

**Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action**

MOA – **25104**

Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Regulations-Course Grades and Grading System
Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Policy to Allow Credit/No Credit for Courses Taken at an Approved
International Institutions

Name of Council/Committee:

Undergraduate Studies Council

Approval Date:

11 March 2025

Implementation Date:

Upon Administrative Approval

RECOMMENDATION:

The Undergraduate Studies Council recommends revision of the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Regulations-Course Grades and Grading System such that the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) policy and the Study Abroad Course Pre-Approval Form such that they allow

Diane E. Riggs

Diane E. Riggs (Apr 1, 2025 17:21 EDT)

Apr 1, 2025

Diane Riggs, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Council

Date

☒ Approve ☐ Disapprove ☐ Other Action

Comments:

Amy Naugle

Apr 1, 2025

Amy Naugle,

WMU Faculty Senate President

Date

☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove ☐ Other Action

Comments:

Christopher Cheatham

Apr 11, 2025

Christopher Cheatham, Interim

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove ☐ Other Action

Comments:

Edward Montgomery

Apr 15, 2025

Edward Montgomery,

WMU President

Date

**Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action**

MOA – 25/04

**Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Regulations-Course Grades and
Grading System
Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Policy
to Allow Credit/No Credit for Courses Taken at an Approved International
Institutions**

RECOMMENDATION

The Undergraduate Studies Council recommends revision of the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Regulations-Course Grades and Grading System such that the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) policy and the Study Abroad Course Pre-Approval Form such that they allow students to select the credit/no credit option for courses taken at an approved international institution.

RATIONALE/PURPOSE

Grading scales and standards at international universities differ from those at WMU. Translation of grades from international institutions is challenging, time consuming, and many times top-performing students find that earning the equivalent of an A at WMU much more difficult. Some students choose not to study abroad because of the risk that the translated grades from the international institution might reduce their GPA. The proposed revision will allow students to select the credit/no credit option for such courses.

It should be noted that students will receive a transcript from the international institution that will provide the grade earned at that institution, and that students will be required to earn the equivalent of a C, or better, to receive credit for the course.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE(S) AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL(S):

Registrar Office
Office of Study Abroad

STAKEHOLDERS

Students enrolled in study abroad courses.

CURRENT POLICY MODIFICATION

Undergraduate Catalog

Academic Regulations

Course Grades and Grading System

The regulations of a system supplementing the A, B, C, D, and E grading system for undergraduate students but not replacing it, except as the student wishes, are as follows:

1. The name of the program shall be "Credit/No Credit."
2. "Credit" will be posted for each undergraduate student who earns the grade of "C" or better. "No Credit" will be posted for any grade below a "C." Faculty members will not be notified whether a student is taking a course for a grade or for Credit/No Credit.
3. A student may elect for "Credit/No Credit" any course: ~~approved for WMU Essential Studies or General Physical Education credit, as well as other courses not counting toward his/her major or specified in his/her curriculum as defined in the University's Undergraduate Catalog. Intern Teaching, a required course, is taken on a credit/no credit basis.~~
 - **Approved for WMU Essential Studies**
 - **Approved for Physical Education Credit**
 - **Not counting towards a major or minor**

- **Required for Intern Teaching**
- **Taken at an international institution as part of a pre-approved study abroad program.**

Acceptance of "Credit/No Credit" in **any other** required courses may **also** be permitted on an individual basis by the head of the department or dean of the college requiring the course.

4. A student may change only during the drop/add period from "Credit/No Credit" to letter grade or from letter grade to "Credit/No Credit."
5. All undergraduate students, regardless of classification or probationary status, will be allowed to enroll "Credit/No Credit."
6. "Credit/No Credit" courses, while counting toward a degree, will not be used to determine the overall grade point average of the individual student.

Important: Students should be fully aware of the implications of this system for acceptance in graduate schools. It has been ascertained that most graduate schools will accept students who have elected to take courses on a "Credit/No Credit" basis, but that if courses taken on this basis are sufficient in number on the transcript, the Graduate Record Examination may be utilized to determine the student's acceptability. Graduate schools, in general, do tend to favor those applicants who have good letter grades on their transcripts.

RELATED PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

The Study Abroad Course Pre-Approval Form will be modified to provide this option.