

Grading during Academic Year 2020-21

Overview

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Academic Policy and Regulations Team determined that a letter grading system with extra flexibility would be in effect during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Passing grades (A, B, C, and P) were applied to a student's record as outlined in Faculty Rules & Regulations, while grades of D and F were converted to D/NE and F/NE (D/NR and F/NR for first-year students in spring 2021). Students assigned a grade of D/NE could elect to accept a grade of D by Add Date of the next semester to fulfill a requirement for graduation.

Most students had the option of selecting one subject to be graded on a PE/NE scale during the fall and spring terms (two subjects total). This option was not available during IAP except for subjects that extended from the fall into IAP. Students' PE/NE decisions were not displayed to instructors on class lists or grade sheets. NE grades appeared on internal grade reports but not on external transcript and no academic credit was received.

Each term, the Registrar's Office published a list of policies and options to help students and their advisors identify the choices available to them.

Fall 2020 – grading policies and options

Grading options by year

First-year students

- You will be graded on the normal first year, first-term P/NR basis.

Sophomores

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill General Institute Requirements, minor requirements, and departmental requirements, as well as cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- You may also designate one subject as Exploratory. An Exploratory subject is not eligible for PE/NE grading.
- The Class of 2023 Science GIR P/NR options remain available this fall.

Juniors and seniors

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill General Institute Requirements, minor requirements, and departmental requirements, as well as cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- The Jr/Sr P/D/F Option will not be available this fall.
- This fall's PE/NE Option will not affect students' ability to opt-in for up to two classes under the normal Jr/Sr P/D/F Option in past or future semesters.
- The Class of 2022 Science GIR P/NR options remain available this fall.

Graduate students

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill departmental requirements or a final term Master's Thesis and cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- PE/NE grading is not applicable to Doctoral thesis units.
- The normal Graduate P/D/F Option will not be available this fall.
- This fall's PE/NE Option will not affect students' ability to opt-in for up to two classes under the normal Graduate P/D/F Option in past or future semesters.

Incompletes

- If a minor part of the requirements for a subject is not fulfilled, the instructor can assign a grade of IE, which provides a longer range for work to be completed.
- IE grades given during fall 2020 must be resolved by the last day of final exams in spring 2021. When completed, they will reflect the relevant final grade (IE/letter grade, IE/PE, or PE/NE).
- Outstanding work from a prior semester that is completed this semester should be assigned a grade that was available in the prior semester.
- Undergraduates who receive an IE will be eligible to graduate.
- Graduate students can graduate with unresolved I or IE grades.

Key dates & deadlines

- November 18, 2020 (Drop Date): Deadline to choose the PE/NE option for a subject
 - March 19, 2021 (Add Date): Deadline to change a DE grade to D
 - May 27, 2021 (last day of spring final exams): Deadline to resolve Fall 2020 IE grades
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IAP 2021 – grading policies and options

Grading options by year

- First-year students — You will be graded on the normal P/NR basis for all subjects during IAP.
- Juniors, seniors, and graduate students — The normal Jr/Sr P/D/F and Graduate P/D/F Options will be available during IAP.

Incompletes

- If a minor part of the requirements for a subject is not fulfilled, the instructor can assign a grade of IE, which provides a longer range for work to be completed.
- IE grades given during IAP 2021 must be resolved by the last day of final exams in spring 2021. When completed, they will reflect the relevant final grade (IE/letter grade, IE/PE, or PE/NE).
- Outstanding work from a prior semester that is completed this semester should be assigned a grade that was available in the prior semester.
- Undergraduates who receive an IE will be eligible to graduate.
- Graduate students can graduate with unresolved I or IE grades.

Key dates & deadlines

- March 19, 2021 (Add Date): Deadline to change a DE grade to D
 - May 27, 2021 (last day of spring final exams): Deadline to resolve IAP 2021 IE grades
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Spring 2021 – grading policies and options

Grading options by year

First-year students

- You will be graded on the normal A, B, C, D/NR, and F/NR scale.
- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill General Institute Requirements, minor requirements, and departmental requirements, as well as cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- First-year students who entered in the fall of 2020 may also use their Flexible P/NR Option this spring.

Sophomores

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill General Institute Requirements, minor requirements, and departmental requirements, as well as cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- You may also designate one subject as Exploratory. An Exploratory subject is not eligible for PE/NE grading.
- The science core GIR P/NR options remain available this spring.
- You may elect to convert a D/NE grade to a D.

Juniors and seniors

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill General Institute Requirements, minor requirements, and departmental requirements, as well as cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- The normal Jr/Sr P/D/F Option is available this spring.
- The science core GIR P/NR options remain available this spring.
- You may elect to convert a D/NE grade to a D.

Graduate students

- You may elect to have one subject – including those used to fulfill departmental requirements or a final term Master’s Thesis and cross-registered subjects – to be graded PE/NE.
- PE/NE grading is not applicable to Doctoral thesis units.
- The normal Graduate P/D/F Option is available this spring.
- You may elect to convert a D/NE grade to a D.

Incompletes

- If a minor part of the requirements for a subject is not fulfilled, the instructor can assign a grade of IE, which provides a longer range for work to be completed.
- IE grades given during Spring 2021 must be resolved by the last day of final exams in Fall 2021. When completed, they will reflect the relevant final grade (IE/letter grade, IE/PE, or PE/NE).
- Outstanding work from a prior semester that is completed this semester should be assigned a grade that was available in the prior semester.
- Undergraduates who receive an IE will be eligible to graduate.
- Graduate students can graduate with unresolved I or IE grades.

Key dates & deadlines

- March 19, 2021 (Add Date): Deadline to change a Fall 2020 DE grade to D
- April 29, 2021 (Drop Date): Deadline to choose the PE/NE option for a subject
- May 27, 2021 (last day of spring final exams): Deadline to resolve Fall 2020 IE grades
- October 8, 2021 (Fall Add Date): Deadline to change a Spring 2021 DE grade to D