Spring 2020 Grading Policy Changes FAQs for Students

Who gets to choose whether or not to take a course via the original grading scale or Credit / No Credit?

The student has the opportunity to choose which of their spring 2020 courses, if any, they want to convert from an A-F grading scale to Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC). Faculty will continue to enter grades as usual, but the grade will be presented on your transcript based on your choice for the course. You can decide to make changes to one course, a few or all of your courses as is best for you. Before making any changes we strongly encourage you to meet with your academic advisor.

Are there reasons I shouldn't convert my grades to Credit / No Credit?

That depends on your personal circumstances. Students in many programs, including those leading to credentials, licensures and graduate degrees, may be better served by earning traditional letter grades. You should meet with your academic advisor or attend a Spring 2020 Grading Options Workshop.

When do I need to decide to change to Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC) for my course?

Between May 11 and June 8 (the last day of instruction for Spring 2020) you will be able to change the grading option for your course in MyCoyote. From June 9 to June 30 there will be an additional option for you to petition to change your grade scale through the Office of the Registrar.

If I choose Credit / No Credit (CR/NC) what grade do I need to earn in my class to get a CR grade?

Undergraduate students will need to earn at least a C- in a course they elect to take as Credit / No Credit to receive a CR grade. Graduate students will need to earn at least a B- in a course they elect to take as Credit / No Credit to earn a CR grade.

What happens if I fail a course but did not choose Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC) before the grade posted?

Undergraduate students who earn an F in any course during the Spring 2020 term will automatically have that grade changed to No Credit (NC) on their transcript by the Office of the Registrar. Similarly, graduate students who earn a D or F in a course during the Spring 2020 term will automatically have that grade changed to No Credit (NC) on their transcript by the Office of the Registrar. No action is required on your part for the transcript to update.

Will there be a delay in grade posting or graduation processing due to the changes being made?

The Office of the Registrar is committed to managing end-of-term processes as expeditiously as possible. The grade submission deadline for the Spring 2020 term is June 16, 2020, and end-of-term processing will begin at that time. Students who elect to petition to have a grade change completed after grades have posted may see a considerable delay in updates to their transcripts to allow for end-of-term processing to be completed.

Will changing grades to Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC) affect my ability to complete major, general education, golden four or graduation requirements?

Departments and GE, including the Golden Four, must accept Credit grades earned in Spring 2020 toward major and graduation requirements. Additionally, courses completed in Spring 2020 with a Credit/No Credit grade do not count toward a unit cap of Credit/No Credit courses.

What happens if I withdraw from a course this term? Will this affect my ability to withdraw from courses at a later time?

Any withdrawals from the Spring 2020 term will be reported as W grades and will not count toward the 28 unit limit for Ws. Students withdrawing from courses for the Spring 2020 term who already have 28 units of W on their transcripts will have Ws reported instead of WU grades.

Will my transcripts reflect the changes to the policies occurring this term?

CSUSB has decided to make a notation on transcripts to acknowledge the unusual circumstances faced by students during the Winter 2020 and Spring 2020 terms.

A notation will be placed on the transcript under any Winter 2020 coursework that states: "A portion of the Winter 2020 Quarter, including final exams, was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic."

A notation will be placed on the transcript under any Spring 2020 coursework that states: "Spring 2020 was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, necessitating temporary changes to University policies. This transcript may include Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grades or withdrawals (W). To receive Credit (CR) for a course, the grade earned in an undergraduate course is equivalent to a C- grade or better, and for graduate courses is equivalent to a B- or better."

I've applied to CSUSB for graduate school. How will Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC) grade impact my ability to enroll in my program?

Spring 2020 Credit/No Credit grades will not affect a student's admissions into a CSUSB graduate program as long as they meet the minimum program requirements and their transcripts show a conferred bachelor's degree or master's degree, or Ed.D., as appropriate.

I am concerned that I may be disqualified from CSUSB due to my Spring 2020 grades. Are there any changes to the disqualification process for this term due to the COVID-19 situation?

Students who are subject to academic disqualification at the end of Spring 2020 will be permitted to remain enrolled at CSUSB and placed on continued academic probation. An academic advisor will contact these students to provide proactive advising. The policy on administrative disqualification will remain in effect with an exception for Spring 2020.

I was supposed to be completing requirements for an incomplete grade this semester but cannot due to the current circumstances. Will I receive an IC grade at the end of the Spring 2020 term?

Incomplete grades that would have reverted to IC at the end of Spring 2020 will automatically be extended to the end of the Fall 2020 semester before they have lapsed. Similarly, RP grades that would have reverted to F or NC at the end of Spring 2020 will automatically be extended to the end of the Fall 2020 semester before they have lapsed.

I was working toward grade forgiveness this term, but the change in instructional modality has affected my expected outcome. Can I retake the course again?

Students attempting grade forgiveness for a course in Spring 2020 will not have this attempt count toward the maximum number of allowable units for grade forgiveness.

I was expecting to be on the Dean's List for this term but have decided to take courses as Credit / No Credit (CR/NC or ABC-/NC). Will this impact my ability to earn the distinction?

The "12 or more units for which letter grades were received" eligibility requirement for Spring 2020 Dean's List, Letter, and Presidential Letter of Recognition will be waived. Students must earn some graded units to be considered for these recognitions.