



Graduate School Policy on Grading	
Responsible Official: Provost	Responsible Office: Registrar

Policy Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to define the credits and grades that are included in the calculation of the graduate grade point average (Graduate GPA).

Policy Statement

I. Graduate GPA.

The Graduate GPA is used for, but not limited to, determining a student's status with regard to:

- A. financial aid eligibility;
- B. probation;
- C. NCAA eligibility; and
- D. graduation.

II. Coursework included in calculation of Graduate GPA.

Only coursework earned at ETSU will be used to calculate the Graduate GPA. Transfer credits from coursework earned at another institution will not be computed in the Graduate GPA.

- A. When calculating the Graduate GPA, quality points earned in a course are based on the final grade earned in the course.
- B. The quality points and meaning assigned to each grade for the purposes of calculating the Graduate GPA are as follows:

Final Grade	Meaning	Quality Points
A	Clear Excellence	4.0
A-		3.7
B+		3.3

B	Satisfactory Performance	3.0
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Minimum Passing Grade	2.0
F		0

- C. A grade of “F” indicates the student failed the course. If a grade of “F” is earned in a Pass/Fail course, the credits attempted for that course are included in the calculation of the Graduate GPA.

III. Coursework not included in calculation of Graduate GPA.

- A. A grade of “P” indicates satisfactory completion of a Pass/Fail course, but carries no credit for the purposes of calculating the Graduate GPA and is not included in the calculation of the Graduate GPA.
- B. The grades of “S” (Satisfactory Completion), “SP” (Satisfactory Progress), and “U” (Unsatisfactory) are given for Readings and Research, Capstone Projects, Thesis, and Dissertation coursework. These grades are not included in the calculation of the student’s Graduate GPA.
1. A grade of “S” or “P” carries graduate credit and indicates satisfactory completion of the course. Each program must specify the number of hours required for Thesis/Dissertation. Degree completion requires a grade of “S” on the most recent hours associated with Thesis/Dissertation or Readings and Research.
 2. A grade of “SP” indicates progress toward project or research completion. Students who receive an “SP” must, in subsequent semesters (including summer), enroll in additional hours of Thesis/Dissertations or Readings and Research until the requirements are completed.
 3. A grade of “U” carries no credit and indicates unsatisfactory progress toward research or project completion. Students who receive a “U” must enroll in the course the following semester, including summer. The “U” is equivalent to an “F”. The first “U” does not affect the Graduate GPA; however, all subsequent “U” grades will convert to an “F” and will be included in the calculation of the Graduate GPA.

IV. Repeated Graduate Coursework.

If a student repeats a course, all grades earned in that course are calculated in the Graduate GPA. Any additional grades earned when a course is repeated will not replace the original grade earned.

Authority: Focus Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-8-203, et. seq.

Definitions

N/A

Policy History

Revised: 01/20/2020

Effective Date: 2/21/2022

Procedure (s)

I. Procedures for Calculating Graduate GPA:

The procedure for calculating the Graduate GPA is as follows:

- A. total all quality points earned by a student in all courses attempted as indicated in this policy (Total Quality Points); and
- B. divide the Totally Quality Points by the total number of credits attempted by the student that are permissible credits under this policy to be included in the Graduate GPA.

II. Examples of Calculated Graduate GPA:

- A. Student with no pass/fail coursework.

Course	Grade	Quality Points		Credits		Quality Points for Course
1	B	3	x	3	=	9
2	A	4	x	4	=	16
3	C	2	x	3	=	6
4	C	2	x	3	=	6
5	A	4	x	<u>3</u>	=	<u>12</u>
Total				16		49

49 Total Quality Points divided by 16 credits = GPA of 3.06

- B. Student with pass/fail coursework.

Course	Grade	Quality Points		Credits		Quality Points for Course
1	B	3	x	3	=	9

2	A	4	x	3	=	12
3	B	3	x	4	=	12
4-P/F	P	N/A	x	N/A	=	N/A
5-P/f	F	0	x	<u>3</u>	=	<u>0</u>
Total				13		33

31 Total Quality Points divided by 13 credits = GPA of 2.53

Procedure History

Effective Date: 2/21/2022

Related Form(s)

N/A

Scope and Applicability

Primary: Academics
 Secondary: Students