




UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Graduate School

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TO: Ernest Yanarella, Chair
University Senate Council

FROM: Jeannine Blackwell, Dean 
The Graduate School

DATE: February 17, 2006

Graduate Council approved the establishment of a new grade, SI, on February 16, 2005. In discussions with the Registrar and the IRIS team, we determined that a new grade was necessary for those few graduate programs which need to assign an interim grade for ongoing projects. Letter grades in these courses must be assigned before the degree is granted. "S" grades need to be reserved only for those courses that may assign "S" grades permanently. This new grade was necessary to migrate historical data from SIS to Campus Management in IRIS.

DRAFT

0506-Py001

The Marking System for S and UN grades as it is listed in the Senate Rules:

Senate Rule 5.1.1 states the following:

S Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.3. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours.

UN Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit, in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.4. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours.

Proposed recommendations to the current marking system with S and UN grades:

S Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses.

SI Represents an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.3. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours (this is a new grade).

UN Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit, in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.4. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours.

There is recommendation to strike the entire section of 5.1.3.4 which describes grade UN. If above recommendation is approved, this further description (5.1.3.4) is not necessary.

Additionally, there is a need for a mechanism that after a certain amount of time (for example one year) any SI (interim grade) automatically changes to a "final" grade.

5.0 Section V

Rules Relating To Attending The University

5.1.0 GRADES AND MARKING SYSTEMS

5.1.0.1 By the last day of class before the midterm withdrawal date, all teachers must inform the undergraduate students in their courses of their current progress based on the criteria in the syllabus. (US: 2/14/94; US 4/10/00)

5.1.1 THE MARKING SYSTEM

The marking system (except for Colleges of Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and courses numbered 800 or higher in the College of Architecture and the Landscape Architecture Program in the College of Agriculture). Results of work will be recorded in the University University Registrar's Office as follows: (US: 3/18/96 and 4/8/96; US: 3/10/97; US 4/13/98)

- A Represents an exceptionally high achievement as a result of aptitude, effort and intellectual initiative. It is valued at four (4) grade points for each credit hour in courses other than developmental or remedial courses. [US: 9/10/01]
- B Represents a high achievement as a result of ability and effort. It is valued at three (3) grade points for each credit hour in courses other than developmental or remedial courses. [US: 9/10/01].
- C Represents satisfactory achievement for undergraduates; represents unsatisfactory achievement for graduate students and is the minimum passing grade for which credit is given. It is valued at two (2) grade points for each credit hour. [US: 9/10/01;US: 4/8/02].
- D Represents unsatisfactory achievement and is the minimum grade for which credit is given; the grade is not to be used for graduate students,. It is valued at one (1) grade point for each credit hour. [US: 9/10/01; US: 4/8/02].
- E Represents unsatisfactory performance and indicates failure in the course. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours in courses other than developmental or remedial courses. [US: 9/10/01].
- F Represents failure in a course taken on a Pass-Fail basis. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours. (US: 9/20/93)
- AU Represents a completion of a course attended on an audit basis. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours. (US: 9/20/93)
- CR CR(Credit) designator for AP or CLEP or bypass work to reflect that credit is granted for a course (US: 3/10/97)
- I Incomplete--See this Section, 5.1.3, *Explanation of Certain Grades*

- IP Represents satisfactory work in progress in courses carrying no academic credit. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero credit hours. [US: 10/11/93]

- N Represents a temporary grade to be submitted for students who have been entered by the University University Registrar into official class rolls, but have never attended class and who have not officially withdrawn. The University University Registrar shall remove their names from the official class roll and the student's enrollment in the class shall not be recorded in the student's official academic record. (As a temporary mark, "N" carries no credit hours or grade points.) (US: 9/20/93)

- P Represents a passing grade in a course taken on a Pass-Fail basis. It may also be assigned by the University Appeals Board in cases involving a violation of student academic rights. Credit hours successfully completed under this grade will count towards graduation but will not be used in calculating grade point averages. (US: 9/20/93) (See Section V, 5.1.4 and Section VI, 6.5.1)

- W Denotes withdrawal from class. It may also be assigned by the University Appeals Board in cases involving a violation of student academic rights. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours. (US:9/10/79; US: 10/11/93)

- S Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.3. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours. (US: 10/11/93; US: 1/14/02)

- UN Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit, in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.4. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours. [US: 1/14/02]

- Z Reenrollment recommended (development courses only). It has no value in computing grade point average. (US 4/10/00)

5.1.2 EXCEPTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY MARKING SYSTEM

5.1.2.1 College of Law

A The College of Law uses a special letter grading system in which the following grades are given with the respective quality point values indicated:

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3	E=0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0	
A-	3.7	B	2.7	C-	1.7	D-	0.7	

B A student's academic grade record is expressed as a grade point average computed by multiplying the semester hours of credit for each course by the quality point value of the grade received in the course. These products are added together, and the sum is divided by the total semester hours attempted. The grade point average thus derived is the basis for each student's academic status as indicated in the published rules and policies of the Law Faculty.

Nikou, Roshan

From: Blackwell, Jeannine
Sent: Saturday, December 31, 2005 3:08 PM
To: Price, Cleo; Nikou, Roshan
Subject: FW: the "SI" grade

Hi Cleo and Roshan,

I need to put an item on the agenda of the next GC meeting. It is a proposed policy change in assignment of grades and interim grades of "S" and "UN". The gist of the policy is stated below, in Michelle's rendition.

Cleo, please work with Roshan in getting this into a cleaned up format to present to Council.

Thank you!

Jeannine Blackwell, Dean of the Graduate School University of Kentucky
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-----Original Message-----

From: Greissman, Richard
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2005 11:28 AM
To: Blackwell, Jeannine
Cc: Bond, Patricia A; Combs, Karen T; Yanarella, Ernest J
Subject: RE: the "SI" grade

Jeannine,

I'm back to this business on the "SI" and "UN" grades. Pat Bond has been very helpful. Her email message below states the Graduate School's position.

As you know the deliberative process of the Senate Council includes a formal routing process to ensure the inclusion of input from the department faculty and/or faculty advisory council(s) aligned with the academic unit sponsoring a proposal before the Senate Council. I'm told the Senate Council will expect to hear from the Graduate Council in this matter before it considers any changes to policies on grade types in the Graduate School. Please vet with the Graduate Council early in the new year the recommendations forwarded by Pat and send the Council's written recommendation, along with a letter of support from you, to Ernie Yanarella. Thanks.

My best,
Richard

Richard B. Greissman

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-----Original Message-----

From: Bond, Patricia A
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2005 10:53 AM
To: Greissman, Richard; Jackson, Brian A
Cc: Combs, Karen T
Subject: RE: the "SI" grade

Richard, let me clarify the GS position in response to the initial proposal. We accept the initial proposal submitted by Michelle Nordin, that is, "S represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses, "SI" represents an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.3. It is valued at zero(0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours, "UN" represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours, accept the striking of the description of "UN" and lastly, we recommend that after a period of one year, any "SI" (interim grade) automatically change to an "S" grade. Thank you for your help, Richard. Best, pb

From: Nordin, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2005 9:32 AM
To: Nash, Phyllis
Cc: Prince, Tonya; Nordin, Michelle
Subject: Your assistance is needed

Phyllis,

You and I have talked about the possibility of you bringing an issue forward to the Senate. Following is a brief description of the issue. I will be glad to provide you with more information so that we can get this request moving. Please let me know when you are available to discuss. Thank you so much!! - Michelle

The Marking System (S and UN grades)

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This has been an issue in SIS and will continue to be an issue in SAP. We need to have a different symbol to identify an "interim" grade. In other words, the same symbol should not be used to represent an interim and a final grade.

We recommend:

S Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit in graduate residence courses.

SI Represents an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.3. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours.

UN Represents the final grade in courses carrying no academic credit, in graduate residence courses, or as an interim grade in specific types of courses listed in Section 5.1.3.4. It is valued at zero (0) grade points and zero (0) credit hours.

We also recommend striking the entire section of 5.1.3.4 which describes grade UN. If above recommendation is approved, this further description (5.1.3.4) is not necessary.

We need a mechanism that after a certain amount of time (for example one year) any SI (interim grade) automatically changes to a "final" grade.