

## **Emergency Grading Accommodation for Graduate Students in Spring 2020 Semester**

Due to the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, for the Spring 2020 semester, UWM will expand the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) option for graduate students. This option allows students to take as many of their eligible Spring 2020 courses as they would like with the CR/NC grading option. This applies both to courses with letter grades and to courses with S/U grades.

**Students will be able to change to the CR/NC option after final grades have been given.**

Schools/colleges should apply this emergency policy as liberally as they can, but should make decisions on courses that are ineligible for the CR/NC option in compliance with program standards and requirements of accreditation and licensing boards. For example, the home school, college, department or program can identify key courses as ineligible for CR/NC by this emergency policy to preserve the integrity of the curriculum and future progress to degree.

### **Procedural aspects:**

1. Current limitations on the number and types of courses taken with CR/NC option are suspended for Spring 2020 semester. Graduate courses that will be eligible for CR/NC include U/G courses taken by graduate students for graduate credit, and G courses in masters and doctoral programs and in graduate certificates.
2. Schools/colleges will designate graduate courses that are ineligible for the CR/NC emergency grading accommodation for Spring 2020 and will publish these on or before April 14, 2020.
3. The current requirement of a C- grade to gain credit in CR/NC option will be enforced.
4. Semester and program level credit limits on CR/NC option will be suspended for spring 2020 semester.
5. All courses, including research and thesis/dissertation credits, will be graded as usual and every graduate student will be assigned a letter grade (A through F) or a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) grade in each course that they enrolled in for credit. The grades will be submitted on or before the grade submission deadline, which is May 21, 2020. If students have opted for the CR/NC option, those letter and S/U grades will be converted to CR/NC.
6. Students may opt for the C/NC option for eligible courses from the time this policy takes effect until July 3, 2020. Graduate students may confirm their option of CR/NC grading for eligible courses taken in the Spring 2020 semester by completing a form available from the Graduate School no later than July 3, 2020. Students are encouraged to contact their graduate program directors and major advisors with questions.
7. Graduate students who were making satisfactory progress in a course prior to March 14, 2020 may submit a request to the instructor to receive an Incomplete grade. Such students will receive a letter or S/U grade upon completion of the work. An Incomplete (I) will remain on the transcript for a full year, at which point it will turn into a Permanent Incomplete (PI). The PI can be changed to a grade by the instructor of record for a further full year, and for an additional year after that by filing a Request for

Exception with the Graduate School. It will not automatically change to an F at any point.

8. Graduate students who are enrolled for credit in an internship, practicum, clinical placement, fieldwork, or some other off-campus activity, and cannot complete it in Spring 2020 will not have to re-enroll for credit and pay tuition for these activities again. Campus instructors should issue Incomplete (I) grades for students who have made sufficient progress, and coordinate with off-campus partners at a later date to allow students to complete the placement and receive a final grade. These Incomplete grades will follow the standard conversion provisions defined in item 7.

**Assumptions:**

- Regardless of the grading basis used, reasonable adherence to the UWM credit hour policy specifying time and effort expectations is required for each course whether offered remotely or face-to-face.
- The student learning outcomes established for the course must be met and should not be altered based on the change in grading basis.

**Current Graduate School Grades Policy**

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Faculty Document No. 3204, September 20, 2018 (also Graduate Faculty Committee Doc. No. 1348 Approved January 26, 2015)

[https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/faculty/3204\\_GFC\\_1348\\_P\\_onsolidated.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/faculty/3204_GFC_1348_P_onsolidated.pdf)