

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA  
ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AA-008-190

Credit/No Credit Policy (Policy 1601)

Academic Affairs Committee

Date: April 2020

Executive Committee  
Received and Forwarded

Date: April 8, 2020

Academic Senate

Date: April 15, 2020  
First Reading

**Background**

**Your Name:** Berit Givens

**Your Email:** [bngivens@cpp.edu](mailto:bngivens@cpp.edu)

**Title of Referral:** Credit/No Credit Policy

**Names and Titles of proponents:** Laura Massa, Associate Vice President, Academic Programs  
Sep Eskandari, Associate Provost  
Terri Gomez, Associate Vice President, Student Success  
Keith Forward, Faculty Director, Undergraduate Studies and General Education  
Salomon Oldak, Faculty Director, Graduate Studies

**Keywords:** Credit, No Credit, CR/NC, Grading

**Is there a deadline by when this referral needs to be considered by the Academic Senate?:**  
No

**Deadline Date:**

**Justification for deadline:**

**Background:** Request:

This referral is to edit the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) policy text in University Policy 1601 section 3 to read:

Section 3.0

CR Credit, for undergraduate course work equivalent to a grade of "C-" or better, or graduate course work equivalent to a grade of "B-" or better. (Units attempted are not included in GPA)

NC No Credit, for undergraduate coursework equivalent to a grade of "D+" or lower, or graduate coursework equivalent to a grade of "C+" or lower. (Units attempted are not included in GPA)

Section 3.II.D.

Undergraduate students and postbaccalaureate students seeking a second undergraduate degree will be given a grade of CR for coursework equivalent to a grade "C-" or better in any course for which CR/NC grading is approved and in which the student is properly enrolled. "NC" will be assigned for coursework equivalent to "D+," or lower grades.

Section 3.II.E.

For graduate and credential courses designated as mandatory CR/NC, the grade of "CR" will be given for coursework equivalent to a grade of "B-" or better. "NC" will be given for coursework equivalent to a "C+" or lower grade. This will apply to both graduate and undergraduate students who are enrolled in graduate courses.

**Background:**

Under CPP'S grading policies for General Education, a grade of "C-" is considered passing, yet our CR/NC policy for undergraduates defines CR as a grade of "C" or better, and NC as a grade of "C-" or lower. This means that a student who earns a "C-" would pass the course if they were taking it for a grade, but not pass the course if they were taking it CR/NC. The graduate student policy parallels this but defines CR as a grade of "B" or better and NC as a grade of "B-" or lower, while a letter grade of "B-" is considered passing.

Further, Title 5 in Section 40104.1 defines CR for undergraduate courses as grades of A, B, and C, while NC is defined as grades of D and F. For graduate level courses, CR is designated as grades A and B, while NC is grades C, D, and F. Title 5 specifies that campuses may use plus and minus designations in combination with letter grades. In Section 40803, the Title 5 policy clarifies that a C- or better is considering passing for the purposes of GE in areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 for transfer students.

The request to edit the CR/NC policy is to make the policy consistent with campus letter grade policies, Chancellor's Office executive orders, and Title 5 Grading Designations.

**Recommended Resources:** See attached documentation for clickable links.

Catalog policies on Grading System:

[https://catalog.cpp.edu/content.php?catoid=51&navoid=3876#Grading\\_System\\_\\_See\\_also\\_\\_Graduate\\_Studies\\_\\_section\\_](https://catalog.cpp.edu/content.php?catoid=51&navoid=3876#Grading_System__See_also__Graduate_Studies__section_)

Catalog policies on Minimum grades in General Education:

[https://catalog.cpp.edu/content.php?catoid=51&navoid=3876#minimum\\_grades\\_in\\_ge](https://catalog.cpp.edu/content.php?catoid=51&navoid=3876#minimum_grades_in_ge)

University Policy 1601 section 3.0 Grade Point System: [https://www.cpp.edu/academic-manual/1600-1699-grading-student-affairs/1600-1699/1601\\_grading\\_system.pdf](https://www.cpp.edu/academic-manual/1600-1699-grading-student-affairs/1600-1699/1601_grading_system.pdf)

Title 5 Grading policy (40104.1):

[https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/ID8E81920D48211DEBC02831C6D6C108E?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/ID8E81920D48211DEBC02831C6D6C108E?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default))

Title 5 General education minimum grades for transfer (40803):

[https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I4C53BE0E3C8E479287AD876B7B2BBB16?viewType=FullText&listSource=Search&originationContext=Search+Result&transitionType=SearchItem&contextData=\(sc.Search\)&navigationPath=Search%2fv1%2fresults%2fnavigation%2fi0ad62d2e00000170547a2820a4131f1a%3fNav%3dREGULATION\\_PUBLICVIEW%26fragmentIdentifier%3dI4C53BE0E3C8E479287AD876B7B2BBB16%26startIndex%3d1%26transitionType%3dSearchItem%26contextData%3d%2528sc.Default%2529%26originationContext%3dSearch%2520Result&list=REGULATION\\_PUBLICVIEW&rank=1&t\\_T2=40803&t\\_S1=CA+ADC+s](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I4C53BE0E3C8E479287AD876B7B2BBB16?viewType=FullText&listSource=Search&originationContext=Search+Result&transitionType=SearchItem&contextData=(sc.Search)&navigationPath=Search%2fv1%2fresults%2fnavigation%2fi0ad62d2e00000170547a2820a4131f1a%3fNav%3dREGULATION_PUBLICVIEW%26fragmentIdentifier%3dI4C53BE0E3C8E479287AD876B7B2BBB16%26startIndex%3d1%26transitionType%3dSearchItem%26contextData%3d%2528sc.Default%2529%26originationContext%3dSearch%2520Result&list=REGULATION_PUBLICVIEW&rank=1&t_T2=40803&t_S1=CA+ADC+s)

**Attachment 1:**

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/2070179/36745860/582540399/cr-nc\\_referral\\_feb\\_2020\\_final.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/2070179/36745860/582540399/cr-nc_referral_feb_2020_final.pdf)

**Discussion**

There is a need for policies to align. Given that policies in the CSU focus on letter grades, C- for undergraduates, and B- for graduate students should be the lowest passing grade.

**Recommendations:**

The committee recommends editing University Policy 1601 Section 3 to read:

## Section 3.0

CR Credit, for undergraduate course work equivalent to a grade of "C-" or better, or graduate course work equivalent to a grade of "B-" or better. (Units attempted are not included in GPA)

NC No Credit, for undergraduate coursework equivalent to a grade of "D+" or lower, or graduate coursework equivalent to a grade of "C+" or lower. (Units attempted are not included in GPA)

## Section 3.II.D.

Undergraduate students and postbaccalaureate students seeking a second undergraduate degree will be given a grade of CR for coursework equivalent to a grade "C-" or better in any course for which CR/NC grading is approved and in which the student is properly enrolled. "NC" will be assigned for coursework equivalent to "D+," or lower grades.

## Section 3.II.E.

For graduate and credential courses designated as mandatory CR/NC, the grade of "CR" will be given for coursework equivalent to a grade of "B-" or better. "NC" will be given for coursework equivalent to a "C+" or lower grade. This will apply to both graduate and undergraduate students who are enrolled in graduate courses.