

## Adjustments to FSOP Academic Policies for Spring and Summer 2020

### Letter Grading Policy (adapted from 2019-2020 FSOP Student Handbook)

From the current FSOP Student Handbook, the standard grading scale of "A, B+, B, C+, C, D, F" is used in awarding grades within the Feik School of Pharmacy; IPPEs are graded on a "Pass" or "Fail" basis. A final grade of "Pass," a letter grade of "C" or better, or a "Satisfactory" is required for acceptable progression in a course, IPPE, or APPE\*.

For spring 2020 courses completed on or before March 6, 2020, a final grade of "Fail" or a letter grade lower than a "C" will result in an academic infraction.

For spring 2020 courses completed after March 6, 2020 and for summer 2020 courses, a final grade of "Fail," a letter grade lower than "C," or an "Unsatisfactory" will require remediation or a repeat of the course, as outlined below and in the 2019-2020 FSOP Student Handbook; however, the grade will not result in an academic infraction.

All letter grades will be awarded according to the following scale:

Percentage	Letter Grade	Quality Points	Spring 2020 Grading Option
100 to 90	A	4.0	Letter Grade or Satisfactory
89 to 87	B+	3.3	Letter Grade or Satisfactory
86 to 80	B	3.0	Letter Grade or Satisfactory
79 to 77	C+	2.3	Letter Grade or Satisfactory
76 to 70	C	2.0	Letter Grade or Satisfactory
69 to 65	D	1.0	Letter Grade or Unsatisfactory
64 and below	F	0.0	Letter Grade or Unsatisfactory

- Faculty continue to report only the letter grade through Bannerweb.
- Students have the option to "opt-in" and change the grade to Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory based on the scale above. No action is needed for the letter grade to remain as reported to the Registrar by faculty.
- Students have 18 months following completion of the course to make this selection (and may make up to two changes).

\*NOTE: APPEs grades are denoted A, B, C, F. A grade of A, B, or C is "Satisfactory," while a grade of F is "Unsatisfactory."

The Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading option applies to all spring and summer 2020 courses in the FSOP program completed after March 6, 2020. Letter grades will remain and are unable to be changed for spring 2020 courses that were completed on or before March 6, 2020.

#### *Acceptable Progress*

A minimum grade of C, "Pass," or "Satisfactory" is required for the satisfactory completion of all pharmacy courses. Completion of all courses in each professional year is required prior to progression to the subsequent professional years. All didactic course work must be satisfactorily completed prior to beginning the fourth professional year.

*A final course grade of "D," "F," "Fail," or "Unsatisfactory"*

For spring 2020 courses completed on or before March 6, 2020, a final course grade of "D," "F," or "Fail" is considered an academic infraction.

A final course grade of "D," "F," "Fail," or "Unsatisfactory" will not be considered an academic infraction for spring or summer 2020 courses completed after March 6, 2020.

"D" grades (including those claimed as "Unsatisfactory" on the student transcript) must be removed either through remediation (see Remediation Policy) or by retaking the course in order for a student to progress to the subsequent professional year of the program. "F" or "Fail" grades (including those claimed as "Unsatisfactory" on the student transcript) require the student to retake the course at the next regularly scheduled full offering of the course.

*Course Withdrawal*

For spring 2020 courses completed on or before March 6, 2020, a withdrawal from a course which is granted pursuant to a student's request will count as an academic infraction.

For spring 2020 courses completed after March 6, 2020, a withdrawal from a course which is granted pursuant to a student's request will not count as an academic infraction. Withdrawal from a course at the request of the Office of Student Affairs will also not count as an academic infraction. The deadline for withdrawal from a course for spring 2020 is May 18, 2020.

In the case of any withdrawal, a student must retake the course during the next regularly scheduled full offering of the course, which will result in delayed graduation.

*A final course grade of "IP" (In Progress)*

In a case in which a final grade of "IP" is warranted, the student and the instructor will, before the time grades are submitted, agree upon the time frame (up to a maximum of one semester) and requirements necessary for removal of the "IP" grade. Approval by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs is required for issuance of an "IP" grade. If all requirements for removal of the "IP" grade are not met within the allotted time, the "IP" grade will be converted to a grade of "F" or "Fail" resulting in an academic infraction.

NOTE: Successful completion of remediation or successful retake of a course allows for academic progression; however, it does not eradicate the original academic infraction (if a spring 2020 course completed on or before March 6, 2020).

*This document is not a replacement of and is intended to be used in conjunction with the 2019-2020 FSOP Student Handbook (available at: [https://pharmacy.uiw.edu/docs/studenthandbook\\_catalog\\_2019\\_20.pdf](https://pharmacy.uiw.edu/docs/studenthandbook_catalog_2019_20.pdf)).*

## **Summary of Adjustments**

- Updates to the FSOP academic policies are applicable to spring and summer 2020 courses completed after March 6, 2020 (last day before the transition to online education secondary to COVID-19). These updates do not apply to courses completed on or before March 6, 2020.
- Students will continue to earn letter grades using the criteria outlined in course syllabi and the FSOP Student Handbook. At the end of each course, faculty will continue to assign letter grades to students and report earned letter grades to the UIW Registrar.
- At the end of the semester, students may “opt-in” and choose to receive a grade of Satisfactory (“S”) or Unsatisfactory (“U”) instead of the traditional grade. Before making this decision, students should meet with the Office of Student Affairs to discuss a grade change for your individual situation (goal is to make sure students are making informed decisions).
  - The “S” or “U” grade will be reflected on the transcript in place of the traditional letter grade.
  - The decision to receive an “S” or a “U” can be made on a course-by-course basis (i.e., can be done for one, multiple, or all courses in the applicable time period).
  - An “S” grade counts toward degree requirements.
  - An “S” grade does not count toward GPA calculations.
  - Students may request a change to “S” or “U” up to 18 months after the course is complete.
    - Students who request a change to “S” or “U” may later request to switch the grade back to the letter grade for up to 18 months after the course is complete.
    - Students may make up to two total changes for any course within the 18 month period (e.g., if first request change to “S” or “U,” and then later request a return to the letter grade, the letter grade becomes the final and permanent grade for the course in the transcript).
- On or before May 18, 2020, students may request to be withdrawn from any individual course in the applicable time period and receive a “W” in place of the earned letter grade. “W” grades do not count as academic infractions (for applicable spring 2020 courses) or have any effect on GPA; however, courses with a “W” grade must be retaken at the next regularly scheduled offering (and will result in delayed graduation).

## **Process for Changing Letter Grades to Satisfactory ("S") or Unsatisfactory ("U")**

### ***If I want to change an earned letter grade to Satisfactory ("S") or Unsatisfactory ("U"), what do I need to do?***

After the semester is complete if you would like to change an earned letter grade to "S" or "U", the process is:

- Set up an appointment with Ms. Kristen Dicianna or Ms. Elizabeth Hernandez in the Office of Student Affairs (OSA).
- Ms. Dicianna or Ms. Hernandez will coordinate a three-person meeting with you, your faculty mentor, and a member of OSA.
  - The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the pros and cons of a grade change for your situation and allow you to make an informed decision.
  - After this meeting, OSA will provide you with information with how to request the grade change through the Registrar's office.

### ***Which courses are excluded from this policy (i.e., which courses were completed on or before March 6, 2020)?*** The following courses were completed on or before March 6, 2020 and are excluded from this policy:

- Class of 2020
  - PHAR 6101: Pharmacotherapeutics Conference (completed 2/7/2020)
  - APPE 5 rotations (completed 2/14/2020)
- Class of 2021
  - PHAR 5443: PT X – CNS (completed 2/18/2020)
  - PHAR 5190: Natural Dietary Supplements (block 1 elective)
- Class of 2022
  - PHAR 4245: PT IV – Renal (completed 1/31/2020)
- Class of 2023
  - PHAR 3123: Pharmaceutics III (completed 2/7/2020)

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***Is the S/U system required for everyone or can we individually pick per class on whether we want to keep our letter grade or choose the S/U designation?***

The default reporting system is the letter grade. Individual students may "opt-in" and pick to select the S/U designation for one, multiple, or all courses ongoing after March 6, 2020 or summer 2020. It is not a blanket decision for all students.

### ***Will selecting S/U for courses have a negative effect on career and post-graduate opportunities?***

We do not know. It is possible that employers and residency programs could ask students with S/U about these designations upon review of transcripts. We believe it would be a good idea to be prepared to discuss the situation and your decision if asked.

### ***How does this affect GPA?***

Courses designated as S/U will not factor into GPA calculations and do not have any effect (positive or negative) on GPA.

### ***Are other schools doing this?***

Many institutions of higher education across the nation are considering or have finalized similar proposals in response to the disruption caused by current events.

### ***How does a designation of S/U affect remediation?***

Remediation will not be affected. We will maintain records of numerical course grades, and a numerical course grade between 65 and 70 may still be eligible for remediation. A numerical course grade less than 65 will not be eligible for remediation.