Spring 2020 UB Grading Policy FAQs 4-17-20

What is the credit/no-credit option? The Credit/No-Credit Option expired on June 1, 2020.

Instructors, except those in the School of Law, will assign a letter grade. Students may opt to accept the regular grade assigned by the instructor or choose the **Credit / No-Credit** option. A web form for choosing the Credit/No Credit option is available in your MyUB at https://www.ubalt.edu/secure/cnc/index.cfm. Please note that this special grading option does not apply to the first 7-week spring terms, for which final grades were due March 17. For students selecting this option, the Registrar will convert the letter grade based on the following:

- A grade of C- or higher will convert to a CREDIT **(CR)** grade, which is not calculated into the GPA.
- For undergraduates, a grade of D, D+ or D- will convert to a Credit with a D **(CRD)** grade; credits will be earned but not calculated into the GPA. Undergraduate students may receive subsequent advising to assess if they are at-risk of not succeeding in subsequent courses.
- A grade of F will convert to a No-Credit **(NC)** grade, which will not earn credit and not be calculated into the GPA. The No-Credit grade will *not* satisfy any requirements.
- A grade of XF or TG may not be changed to a No-Credit (NC) option.

Incompletes are, of course, available and faculty are encouraged to be flexible with these. The usual incomplete policy and procedures apply**, except that students may request these from now forward**. Withdrawal dates have been moved to the last day of class for UG and GR. Graduating students have up to 60 days after the end of the term to complete the requirements, and others must have a grade reported before December 1, when the Incomplete would otherwise convert to an F grade. **Incomplete Form**

The School of Law will have a Credit/No Credit grading model for all courses. The policy affects all JD students. Advanced Professional Degree (APD) programs in the School of Law may opt to follow the policy. Further details are being communicated through the School of Law for JD and APD students.

There is no limit on the number of spring 2020 courses/credits allowed under the Credit/No-Credit option (see graduate exceptions described below). *Student transcripts will include a comment stating that Spring 2020 courses were completed during a state and national emergency.*

Will the Credit/No-Credit option count toward program and graduation requirements?

Undergraduate Credits: A Spring 2020 grade of CREDIT **(CR)** will satisfy all general education, graduation requirements, prerequisite, and major requirements – without exceptions. A grade of CREDIT with a D **(CRD)** may be used toward graduation and would be a sufficient grade only for a general elective course (not a major elective course or other requirement). Undergraduate students taking graduate courses for an accelerated program will be subject to any special

graduate policies that apply to their graduate courses. A CRD grade will not satisfy the English composition requirement.

Graduate Credits: Because of varying professional requirements, individual graduate programs may require the usual letter grades for one or more graduate courses. Graduate students will receive a notice from their respective Graduate Program Director, Chair, or Dean of any courses that are exempt from the Credit/No-Credit option no later than April 16. If a course has not been identified as requiring a letter grade for spring 2020, then a CREDIT (CR) grade will be sufficient for meeting program requirements.

What is the timeline for withdrawing from a course and/or switching to the Credit/No-Credit option?

While this temporary change is designed to reduce stress in a time of rapid change, it is important for students to understand that the Credit/No-Credit option is not a good choice in all cases. Before requesting this option, students are advised to consult first with academic advisors and the Office of Financial Aid to understand the full ramifications of such a decision for their particular academic major, career path, and financial aid standing.

- To support student flexibility during this time, we are extending the last day to WITHDRAW from a class to the last day of classes for the term in which a student is enrolled (April 17 for 10-week courses, May 10 for 15-week courses, and May 12 for the second 7-week session).
- Undergraduate and graduate students may request a change to the Credit/No-Credit option no later than June 1; students in the Graduate Tax program will have a distinct date. This timing allows students the opportunity to see the letter grade posted by their faculty before making an opt-in decision. Details about how students can select this grading option will be posted on the Office of Records and Registration website later in April, and Records will communicate directly with students about this process.
- Students who opt-in for the credit/no-credit grading will not see an updated transcript until mid-June.

Are there other restrictions or considerations?

- Students on academic probation may opt in to credit/no credit grading, but again, that option may not be in their best interest.
- Graduate students may still be suspended or dismissed from a program for academic reasons; each case will be considered individually.
- Students who are repeating a course to replace an earlier grade and who opt for the credit/no-credit grade may do so and have the earlier grade excluded from the GPA. A no-credit (NC) will leave the earlier grade in the GPA.
- Dean's List still requires at least 12 semester credits calculated into the GPA.

- Students applying to a graduate or professional program that requires letter grades may request in writing that the Office of Records and Registration provide letter grades for those courses in which credit (CR) was awarded.
- Courses with a CS grading option will not be available for credit / no-credit.
- Honors courses graded with a CR, but not with a CRD, will count towards the total number of honors credits needed for Denit Honors.
- After the grade change form closes, graduation processing will begin. Remember that no grades can be changed when a degree has posted, so selecting CR/CRD/NC must be done by the deadline (June 1 for all but the LLM Taxation).
- As always, students with special circumstances should reach out to their advisor for further guidance. The Office of Student Support is also ready to guide students who have extraordinary life circumstances at this time.

Additional Information regarding the Alternate Grading can be found at:
Alternate Grading Information COVID19