

Scholastic Requirements

Grades and Grade Points

Sam Houston State University's grade system consists of five grades:

Grade	Description	Grade Points Per Semester Hour
A	Excellent	4
B	Above average	3
C	Average	2
D	Passing (not necessarily satisfying degree requirements)	1
F	Failure	0

Note: All of the above grades will be used in grade point average (GPA) calculations.

The following marks are assigned but are not used in the grade point average calculations:

X (Incomplete)

The mark X indicates that the student has not been able to complete the course because of emergency circumstances beyond the student's control. These circumstances usually prevail over other drop dates and opportunities to withdraw from the course. When the student is given the X mark, it is assumed that the student will be able to finish the course without further instruction or tutoring from the faculty member in charge of the course. Permission to award the mark of X is granted only by the chair of the academic department involved with the recommendation of the instructor. If the student meets the prescribed requirements of the course before the end of the next academic semester (Summer school, two sessions, is considered a unit equivalent to a long semester) after the X is given, the student will receive the grade earned; otherwise, the mark X will be automatically changed to the grade of F. X is assigned to undergraduate courses.

IP (In Progress)

Assigned to thesis and other selected courses requiring additional time to complete course

requirements.

CR (Credit)

Designates that academic credit was earned for the course. Hours earned with the mark of CR are counted in determining classification.

NC (Non-Credit)

Assigned for failure to complete satisfactorily the requirements for selected courses.

Q (Q-drop)

Assigned to courses dropped on or after the 13th class day (5th class day for summer sessions) and prior to the first day for which a letter grade must be assigned. Students are allowed no more than 5 Q-drops. Students are encouraged to visit their advisor prior to dropping a course.

WQ (Withdrew during the Q-drop period)

Assigned when a student withdraws from all of his/her courses after the 13th class day and prior to the first day for which a letter grade must be assigned. (see note below)

WP/WF (Withdrew Passing/Withdrew Failing)

Students who resign after the first nine weeks of a regular semester or after the first two weeks of a summer session and prior to the stated resignation deadline receive a mark of WP (withdrew passing) or WF (withdrew failing) for each course for which they are enrolled. Students who resign from the University while enrolled in a course whose duration is less than a normal term will receive a mark of WP or WF if they resign after one-half of that course time has been completed. The mark of WP or WF is the responsibility of the student's instructor.

(Developmental Course Designation)

Assigned to developmental courses which are not assigned a letter grade.

Note: Class days are University class days, not the number of days an individual class meets. Class days are to be counted from the first class meeting of on-campus daytime courses as indicated in the Academic Calendar.

Determining Grade Point Average (GPA)

The grade point average is calculated by dividing the grade points earned by the total hours attempted toward the degree. The total hours attempted toward the degree excludes hours in developmental courses and courses assigned a CR (credit) or NC (non-credit) mark. The grade point average is carried out two decimals (2.00) and is not rounded.

Grade points are computed for a given semester on the basis of semester hours attempted. A course attempted, for grade point average purposes, is defined as one in which the student receives a grade of A, B, C, D, or F, excluding developmental courses.

For grade point average purposes, the number of hours attempted increases each time a student is assigned a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) for a course with the following exceptions:

- Once a course has been completed and a passing letter grade (minimum grade of D) has been assigned, a student may re-enroll in that course in order to increase their GPA without an increase in hours attempted.
- A student earning a letter grade of F in the initial attempt of a course and completing that course a second time will not have the number of hours attempted increase as a result of the second attempt.

A student receiving a grade believed to be in error after the grade is reported should request a review of this grade upon receipt. The review of the grade should be made with the instructor involved. Please refer to Student Guidelines.

