

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

GRADING SCALE AND GRADING GUIDELINES

I. Grading Scale

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	GRADE POINTS PER SEMESTER HOUR
A+	Distinguished Performance	4.00 ¹
A	Outstanding	4.00
A-	Excellent	3.67
B+	Very Good	3.33
B	Good	3.00
B-	Competent	2.67
C+	Adequate	2.33
C	Minimally Competent	2.00
C-	Less Than Satisfactory	1.67
D	Poor	1.00
F	Failing	0.00

[**NOTE:** No changes are recommended in the definition or allocation of grade points for the grades of S (Satisfactory), U (Unsatisfactory), CR (Credit Recorded), NC (Noncompletion), I (Incomplete), AU (Audit), or W (Withdrawal).]

The grades of A+, A, A- and B+ are deemed to be “honors grades.” The award of “honors grades” is subject to the grade normalization rules as they apply to such grades.

¹ The grade of A+ is used to identify a student who has delivered distinguished performance in a course. Only one such grade may be awarded in the course though there is no obligation to award such a grade in the absence of distinguished performance.

II. Grading Guidelines – Classes with an enrollment of 24 or more students (excluding workshops and seminars)

- A. These grading guidelines apply to all IL courses and to all other courses with an enrollment of 24 students or more. Enrollment is determined as of the last date for withdrawing from a course with a grade of “W.”
- B. The targeted mean grade point average in 1L required courses other than Legal Analysis, Writing and Research 1 & 2 is 3.00. The actual mean in these courses shall be between 2.85 and 3.05.
- C. The targeted mean grade point average in Legal Analysis, Writing and Research 1 & 2 and, except as provided for in part II-B above, in all other courses to which the guidelines apply, is 3.00. The actual mean in these courses shall be between 2.90 and 3.10.
- D. Honors grades (A+, A, A- and B+) may be awarded to not more than 35 % of students enrolled in courses governed by the grading guidelines.
- E. When a partial set of grades is submitted because, for example, some members of the class are graduating and the grades for those students might be submitted before the grades of non-graduating students, the professor shall submit final grades for at least 24 students, including all graduating students. The partial set of grades must comply with the grading guidelines and the full set of grades must comply with the guidelines as well.
- F. Any faculty member who teaches more than one section of the same course during the same semester may aggregate the grades of all students in all such sections for purposes of applying the grading guidelines.
- G. Faculty who teach different sections of the same course in the same semester are encouraged to share their students’ grades with one another before submitting final grades to the registrar.

III. Grading Guidelines – Classes with an enrollment of 23 or fewer students (or for workshops or seminars with 24 or more students)

- A. These grading guidelines apply to all courses with an enrollment of 23 or fewer students, and all seminars and workshops, regardless of enrollment. Enrollment is determined as of the last date for withdrawing from a course with a grade of “W.”
- B. The median for all courses with an enrollment of 23 or fewer, and all seminars and workshops, will be no higher than a B+.

Adopted 5/5/2009; Revised 5/1/2012