CR/NC vs Letter Grades for Spring 2020
Department of Nutrition, Food Science, and Packaging

We recognize this time has been hard and stressful on you as a student and hope that the CR/NC option will provide some relief in these challenging times. As an educator, I know that it is not an easy transition and even though we have tried to lessen the impact of the situation, your learning may have suffered due to the change. I want to thank each one of you for your patience and flexibility during the transition and balancing the environmental stress while continuing your educational journey. As the mode of instruction will remain online for the rest of the semester, please continue to work with the instructors for any needs you may have.

The CR/NC option may work for the following NUFS and PKG programs: BS in Nutritional Science with Concentration in Food Management and Concentration in Applied Nutrition and Food Sciences; & BS in Packaging. Please do read the Provost Vincent Del Casino’s email and the provided FAQs for further details.

If you are an undergraduate student currently majoring in Dietetics, or aspire to change your major to Dietetics, we hope that the following information will help you make a sound decision regarding the CR/NC or the letter grade option. For undergraduate courses at SJSU for Spring 2020, if you earn a C- or better, the grade will convert to a CR upon student request. The following letter grades convert to No Credit (NC): D+, D, D-, F, or unauthorized withdrawal (WU). The choice of CR vs a letter grade may affect the eligibility for the B.S. in Nutritional Science with a Concentration in Dietetics and the Dietetic Internship if a student does not have a letter grade for one of the required classes.

For current SJSU students and transfer students, the change of major to the Dietetics Concentration requires a minimum GPA of 3.0, completion of a nutrition course and completion of Chem1A General Chemistry course with a grade of “C” or better. Courses with CR will not be calculated in the GPA.

I also do want to reiterate that with the dietetics profession moving to a minimum of a MS degree requirement for the Registered Dietitian (RD) certification, dietetics students may need to choose grades for their courses this semester to apply for graduate schools or the MS/DI programs. This will also apply to the non-dietetics students who may be applying to graduate schools and pursuing dietetics in the masters program.

It may be beneficial to students to wait for their grades before submitting a petition to change their grading scheme to CR/NC. This will provide students some time to assess the impact of this change on their GPA and progression in the dietetics program. Option 2 is available:

“A student can request a Grade Change after the semester has been completed. This means a student can petition the Registrar to convert a posted letter grade to CR/NC due
to the special circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic from the time their grade is posted through June 8, 2020. With this option, it is important to note that there may be a considerable delay in updating the transcript to reflect the change.”

**B.S. in Nutritional Science with a Concentration in Dietetics (DPD)**
*(Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics)*

The department website [http://www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/programs/dpd/index.html](http://www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/programs/dpd/index.html) and course catalog course descriptions indicate prerequisite requirements and often times a minimum grade of a “C” is required before one can progress to the next course in the sequence.

For example as seen in the figure above, in order to progress to enrolling in NuFS 108A Nutrition and Metabolism the student must complete the prerequisites of NuFS 106A Human Nutrition in the Life Span with a minimum “C” grade, Chem 132 Biochemistry with a “C” grade, as well as the junior writing course for health professions majors HPrf 100W and Biol 66 Physiology. If the student chooses the CR/NC option and gets a NC in NuFS 106A and Chem 132, they will have to retake the courses to improve their grade or be counseled to change majors and move from the Dietetics concentration to pursue another concentration. Similarly, receiving a CR will not improve the DPD GPA as the DPD GPA will be calculated at a “C-” for the chosen course if the student is applying for the internal SJSU Dietetic Internship.

Students must receive a grade of “C” or better in NuFS 108A Nutrition and Metabolism to progress to the one year long sequence NUFS 110A and NUFS 110B Medical Nutrition Therapy courses. Passage of NUFS 109 Advanced Nutrition with a grade of C or better is required to progress to NUFS 110B Medical Nutrition Therapy.
Dietetic Internship (DI)
(Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics)

Currently we require a C or better in the following classes and the GPA of the following classes need to be at least a 3.2 for a student to be eligible to apply to our internal SJSU DI (along with other criteria such as passing the content exams with 80% or higher).

We have an excel sheet for students to auto-calculate their select DPD coursework GPA to determine DI eligibility (excel sheet posted on DI Content Exam Canvas site). Choosing a CR/NC option will not improve your DPD GPA for the internal SJSU DI application. A “CR” for any of the below classes will be counted as a “C-” for DPD GPA calculation purposes. In addition, a C- in any of the below courses means a student will be ineligible for the SJSU DI. However, you may apply to external DIs with a CR or C- grade.

- NUFS 101A Food Science
- NUFS 103 Food Processing
- NUFS 106A Nutrition Life Span
- NUFS 106B Research Method
- NUFS 108A Nutrition & Metab
- NUFS 109 Advanced Nutrition
- NUFS 110A MNT (Fall)
- NUFS 110B MNT (Spring)
- NUFS 111 Foodserv Prod & Mgmt
- NUFS 113 Foodservice Systems
- NUFS 114A Comm Nutrition
- NUFS 190 Nutri Edu & Counsel
- CHEM 132 Biochemistry
- CHEM 132L Biochemistry Lab
- NUFS 220A (to start DI)