

**Grand View University will adopt a temporary credit/no credit grading option for undergraduate and graduate courses impacted by the move to online instruction due to COVID-19.**

Details on the credit/no credit option:

- This option applies to any course that was in progress as of March 1, 2020, and all Summer 2020 courses.
- Grades of S (Satisfactory) and U (Unsatisfactory) will not be factored into the student’s grade point average.
- A grade of S means the student has earned credit for the course; a grade of U means the student has not earned credit for the course.
- Students may elect this option for any core course, including composition and quantitative reasoning.
- Students may elect this option for any course in their major, minor, or certificate, with the exception of required courses in the Education, Nursing, and Social Work majors. (Students in these three majors will receive more information from their department chair.)
- Faculty will grade students as usual during the semester, and submit the letter grade (A – F, I) to the Registrar’s Office following the standard submission process.
- Students will choose whether to accept the final course grade as submitted by the instructor, or a S/U designation. The decision must be made according to the dates listed in the below table. Students will submit a form to the Registrar’s Office. If no form is received, the letter grade submitted by the instructor will be recorded as the final grade.
- Credits taken as S/U will not count towards the minimum of 12 graded credits needed to qualify for President’s/Dean’s Lists.

**All students should consider this option very carefully** with their academic advisor, completion coach, or other student success staff. Students in the following categories should be extra cautious before opting in to S/U grading: Students planning on attending graduate/medical school; Students needing to earn conventional grades to improve their GPA or maintain a certain GPA for scholarships, athletic eligibility, or financial aid eligibility. You should consult with your advisor before opting in.

Term	Grades due	S/U opt-in deadline
Spring	Tuesday, April 28	Tuesday, May 5
Session 4	Tuesday, May 5	Tuesday, May 12
May	Tuesday, June 2	Tuesday, June 9
Session 5	Tuesday, June 30	Tuesday, July 7
June	Tuesday, June 30	Tuesday, July 7
Summer Session	Tuesday, July 28	Tuesday, August 4
July	Tuesday, July 28	Tuesday, August 4
Session 6	Tuesday, August 18	Tuesday, August 25

## FAQs

1. **Why are we doing this?** We've made these changes because we want to give you every opportunity to be successful in this semester of extreme disruptions. You are working in an all-online environment that may be unfamiliar and stressful for you, and we know that many instructors feel stressed, too. On top of feeling anxious about health concerns, many of you are feeling anxious about academic matters. We want to reduce some of that anxiety so you can focus on learning and staying healthy.
2. **Who is eligible to choose this option?** Any undergraduate or graduate student enrolled in the spring semester, including students on academic warning or probation.
3. **Which undergraduate courses does the policy apply to?** This temporary policy applies to spring courses in progress as of March 1, 2020, or most Session 4 courses. Any Session 3, Session 4, or Spring course that has a final grade submitted at publication of this temporary policy does not automatically qualify for S/U. The only courses not eligible are courses required in the Education, Nursing, and Social Work majors. Students in those majors will receive an email from their department chair with more information.
4. **How many courses may a student take S/U?** Students may elect to switch to S/U for all, some, or none of their spring/Session 4 courses.
5. **Will courses taken S/U count in my GPA?** No. Students will simply earn credit (S) or not (U).
6. **Is there a limit to the number of courses taken S/U that can count towards the total credits needed for graduation?** Normally, students are limited to 9 credits taken S/U. Courses taken S/U for Spring 2020 will not count in the limit of 9.
7. **Will courses taken S/U count towards my academic program requirements?** With the exception of courses required for the Education, Nursing, and Social Work majors, any course taken S/U for Spring 2020 will count to a student's academic program requirements, even those with a minimum grade requirement.
8. **Will a grade of S work as a prerequisite to other courses?** As long as the grade of S was taken in Spring 2020, the S grade will count as an acceptable grade for a prerequisite course.
9. **How do I opt into S/U?** The Registrar's Office will be developing a form for you to submit. Additional details will be ready soon.
10. **If my overall GPA is under a 2.0, or I am on academic warning/probation, what do I need to think about?** Students are encouraged to talk with their academic advisor or Getting to the Goal advisor before choosing the S/U option. Your GPA may not improve as much as you would like if you choose the S/U option for one or more courses.

11. **I'm a student-athlete trying to maintain eligibility. Can I take courses S/U?** At this time, the NAIA has not issued any specific guidance on courses taken this way. If you are right around a 2.0 GPA, you should talk with the Athletic Success Coordinator and your coach before making this decision. Your GPA may not improve as much as you would like if you choose the S/U option for one or more courses.
12. **Will my instructor know if I select this option?** No. Instructors will submit a letter grade as normal, and if you switch to S/U your instructor will not be notified of your decision.
13. **Will my graduate/medical school accept S/U grades?** This will depend on the institution. Students should work with their academic advisor, or other faculty in their program, to determine if this is the right decision. Students should check their graduate school's website or contact their admissions office to gain more information.
14. **How will this impact my financial aid?** Courses taken S/U are not counted in GPA requirements but they are included in Maximum Timeframe and PACE determinations for your Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Contact the Financial Aid Office if you have questions about a SAP appeal or academic plan.
15. **Will choosing the S/U option impact my Grand View or external scholarships that have a GPA requirement?** Grades of S/U are not factored into a student's grade point average (GPA). The S/U policy will not affect the status of Grand View scholarships. Students should consult with external scholarship providers to determine if there are implications to selection S/U grading.
16. **What happens if I need to submit a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) appeal for financial aid?** Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you have questions about your SAP appeal.
17. **I'm using VA benefits. Can I take courses S/U?** Yes. The VA has determined that if a student receives a nonpunitive grade ("U") due to COVID-19, the VA will still pay for the class.

Details for faculty/staff. PLEASE feel free to contact Debbie Gannon with any questions.

1. Drop a spring semester-long course with a W grade by April 9.
  - a. This would be a good option for students who are not going to be able to pass the course and who do not want the “U” grade to show.
  - b. This would be a good option for students who have significant technology or internet concerns, and who would like to start fresh another time.
  - c. International students will not be able to use this option if it will take them below 12 credits.
  - d. Student-athletes should check with Michelle Prange and their head coach before dropping a course.
  - e. This will not impact full time day students’ financial aid or tuition. However, the W grade could impact SAP/financial aid if they have a lot of Ws and/or Fs.
  - f. Students will need to repeat the course in the future if it is required for their major, minor, or core requirements.
2. Drop a Session 4 course with a W grade by April 9.
  - a. This is the normal last day to drop with a W grade for Session 4.
  - b. This will not impact full time day students’ financial aid or tuition. The W grade could impact SAP/financial aid if they have a lot of Ws.
  - c. This will not impact part time day students’ financial aid or tuition if they are not completely withdrawing.
  - d. If a student is enrolled only in Session 4 courses, and wants to withdraw from all of them, the normal withdrawal policy regarding tuition and financial aid is in effect. They will still need to submit the withdrawal form.
3. Opt into credit/no credit after final grades are posted.
  - a. Satisfactory and Unsatisfactory grades are given in this policy.
  - b. S grade:
    - i. Does not count in the cumulative GPA
    - ii. is equivalent to D- or higher.
    - iii. Student earns course credit.
    - iv. Will apply to all core requirements, including Composition and Quantitative Reasoning.
    - v. Will apply to all major, minor, and certificate courses, including those that require a C or higher.
    - vi. Will not apply to courses that are required for Education, Nursing, and Social Work.
    - vii. Will apply to all graduate courses, but with graduate courses, an S is equivalent to C (No D grades are given at the graduate level).
  - c. U grade:
    - i. is equivalent to F.
    - ii. Student does not earn course credit.
    - iii. Student will need to repeat course if it is required for core, major, minor, or certificate.

- d. Students may not count S/U courses towards the minimum of 12 credits needed to qualify for President's/Dean's Lists.