Grading Options for Spring and Summer 2020

For Undergraduate Students

From https://dos.sfsu.edu/covid-19/faqs-during-remote-instruction:

“For any courses where you current grading option is “Letter Grades”, you will have three options for your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Options</th>
<th>Grades Recorded on Transcript</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1:</td>
<td>Graded (A, B, C, D, No Credit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter Grades*</td>
<td>Note: No Credit (NC) will appear on the transcript in lieu of an F grade; NC grades do not negatively impact your GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2:</td>
<td>A, B, C, No Credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter Grades*/No Credit</td>
<td>Note: NC is earned for grade of D or below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3:</td>
<td>Credit, No Credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit/No Credit</td>
<td>Note: Credit (CR) is earned for grades of C- or higher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This includes any plus or minus grades.

For any courses where your current grading option is “Letter Grades/No Credit“ you will have the choice to continue with this grading option or switch to the “Credit/No Credit” option.

If your current grading option is “Credit/No Credit”, there are no other grading options offered.”

Please note that undergraduate students must maintain a GPA of at least 2.00 (SFSU, Combined, Major, Concentration).

Comments
- If a course is normally graded A/B/C/D/F, it will automatically be switched to Option 1. If a student is satisfied with this option, no further action is required.
- Options 2 and 3 likely make sense if a student will be earning less than a C- in a course but must earn at least a C- in the course to not repeat it. (For example, any course that is a prerequisite to another course.) See “Notes” below for more details.

Changing the Grading Option
- If a student’s chosen grading option is not yet available, they will receive an email from the Registrar’s Office notifying them when it is.
- Once changes are possible, follow the instructions at https://cms.sfsu.edu/content/registering-classes#gradeoption

1 Last updated April 22, 2020.
For Graduate Students

From https://dos.sfsu.edu/covid-19/faqs-during-remote-instruction:

“For any courses where your current grading option is “Letter Grades”, you will have three options for your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Options</th>
<th>Grades Recorded on Transcript</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Option 1:** Letter Grades* | Graded (A, B, C, D, No Credit)  
  *Note: No Credit (NC) will appear on the transcript in lieu of an F grade; NC grades do not negatively impact your GPA* |
| **Option 2:** Letter Grades* / No Credit | A, B, No Credit  
  *Note: NC is earned for grade of C or below* |
| **Option 3:** Credit/No Credit | Credit, No Credit  
  *Note: No Credit (NC) is earned for grades of C or below* |

*This includes any plus or minus grades.

For any courses where your current grading option is “Letter Grades/No Credit” you will have the choice to continue with this grading option or switch to the “Credit/No Credit” option.

If your current grading option is “Credit/No Credit”, there are no other grading options offered.

Please note that graduate students need to keep an overall GPA above 3.00.”

Comment:

If a course is normally graded A/B/C/D/F, it will automatically be switched to Option 1. If a student is satisfied with this option, no further action is required.

Changing Your Grading Option

- If your chosen grading option is not yet available, you will receive an email from the Registrar’s Office notifying you when it is.
- Once changes are possible, follow the instructions at https://cms.sfsu.edu/content/registering-classes#gradeoption
Notes

- Withdraw deadline for “documented serious and compelling reasons” is May 15; COVID-19 is a “documented serious and compelling reason.” (In other words, no W petitions should be denied this semester.)
  - The hope is students will not need to withdraw since they can change their grading option to CR/NC.
  - It is possible that this deadline will change.
- Students can change their grading option through May 26.
- Faculty must submit grades by May 29.
- More details
  - “…courses taken in spring 2020 not contribute to any unit limits in policy or in Executive Order 1037 (e.g. W, CR, course repeat, grade forgiveness)”\textsuperscript{2}
  - “All Credit (CR) grades earned in spring 2020 will count toward your major/minor/certificate requirements.”\textsuperscript{3} In other words,
    - All courses, including major and concentration courses, can be taken CR/NC in Spring 2020.
    - A CR will be considered as satisfying any prerequisite requirements for successor courses.
  - Undergraduate students earning a D- in a class might still be able to pass the class with the letter grade (Option 1), but not if they choose CR/NC (Options 2 and 3). Similarly, graduate students earning a C in a class might still be able to pass the class with a letter grade, but not if they choose CR/NC. This leaves them in the strange situation of taking the GPA hit but not having to repeat the class.
    - For example, a student needs a C- in FIN 350 to use it as a prerequisite for BUS 690. In this case, any of the 3 options would work because a CR is given for a grade of C- or better.
    - A student could earn a D- in BUS 690 and still graduate. In this case, Option 2 is probably not a good choice because a D- is a NC.
    - \textbf{If anyone (students, faculty) has any questions, please speak with one of our professional advisors.}
  - F and WU grades are not possible this semester. Both will be assigned the grade of NC.
  - Students will be notified when they are able to select a different grade change option for classes where it was previously not available.
  - It is possible that the first two items might be extended to Summer 2020, but that has not yet been taken up.

Incompletes

Students must request an Incomplete from their instructors before grades are submitted. Standard policy is that 75% of the course work must have been completed already.

\textsuperscript{2} Senate Resolution RS20-396 \url{https://senate.sfsu.edu/resolution/support-alternative-grading-options-sf-state-students-during-covid-19-crisis}
\textsuperscript{3} \url{https://dos.sfsu.edu/covid-19/faqs-during-remote-instruction}