

One Stop Student Services

Policy: Grading System & GPA

Grading System

UWM uses a letter grade system that includes "plus" and "minus" grades and is based on a 4.000 scale. For convenience in computing averages, each letter grade carries a specified number of points per credit. The scale of grades and points follows:

In addition, students may be allowed to take a limited number of courses on a "Credit/No Credit" basis, and may enroll on an "Audit" basis in courses for which they do not wish to obtain college credit. The following symbols are used where grade points are not involved:

| Grade | Points per Credit |
|-------|-------------------|
| A | 4.000 Excellent |
| A- | 3.670 |
| B+ | 3.330 |
| B | 3.000 Good |
| B- | 2.670 |
| C+ | 2.330 |

| Grade | Points per Credit |
|----------|-------------------|
| C | 2.000 Fair |
| C- | 1.670 |
| D+ | 1.330 |
| D | 1.000 Poor |
| D- | 0.670 |
| F (0-16) | 0.000 Fail |

In addition, students may be allowed to take a limited number of courses on a "Credit/No Credit" basis, and may enroll on an "Audit" basis in courses for which they do not wish to obtain college credit. The following symbols are used where grade points are not involved:

| Symbol | Value |
|-----------|--|
| I | Incomplete |
| S | Satisfactory (zero credit* and Audit courses only) |
| U | Unsatisfactory (zero credit* courses only) |
| Credit | 'C-' or above (credit/no credit courses only) |
| No Credit | Below 'C-' (credit/no credit courses only) |
| NC | Not completed (audit courses only) |
| Not Rptd | Grade was not submitted in time to be reported |
| W | Course dropped by student after fourth week of semester or first quarter of shorter session |
| WR | Administrative drop (enrollment in course violates permitted number of repeats) |
| #W | Administrative drop (enrollment in course violates permitted number of repeats) effective March 2002 |
| R | Repeat course (counts in GPA) |
| # | Repeat course (does not count in GPA) |

*Except English 090/095, ESL 096, and Math 090/095. Letter grades are assigned for these courses, although they carry no degree or GPA credit.

'F' Grades – Additional Information

Effective Fall 2004, the University modified its system for assigning grades of 'F' in order to comply with federal requirements for students receiving financial aid. When reporting a grade of 'F,' instructors also will report a number corresponding to the student's "week of last participation" in the course. This is the last week of the term for which there is documented evidence of the student's participation in the course. A student receiving the grade of 'F0' would, therefore, be one who never attended or participated, whereas a student grade of 'F16' would signify completion of the entire term. The numeral for "week of last participation" will be reflected on unofficial transcripts and grade reports. On official transcripts, only the grade of 'F' will be reflected.

Grade Point Average

The number of grade points earned in a course is computed by multiplying the points for the grade by the number of credits offered for the course. (Example: a B earned in a three-credit course would give you nine grade points).

The general quality of a student's work is expressed in terms of the grade point average (GPA). This is the total number of grade points earned divided by the total number of GPA credits. The highest possible average is 4.000 or an A in every subject.

The UWM grade point average recorded on your official transcript is based solely upon credits earned or attempted at UWM on a regular graded basis. Even though you may receive credits for course work taken elsewhere, such transfer credits are not counted as part of the GPA at UWM. Some schools and colleges have different standards for GPA calculation and may include transfer work for admission or graduation; see degree requirements within each school/college for specifics. Credits granted by examination or UWM credits taken on an audit or credit/no credit grading basis also are excluded from the official UWM grade point average.

If you are returning to UWM and have not previously earned your bachelor's degree, your cumulative GPA will continue from your last point of enrollment. If you have previously earned your bachelor's degree, you should apply as a 'Second Degree' student. Your credits and GPA will start over with the courses you take upon your return, and your original record cannot be altered.