

GRADING POLICIES

Grades are submitted to the Registrar at the end of the semester. Grades can be viewed online by students in SIS. Students may designate authorized users to view final course grades in SIS.

Grades and Grade Point Average Points

Each grade corresponds to a numerical grade point equivalent to allow the computation of a grade point average. S and U grades have no effect on grade point average. The grades and their grade point equivalents are as follows:

Grade	Performance	GPA Points
A+	Excellent	4.0
A	Excellent	4.0
A-	Excellent	3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B	Good	3.0
B-	Good	2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C	Satisfactory	2.0
C-	Satisfactory	1.7
D+	Passing	1.3
D	Passing	1.0
F	Failure	0.0
S	Satisfactory (C- and above)	N/A
U	Unsatisfactory (D+ and below)	N/A

Other marks are used in special circumstances as follows:

Letter	Definition
FEV	Failure - ethics violation
I/Grade	Incomplete/Reversion Grade (incomplete grade reverts to this letter grade at deadline unless alternate grade is submitted prior to that deadline)
MR	Missing grade roster
MT	Multi-term
NG	No grade given, course completed
W	Official withdrawal
X	No grade reported by instructor

Grade Points and Grade Point Average

To determine the grade point average, multiply the grade point equivalent by the number of credits for the course. Add the products (grade points earned), then divide the total by the number of credits in the computation.

A Sample Calculation of a Grade Point Average

Grade	Credit	Grade Point Equivalent	Grade Points Earned
A-	4	3.7	14.8
B	3	3	9

B-	3	2.7	8.1
C+	3	2.3	6.9
TOTAL	13		38.8
GPA = 38.8/13 =			
2.98			

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grades

Undergraduates may select one course each semester and summer (across all summer terms) to take for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory credit. Students indicate their S/U choice on an add/drop form. Arts and Sciences students need the advising office approval for courses within their major and/or for writing intensive courses. Engineering students need approval from their faculty advisor. Course instructors are unaware of which students in a class are registered for S/U credit. Instructors submit letter grades to the Registrar for all students in their course.

Students must decide whether to take a course on a S/U basis by the end of the eleventh week of the semester. This deadline applies to all courses, even those which may not have any graded work assigned or returned before the end of the eleventh week.

S/U grades have no effect on a student's grade point average. On the academic transcript, students who earn a grade of C- or above in a S/U course receive Satisfactory credit and a mark of S is entered on the academic record. Students who earn a grade below C- in a S/U course receive no credit and a mark of Unsatisfactory is recorded on the academic record.

Under certain conditions, graduating students in their eighth semester or later may exceed the normal S/U grading limit. See Graduation Policies for details.

Restrictions on Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading

The S/U option applies only to courses in the fall, spring and summer terms in the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Engineering. Only one course per semester or summer (across all summer terms) may be taken with the S/U grading option. However, an eligible student who registers for a course that is only offered for S/U grading may select an additional course for S/U grading in the same semester. Language elements courses must be taken for a letter grade.

If a student has taken a course for S/U credit and then changes to a major or minor that requires the course, the grade can be changed to a letter grade before graduation with the approval of the student's academic advising office and the director of undergraduate studies for the relevant major or minor. If the S grade is acceptable for the new major or minor, the S grade will not be converted to a letter grade.

Incomplete Grades

Students who are confronted with compelling circumstances beyond their control which interfere with the ability to complete their semester's work during the normal course of a term may request an incomplete grade from the instructor. Approval of such a request is neither automatic nor guaranteed. Procrastination or distraction by other pursuits are not regarded as compelling circumstances, and extensions in these situations are unfair to students who have completed their course requirements within the allotted time.

If the instructor agrees to grant an incomplete grade, the instructor and student must establish a timetable for submitting the unfinished work, but no later than the end of the third week of the subsequent semester. See below for specific information about graduating students (p. 2).

When entering an incomplete grade in SIS, the instructor must also enter a reversion grade. This is the grade that the student will receive if the missing work is not completed. For example, if the student, based on the coursework completed by the end of the semester, would receive a C+ grade without the missing work, then the grade of I/C+ is entered on the transcript. If the incomplete grade is not resolved within the allowed period (the end of the third week of the subsequent semester), the incomplete grade is automatically converted to the reversion grade (a C+ in this example).

Students who are in good academic standing have until the end of the third week of the subsequent semester to finish incomplete work. Exceptions to this deadline require a petition from the instructor, and appeal to the student's respective academic advising office before the end of the third week of the subsequent semester. When appealing to change the deadline, faculty members must specify a new date for completion of the work which must be before the end of the current semester. Incomplete grades cannot be held over to another semester in order to complete the missing work by retaking the course. Students and instructors do not have an option in this situation.

Incomplete grades do not affect a student's grade point average, which is based upon the grades that are available for the term. However, students with three or more incomplete grades on their record at the start of a semester may be prevented from making changes to their registration for the semester without the approval of the student's respective academic advising office.

Students who are on academic probation are not allowed to take incomplete grades in courses without the approval of their respective academic advising office. Unauthorized incomplete grades will be treated as failures when evaluating the work of students who are on academic probation. Authorized incomplete grades must be resolved no later than the deadline established by the student's respective academic advising office if the student is on academic probation.

Special Rules for Graduating Students

Students with incomplete grades in required courses at the date of degree conferral will not graduate. Students with incomplete grades in courses that are not required for degree completion may still graduate. However, the deadline for completion is abbreviated; students must resolve incomplete grades within 30 days of degree conferral when the university closes the undergraduate record. If the work is not finished by the deadline, the reversion grade will be recorded. For the specific deadline relevant to each degree conferral, please consult with Academic Advising or the Office of the Registrar. For more details on incomplete grades and graduation, see Graduation Policies.

Policy on Changing a Grade

Once an instructor has submitted a grade to the Registrar, grade changes can be made only in the case of error in grading, calculation, or transcription. Students with questions about grading should contact the faculty instructor who has sole authority to assess and assign course grades. If the instructor determines a change is warranted because of error, the change must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the end of the subsequent semester. Grade changes for graduating seniors must be submitted by the close of the undergraduate record.

Under extenuating circumstances when the student has engaged the services of the case managers in the Office of the Dean of Student Life,

the following procedure may be used to withdraw a student from a previously graded course:

- Support for changing a grade to a withdrawal must be submitted by the Office of the Dean of Student Life to either the Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Advising or the Office of Engineering Advising
- Such support must include the last date of attendance, and the instructor's approval
- The Registrar's Office will process the course withdrawal, and notate the academic record upon receipt of approval documentation
- Late withdrawals may adversely affect a student's academic standing and/or financial aid satisfactory academic progress even with official approval

Retaking a Course

Policies about retaking a course are located under registration policies.

First-Year Language Courses: Information about Credit and Grades

Policies about first-year language course are located under registration policies.

Dean's List

Students who earn a term grade point average of 3.50 or above in a program of at least 14 credits with at least 12 graded credits will be placed on the Dean's List for academic excellence. Students with the SDS accommodation to be on a reduced course load and are opting to use that accommodation can earn Dean's List if they earned a 3.5 or better in 8-11 credits of which at least 7 are completed with a letter grade. An appropriate notation is made on the student's academic record. Letters are sent to parents/guardians by the student's respective academic advising office. By request, the university will place notification in your hometown newspaper, should you elect to follow the directions provided with the letter.

Class Rank

The university does not calculate class rank and therefore, cannot provide this information to students or outside parties.

Transcripts

Information about ordering transcripts is available on the Registrar's website (<https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/registrar/students/transcripts/>). Partial transcripts of a student's record will not be issued.

Class Attendance and Absences

Although there are no university regulations concerning attendance, students are expected to attend all courses regularly. When students have missed classes, they should consult with their instructors and/or teaching assistants to explain the reasons for their absence, and to stay on track in the course. Instructors are encouraged to establish their own policies regarding attendance, and it is the student's responsibility to know those policies.

In certain courses regular attendance is given special importance. These may include foreign language courses, as well as introductory courses in Writing Seminars, and Expository Writing. Instructors in these courses may lower a student's grade for unexcused absences.

If a student is absent from classes over a period of several days without explanation, instructors are encouraged to inform the student's respective academic advising office. In some cases, withdrawing from a course may be considered; however, the student must withdraw from a course before the end of the eleventh week of the semester, and still remain in at least 12 credits.

the course. Students have also been allowed to take the examination, or an alternative examination, upon their return from the athletic event.

Absence From Class Due to Illness

The Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC) does not provide excuses for students who miss individual classes, including required attendance classes or labs. For students who are seen at the SHWC for a serious or extended illness that causes them to miss a number of classes over several days and/or to miss major academic assignments (mid-terms examinations, major presentations), the SHWC will provide verification of the visit to the student directly, and alert the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Verification will not be provided retroactively. It is the student's responsibility to forward the verification to any professors/instructors who request it. For more information, also see this website (<https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/student-life/student-outreach-support/absences-from-class/>).

Since the absence from a final examination is excused only for the most serious of circumstances, the SHWC will provide verification of the visit for those students who are seen at the SHWC for treatment **at the time of their illness only**.

Students should be guided by the following:

1. Ask instructors about expectations for class attendance and what procedures they will follow for students who miss class or assignments. Such policies are determined by each instructor and will differ from class to class.
2. In the event of a missed class or inability to complete course work due to illness, contact the instructor to make necessary arrangements to make up any work.
3. Notify the professor promptly by email. This should be done **before** the missed class unless it is not possible to do so (for example, if hospitalized or incapacitated). In cases where prior notification is not possible, notify the professor **as soon as possible**.
4. Misrepresenting personal circumstances to a faculty member, SHWC staff, or any university official constitutes academic dishonesty and is grounds for action by the Academic Ethics Board.

Absence for Religious Holidays

Religious holidays are valid reasons to be excused from class. Students who must miss a class or an examination because of a religious holiday must inform the instructor as early in the semester as possible in order to be excused from class or to make up any work that is missed.

Approved Absences

The university encourages students to participate in varsity athletics and other significant extracurricular activities. Students who must miss a class or an examination because of participation in a scheduled in-season varsity athletic event must notify the course instructor as early in the semester as possible. Approved absences are granted at the discretion of the course instructor. When students must miss a scheduled examination, several solutions have been found by instructors. Students have been permitted to take an examination before leaving for the event, or have had an approved proctor for examinations taken during the athletic event at approximately the same time as the other students in