



ALTERNATIVE GRADING

SATISFACTORY GRADE CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPRING 2021 UNDERGRADUATE CLASSES

Ohio University is extending the alternative grade options for Spring 2021 for undergraduate classes. With the success of our students at the forefront, we want to make sure that you have the resources needed to make informed decisions. Undergraduate students will receive a message from the University Registrar about grading options and processes once the exempt courses are posted. Our goal is to offer students as much flexibility as possible while maintaining student learning and success in subsequent courses.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Friday, March 12, 2021** Exempted courses will be published.
- **Friday, March 12, 2021** Undergraduate students will receive a message from the University Registrar once the exempted courses are posted.
- **Friday, March 26, 2021** Last day to withdraw from (drop) an individual class on your spring semester schedule, if the class meets the full semester. (For classes that do not meet the full semester the deadline is prorated.) Note: Course remains on student's academic record with a withdrawn grade and no fee adjustment.
- **Friday, May 7, 2021, 5:00 PM Eastern** Deadline to opt into the alternative (S/NC) grading policy.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

- Coronavirus Response: <https://www.ohio.edu/registrar/coronavirus>
- Grading Policy FAQ: <https://www.ohio.edu/registrar/spring-semester-grading-policy-faq>
- Satisfactory Grade Opt In Process: <https://www.ohio.edu/registrar/satisfactory-grade-opt-process>

DECISION MAKING

IS THE "S" GRADE THE BEST CHOICE FOR YOU FOR ANY GRADE C- OR ABOVE?

Before you make your decision to take the alternative grades, please make sure you are thinking about the long-term impact on your GPA and your overall success as a student. The S grade might not always be the best selection for you.

YOU MAY NOT WANT TO ELECT AN S GRADE IN THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

- In major courses that will contribute to graduate or professional school applications.
- In prerequisite courses if you plan to apply for an Early Assurance Program (EAP) for graduate school. Contact your advisor if you have questions about non-letter grade courses and EAPs.
- If you receive external funding which requires letter grades.
- In courses where there are admission requirements for majors that require letter grades. Contact your advisor if you have questions about non-letter grade courses and admission to selective majors.
- If you intend to transfer the course to another college or university. Check with the college or university to see if they will accept non-letter grades.

YOU MAY WANT TO ELECT AN S GRADE IN THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

- If distance learning and the pandemic have resulted in your grades dropping below what you usually earn, the alternative grading policy can help you protect your GPA.
- If you are earning a lower than average grade in a general education course that will not impact your major.



IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELECTING THE S GRADE, YOU MIGHT WANT TO DO THE FOLLOWING BEFORE CONFIRMING YOUR DECISION:

For all students:

- Make sure you meet with your academic advisor. No matter what you decide, please meet with your academic advisor so you can come up with a success strategy TOGETHER.

For all students receiving scholarships and financial aid:

- Review renewal criteria for scholarships, such as minimum GPA or minimum credit hour completion required for renewal.
- For federal student aid recipients, students who opt to request a Satisfactory (S) grade will have that grade count positively toward their completion percentage in the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) calculation and review. The grade of S has a neutral impact on grade point average. If you have an approved SAP appeal and have questions about how the S grade will impact your approval for spring semester financial aid, please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. Review the SAP policy for additional details on Ohio University's SAP policy.

For all students NOT graduating in Spring 2021:

- Please check any anticipated employer's website and/or contact the Human Resource representative to make sure you are meeting any GPA requirements.

For those graduating in Spring 2021:

- Please check your employer's website and/or contact the Human Resource representative to make sure you are meeting any GPA requirements.

For those seeking or committed to internships in Summer 2021:

- Please check an employer's website and/or contact the Human Resource representative to make sure you are meeting any GPA requirements.

If your classes are a prerequisite for future OU classes:

- Please check your future course requirements to learn what is needed to be successful in future courses.

LOOKING FORWARD

Similar to last summer, we will not offer the flexible grading policy during the Summer 2021 sessions. While we realize that some COVID precautions might still be in place when we return to a more typical learning environment for the 2021-2022 academic year, we do not plan to offer the flexible grading option for the Fall 2021 semester.

MOST IMPORTANTLY

As stated before, and throughout previous communications, our goal is to offer students as much flexibility as possible while maintaining student learning and success in subsequent courses. We are dedicated to helping you maximize your success during your educational experience at Ohio University – and beyond!

REMEMBER: Make sure you meet with your academic advisor. No matter what you decide, please meet with your academic advisor so you can come up with a success strategy TOGETHER.

