

**SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE
SAN JOSÉ, CA 95192**

F18-5, University Policy, University Grading System Policy

Rescinds: S73-23, S73-24, S83-15, F88-6, S99-6, S10-2, S11-5

Legislative History:

On December 10, 2018, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation presented by Senator White for the Curriculum and Research Committee. F18-5 was approved and signed by President Mary A. Papazian on January 17, 2019.

On May 4, 2020, President Mary A. Papazian approved and signed Amendment A to F18-5. Amendment A modified the percent of credit/no credits that a graduate student may apply towards a graduate degree and rescinded University Policy S73-23.

Whereas: EO1100 designates the minimum satisfactory grade for general education courses in Written Communication (A2), oral communication in the English language (A1), critical thinking (A3), and mathematics/quantitative reasoning (B4), (Title 5 Sections 40803, 40804, 40804.1), and

Whereas: EO1100 allows each campus to establish the minimum grades for satisfactory completion of the remaining general education breadth courses, and

Whereas: Six university policies address various aspects of the university grading system making it difficult to locate relevant policy governing specific grading issues. Therefore, be it

Resolved: That S73-24, S83-15, F88-6, S99-6, S10-2, S11-5 be rescinded, effective immediately, and be it further

Resolved: That F18-5 be adopted as university policy

Rationale: In bringing SJSU university policies in alignment with EO1100, the Curriculum and Research Committee was responsive to requests to generate a single policy that addresses grading requirements for undergraduate and graduate degree programs was appropriate and would facilitate consultation.

Approved: 12/04/2018
Vote: 9-0-1
Present: Scott Heil, Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Susana Khavul, Toby Matoush, Thalia Anagnos, Pam Stacks, Peter Buzanski, Lynne Trulio, Brandon White, Cynthia Fernandez-Rios
Absent: Cara Maffini, Anand Ramasubramanian, Gwendolyn Mok
Workload Impact: None anticipated
Financial Impact: None anticipated

The Grading System of SJSU

1. Plus/Minus grading is allowed for all undergraduate, graduate, and professional courses using the A through F letter grading system as authorized in Title 5, Section 40104.
 - a. For computing purposes, the plus adds a 0.3 value and a minus subtracts a 0.3 value from a letter grade assigned on a 4.0 scale.
 - i. An A+ shall be calculated as a 4.0 per Title 5, Section **40104**.
 - ii. There shall be no plus/minus associated with a grade of F.
 - b. In any situation regarding undergraduate courses wherein a substitution has been allowed for the course, the substituted course shall be passed at the minimum specified grade level of the original course.
2. Course credit received by challenge examination shall be assigned Credit/No Credit.
3. Exceptions to 1 will be for courses that apply Credit/No Credit. These courses may consist of:
 - a. Fieldwork, Practicum, and Internships,
 - b. Multi-Semester linked courses where the grade is assigned at the end (e.g. Stretch English),
 - c. Projects, Portfolios, Individual Studies, or Directed Reading,
 - d. Clinical Rotation,
 - e. Activity and Laboratory Courses,
 - f. Workshops,
 - g. Selected Seminars (Colloquia), and
 - h. Thesis and Dissertation courses

4. A graduate student may accumulate a maximum of 40% of the total units required to graduate as Credit/No Credit grades toward the master's or doctoral degree. A graduate student may petition for a maximum above 40% to the College of Graduate Studies. That petition must be approved by their Department Chair and/or Department Graduate Coordinator.
5. An upper-division undergraduate student shall have the option of taking and applying to the undergraduate degree a maximum of 12 semester units outside the major, the minor and general education on the basis of Credit/No Credit for courses normally graded using the plus/minus grading system as described in section 1.

The student shall elect this option at the registration period and may within the first four weeks of instruction change the option from Credit/No Credit to a traditional grading system.

6. When the Credit (CR) grade is given for an undergraduate course, the CR will mean at a minimum, C- or better.
7. When the CR grade is given for a graduate course, the CR will mean, at a minimum, B- or better.
8. Exceptions to this policy must be initiated by the department chair or associate dean and approved by the Provost or designee.