgia-deserves-for-nixing-pass-fail-option/vjxBD6DNDbgJHBOXVROVZI/>

Ohio State University Grading Policy (Attention To Detail)

<https://oaa.osu.edu/grading-policy-changes-spring-2020>

UWEC Petition to Have all UWEC classes become pass/fail grades

https://www.change.org/p/uw-eau-claire-as-well-as-the-uw-system-should-switch-to-pass-fail-grading?original_footer_petition_id=19819712&algorithm=promoted&source_location=petition_footer&grid_position=8&pt=AVBldGI0aW9uADTdQgEAAAAAXn7Pt2BB103OGZhZjE0Zg%3D%3D

Pros (Discussion)

Student ~ anxiety & frustration especially because this situation is atypical and because other institutions have already adopted a policy

↑anxiety due to economic and job outlook will impact ability to focus on academics

Opt-in option provided at the very least and detail explanation for whatever policy is adopted

Online delivery was not what they paid for and therefore should be provided more option when the academic semester resumes

Academic performance will suffer dramatically because students are unable to take advantage of faculty/IAS office hours, tutoring, and student led labs

Faculty ~ some students don’t have reliable access to the internet and/or technology for remote/online learning (e.g. rural, no access to PC/Laptops and will rely on smartphone devices). These students deserve an option of S/U

Some students have taken on the economic burden caused by the COVID-19 pandemic due to parental job loss and now are the primary financial providers in their household. This will negatively impact their academic performance via remote/online learning. These students deserve an option of S/U

Favors a mandatory not optional temporary grading scheme (S/U)

Cons (Discussion)

Faculty ~ Undergraduate courses at UWEC are taught by faculty/IAS rather than graduate students and this may afford the university a unique ability to handle the transition to online instruction

Adoption of S/U policy will add to the anxiety that students are already feeling about the resumption of the spring semester. Students should be provided the opportunity and/or be expected to perform well academically (assuming support services are in place/adequate) as much as possible during this atypical semester.

Adoption of S/U policy reinforces the notion that students won't be successful, so an escape hatch must be created

Could other alternatives be considered beside adoption of S/U policy adoption?

Draft Policy

Initial Statement to Students (Sent 4/1/2020; drafted by Evan Weiher & Marquell Johnson)

Representatives of UWEC Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff are aware of the petition to have all UWEC classes become satisfactory/unsatisfactory grades when the academic semester resumes next week. UWEC Senate Executive Committee and Academic Policies Committee are considering the potential advantages and disadvantages to students as this approach is more complicated than it may initially appear when applied across majors and departments. Additional information will be forthcoming from shared governance regarding a potential policy change.

Draft (*Construct*)

Current UWEC Policies:

Grades

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-regulations/grades/>

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Registration

(<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-regulations/registration/#header3>)

Reporting of Grades (*addresses possible workload concerns for faculty/IAS*). Instructors will record standard letter grades for all students; the conversion to a grade of S or U will be made by the Registrar.

Change Grading Option to Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

<https://www.uwec.edu/blugold-central/academic-planning/registration-changes/change-grading-option/>

University Graduation Requirements

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/graduation-requirements/>

APPLICABILITY OF CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION	Credit Restrictions
Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	
Total degree credit	maximum 12
Major, Standard	maximum 1 course
Major, Comprehensive	maximum 2 courses

College of Arts and Sciences

Communication, Communication Studies Emphasis, Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/communication-journalism/communication-major-communications-studies-ba-bs/>

Major requirements ~ Note: No major or minor credit may be earned under the S/U option.

Computer Science, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/computer-science/computer-science-comprehensive-major-ba-bs/>

Major requirements ~ Note: The Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option may not be elected to satisfy a course requirement at the 200 level or higher for the major or minor programs, except for CS 490.

Geology, Environmental Science Emphasis, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/geology/geology-comprehensive-major-environmental-science-ba-bs/>

Major requirements ~ NOTE: No degree credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option in any required courses in a geology major or minor.

Music, Applied Instrumental, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/music-theatre-arts/music-comprehensive-major-applied-instrumental-bm/>

Major requirements ~ 2) No music course may be taken under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option.

Psychology, Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-major-ba-bs/>

Major requirements ~ No credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option for any of the requirements listed below.

Sociology, Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/sociology/sociology-major-ba-bs/>

Major requirements ~ Note 5: No credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option for any course counted toward a departmental major or minor.

Environmental Public Health, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/watershed-institute-for-collaborative-environmental-studies/environmental-public-health-comprehensive-major-bseph/>

Major requirements ~ The only credits that may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option are for Independent Study. S/U credits may not total more than three.

[A cursory examination of AIS, Art, Biology, Economics, English, Geography, History, Languages, Material Sciences & Engineering, Math, Phil/Rels, Physics, & Pol Sci did not specify any information related to S/U policy]

College of Business

College Degree Requirements

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/business/accounting-finance/business-finance-comprehensive-major-bba/>

No course may be taken on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis as part of a major, minor, or certificate described by one of the departments in the College of Business.

Business courses may be taken on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis only concurrent with or following completion of the student's major or business minor.

College of Education and Human Sciences

Communication Sciences and Disorders, Comprehensive Major (CSD Department)

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/education-human-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/communication-sciences-and-disorders-comprehensive-major-bs/>

Major Requirements ~ Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Policy. No degree credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option in any course presented for completion of a major in Communication Sciences and Disorders unless Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory is the only grading option available for a course.

Exercise Science, Comprehensive Major (Kinesiology Department)

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/education-human-sciences/kinesiology/exercise-science-comprehensive-major-bs/>

Rehabilitation Science, Comprehensive Major (Kinesiology Department)

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/education-human-sciences/kinesiology/rehabilitation-science-comprehensive-major-bs/>

Major Requirements (Applicable for both KINS major) ~ NOTE: No degree credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option in any course presented for completion of a major or minor in Athletic Training or Kinesiology unless Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory is the only grading option available for a course.

Social Work, Comprehensive Major (Social Work Department)

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/education-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-comprehensive-major-bsw/>

Major Requirements ~ Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Policy. No degree credit may be earned under the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option in SW 100 or any Social Work Department course numbered 200 or higher which is required for the major.

College of Nursing

Nursing, B.S.N. Completion Program, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-sciences/nursing/nursing-comprehensive-major-bsn-completion-program-bsn/>

Nursing, Eau Claire Program, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-sciences/nursing/nursing-comprehensive-major-eau-claire-program-bsn/>

Nursing, Marshfield Program, Comprehensive Major

<https://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-sciences/nursing/nursing-comprehensive-major-marshfield-program-bsn/>

Major/Degree Requirements (Applicable for all 3) ~ Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Policy: No course required for the degree in nursing may be taken on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Audit enrollment is not allowed.