

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

GRADING SYMBOLS

In undergraduate courses (numbered below 500) and independent work

| | |
|-----|--|
| A+ | Exceptional; significantly exceeds the highest expectations for undergraduate work |
| A | Outstanding; meets the highest standards for the assignment or course |
| A- | Excellent; meets very high standards for the assignment or course |
| B+ | Very good; meets high standards for the assignment or course |
| B | Good; meets most of the standards for the assignment or course |
| B- | More than adequate; shows some reasonable command of the material |
| C+ | Acceptable; meets basic standards for the assignment or course |
| C | Acceptable; meets some of the basic standards for the assignment or course |
| C- | Acceptable, while falling short of meeting basic standards in several ways |
| D | Minimally acceptable; lowest passing grade |
| F | Failing; very poor performance |
| P | Grades of A+ through C- in courses taken on pass/D/fail basis (prior to 1988-89, earned grades of A+ through D were converted to P) Satisfactory |
| AUD | Completion of required work in a course taken on an audit basis |
| INC | Course not completed at end of term (late completion authorized) |
| T | Course successfully completed at another institution for Princeton credit |
| UNR | Course grades not reported by instructor |
| W | Student withdrew from the University after the term's ninth week of class |

In graduate courses (numbered 500 and above)

With the exception of T and W, all of the foregoing grading symbols are used in graduate courses. The following symbols may also appear:

| | |
|--------|---|
| HP | High Pass (used in some graduate courses in the School of Architecture) |
| LP | Low Pass (used in some graduate courses in the School of Architecture) |
| N or * | No grade given in the course. Between 1948-49 and 1973-74, represented by N; from 1974-75, represented by * |

GRADING POLICY 2004-2014

From fall term 2004-05 through spring term 2013-14, the faculty had a common grading expectation for every department and program: A's (A+, A, A-) were to account for less than 35 percent of the grades given in undergraduate courses and less than 55 percent of the grades given in junior and senior independent work. Each department or program determined how best to meet these expectations. In the fall term 2014-15, the faculty reaffirmed rigorous and transparent assessment measures and removed a numeric target for the percent of A grades.

COURSE OF STUDY

Undergraduate students at Princeton enroll in a four-year course of study as candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) or the degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.). Undergraduate course credit is awarded in the form of course units. Each undergraduate course is one course unit; one course unit may be considered the equivalent of 4.0 semester hours. The A.B. program consists of eight terms of full-time study to satisfy the requirement of 31 courses (30 courses for students matriculating before 2001). Beginning in the junior year a candidate for the A.B. degree undertakes a program of departmental concentration including course work, independent study in the junior year, a two-term senior thesis, and a departmental examination at the end of the senior year. The B.S.E program consists of eight terms of full-time study to satisfy the requirement of 36 courses, which usually include one or two terms of independent work. B.S.E. students pursue departmental concentrations beginning in the sophomore year. Prior to fall term 1974-75, an undergraduate's departmental courses were indicated by a (D) preceding the course title. In addition to the departmental concentration, many students elect to pursue certificates in one or more programs, nearly all of which are interdisciplinary.

Graduate students pursue full-time study toward the Ph.D. degree in the arts and sciences, engineering, architecture, and public affairs; and final professional master's degrees in architecture, engineering, finance, Near Eastern studies, public affairs, and public policy. To qualify for the Ph.D., a candidate spends at least one academic year in residence, passes the general examination, presents an acceptable dissertation, and passes the final public oral examination. Additional requirements for the Ph.D. vary by program. Ph.D. candidates may earn a Master of Arts degree incidentally as part of the course of study toward the Ph.D. Requirements for a final professional master's degree vary by program. Graduate students who are enrolled full time and in residence hold regular student status as they pursue work toward the degree. Students registered *in absentia* are also enrolled full time but are absent from campus in order to make use of materials, facilities, and expertise not available in residence. In their last years of enrollment, the majority of post-generals Ph.D. students take no courses, but pursue full-time research toward completion of the dissertation. Ph.D. students who come to the end of the defined program length without having completed all requirements for the degree may hold dissertation completion enrollment (DCE) status for up to two years and enrollment terminated/degree candidacy continues (ET/DCC) status thereafter. DCE students are enrolled students. ET/DCC students are not enrolled, but they are entitled to submit a dissertation.

TO TEST FOR AUTHENTICITY: Translucent globe icons *MUST* be visible from both sides when held to a light source. The face of the transcript is printed on light brown SCRIP-SAFE® paper bordered in orange on four sides with the name of the institution appearing in white type over the face of the entire document.

ADDITIONAL TESTS: The repeated words UNOFFICIAL COPY appear as a latent image. A black and white or color copy of the document is not an original and should not be accepted as an official institutional document. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, this document cannot be released to a third party without the written consent of the student. If you have any questions about this document, please contact our office at registrar@princeton.edu or (609) 258-3361.