



## **Amended SAU Grading Policy and Revised Academic Calendar**

Division of Academic Affairs

Spring 2020

\*This policy has been created to address grading concerns that have come about due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dear Scholars,

As a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Saint Augustine's University transitioned to online or remote instruction as the format for all courses, effective March 23, 2020. This midsemester transition is likely to have unanticipated adverse impacts on student performance in courses. These impacts stem from a variety of causes, some of which might not be related to instructional changes. The additional grading option applies only to courses in which the student is enrolled during the Spring 2020 semester.

### **Grading Policy**

- All faculty will input a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) for each student based on their final average in the course
- Students will have the option to accept the letter grade or receive a Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) grade for the course. S/U grades will not count towards the grade point average of the student. Students will receive the credit hours earned for the course if they receive a grade of 'S'.
- Students who have earned a grade of 'A', 'B', or 'C' can replace that grade with a Satisfactory (S) grade. Students who have earned a grade of 'D' or 'F' can replace that grades with an Unsatisfactory (U) grade.
- Students will be sent by SAU email the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading Form on Monday, April 27, 2020. Graduating seniors wishing to use the policy must return the form by Friday, May 8, 2020. Continuing students wishing to use the policy must return the form by Friday, May 15, 2020.

Grade	Attempted Hours	Earned Hours	Affects GPA	Use for Course Repeat
A, B, C, D	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
F	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
S	Yes	Yes	No	No
U	Yes	No	No	No
W	Yes	No	No	No

### **Revised Academic Calendar**

- The Last Day to Withdraw from a class without a grade is extended to Friday, May 1, 2020. Requests to withdraw must be through the student's academic advisor or the instructor of the course to be withdrawn. The faculty member will submit the required paperwork for the student.
- Students with extenuating circumstances may receive a grade of Incomplete (I) and will have until November 30, 2020 to complete all assignments associated with the course to have the 'I' changed to a letter grade. Student must communicate these circumstances with the instructor who will make the determination of allowing this option and will set a date in by which all assignments must be submitted in consultation with the student. If a student selects the S/U option for the class in which an 'I' has been received, the 'S' grade will be awarded upon completion of the work required to receive a grade in the course.

### **Considerations:**

- The S/U grading option in a course does not apply to courses that were completed by March 23, 2020.
- Due to NCAA Academic Progress Rate (APR) requirements, student athletes might not be eligible to select the S/U grading option for their courses.
- The S/U grading option in a course is not available to students who are repeating a course to improve the grade in the course and their overall grade point average (GPA). In order to take advantage of the Course Repeat Policy, a letter grade (A – F) must be issued for the course.
- Students who plan to attend graduate or professional schools should consult with their advisors before choosing the S/U option as this may affect their admission.
- Veterans with federal support and ROTC scholarship students must be issued letter grades for their courses and cannot choose the S/U option.
- Required major courses and selected General Education courses (ENGL 131, ENGL 132, MATH 131, MATH 132, MATH 135, MATH 174, MATH 224, MATH 231) require a 'C' or better and can be satisfied with a 'S'. Other General Education requirements may be satisfied with the 'D'.
- For students seeking to use the Course Repeat Policy, it may be in their best interest to keep a 'D' rather than switch to a 'U' as keeping the former may raise the cumulative GPA. Changing to the 'U' will require the student to retake the course.

### **Deadlines:**

- Last day to choose S/U option: May 8, 2020 for graduating seniors; May 15, 2020 for all other returning students
- Last day to withdraw from a course: May 1, 2020
- Last day to have a grade of incomplete changed: November 30, 2020 (all assignments must be submitted by that date to allow instructor adequate time for grading prior to removal of incomplete grade)