

4. Measuring Academic Progress

Grade Notification

- Grades
- Evaluations
- Comprehensive Exam and Thesis Grades
- Honors
- UCSC Undergraduate Grading Policies

Grade Notification

Grades

Grades are due from faculty approximately three working days after the end of the term. Access your grades via the Student Portal.

If a course in which you believe you were enrolled is not listed and does not appear on any printed grade notice, you were not officially enrolled. See your academic adviser as soon as possible to discuss your options.

Evaluations

Academic Senate regulations require faculty to submit evaluations within 15 working days after the conclusion of the quarter. You may view your evaluations on the web as soon as they are entered on MyUCSC. If a full quarter has elapsed since you satisfactorily completed a course, and your evaluation for the course is not available on the web, check with the instructor or (in the instructor's absence) the chair of the department or the provost of the college that sponsored the course.

If you fail a course or do not complete the course, the instructor is not required to write an evaluation for you. The instructor may, however, provide an evaluation to give information about why you failed or did not complete the course. If you are placed on probation, information from such evaluations will be considered by the academic standing review committee of your college along with the evaluations of the courses that you complete successfully. Evaluations for courses for which you do not receive a passing grade are not included in your official transcript.

Academic Senate Regulation 9.2 contains the general policy on evaluations.

Comprehensive Exam and Thesis Grades

Comprehensive examinations and senior theses are graded Honors, Pass, or Fail. When you are awarded Pass or Honors for your comprehensive examination or senior thesis, the notation is posted to your academic record after you complete graduation requirements. The faculty who administer the examination or advise on the senior thesis will write an evaluation of your performance. This evaluation becomes a part of your official academic record. See [Declaring Majors and Minors](#), on page 52 for further information.

A student who does not pass the comprehensive examination may be permitted to repeat it once. Exams or theses of students receiving Honors or Fail are read by at least two readers.

Academic Senate Regulation 9.3.1 contains the general policy on grading of comprehensive examinations.

Honors

Dean's List Honors

Students will be considered for quarterly Dean's Honors if they have earned a minimum of 15 units that quarter, of which at least 10 are graded, with a term grade point average equal to or higher than that required for University Honors at graduation in their group¹ for the current academic year. The notation "Dean's Honors" will appear on the transcript.

Honors at Graduation

Honors at graduation are awarded by the University and by the separate Majors and Colleges based upon a review of their graduates' academic records. In general, these honors are limited to 15% of the graduating class. University Honors are based upon cumulative UC Grade Point Average. Faculty review for Major and College honors may involve additional criteria.

University Honors

To be considered for University Honors at graduation students must have completed 70 or more units at the University of California and have attained within their group^{*} a UC GPA that places them in the rankings as follows: Summa Cum Laude, top 2%; Magna Cum Laude, next 3%; Cum Laude, next 10%. Each year the Registrar will calculate the GPA thresholds required for these levels of University Honors, based on the GPAs of recent graduates. The notation "University Honors" will appear on the diploma and transcript.

^{*}GPA thresholds for Baskin School of Engineering majors are calculated separately from those of majors in all other divisions

Honors in the Major

At graduation, the department sponsoring a student's major program may confer Honors or Highest Honors in the major. This notation appears on the transcript as well as on the diploma. In general, no more than 15% of the graduating class in a major will be awarded Honors at graduation.

College Honors

Colleges review their graduating students for academic achievement and according to criteria set by the college faculty reviewers. This notation appears on the transcript as well as on the diploma. In general, no more than 15% of the graduating class of a college will be awarded Honors at graduation.

Deadlines

To be considered for honors in the major or college honors, students must apply to graduate by the Registrar's deadline.

Any Student who has a reportable disciplinary sanction for a violation of academic integrity policies may be ineligible for any honors designation, at the discretion of the agency that awards the designation.

Honors Societies

Many UC Santa Cruz students are members of departmental, professional, local, and national honor societies whose goals are to recognize and improve scholastic standing in an area of interest. Among these are: Phi Beta Kappa (the oldest national society that advances scholarship and recognizes excellence in the liberal arts and sciences); Tau Beta Pi (the Engineering honor society that recognizes students of distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and dedication to service; and Psi Chi (which encourages, stimulates, and maintains excellence in scholarship, and advances the science of Psychology).

UCSC Undergraduate Grading Policies

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	Undergraduates Entering UCSC Fall 2001 and After	
	Undergraduates Entering UCSC Fall 1997–Spring 2001	
Enrollment	1 When students enroll, letter grading is the default. The P/NP option is available only to students in good academic standing.	2 When enrolling, students are required to choose either letter grading or Pass/No Pass grading.
	1 2 Students may change the grading option up to the 15th day of instruction.	
Withdrawal	1 2 After the last day to drop a course, students may withdraw from a course whether enrolled for a letter grade or for Pass/No Pass grading. The Academic and Administrative Calendar lists deadlines for withdrawing from a course.	
Grades	1 2 If enrolled in a course for a letter grade, students will receive a grade of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, F, W (Withdraw), I (Incomplete), or IP (In Progress). If enrolled in a course for Pass/No Pass, students will receive a grade of P (Pass), NP (No Pass), W (Withdraw), I (Incomplete), or IP (In Progress). Note: Beginning fall 2001, NP grades will appear on official transcripts of all students, like all other grades.	
Evaluations	1 2 For each course in which credit is earned, whether letter graded or Pass/No Pass, all students will receive an evaluation. Evaluations are a permanent part of the academic record. All students may request transcripts either with or without evaluations.	
UCSC Grade Point Average	1 For all students, a UCSC GPA is calculated from UCSC courses, courses taken through the Education Abroad Program, and courses taken on another UC campus in an intercampus exchange program. The UCSC GPA is displayed on the official transcript. Courses taken through the Domestic Exchange Program and UC Extension are not calculated in the UC or the UCSC GPA.	2 Students who have received a letter grade in at least 2/3 of their credits attempted at UCSC have a UCSC GPA calculated and displayed on their official transcripts. Students who receive letter grades in fewer than 2/3 of their UCSC credits attempted are not eligible for UCSC GPA. Courses taken through the Domestic Exchange Program and UC Extension are not calculated in the UC or the UCSC GPA.
UC Grade Point Average	1 2 All students have a UC GPA calculated from courses taken for a letter grade at UCSC, at other UC campuses, and through the Education Abroad Program. The UC GPA is not on the official transcript but is available from the Student Portal when checking grades from a previous quarter. Your UC GPA must be at least 2.0 in order for you to graduate. Courses taken through the Domestic Exchange Program and UC Extension are not calculated in the UC or the UCSC GPA.	
Satisfying Requirements	1 Departments may require that some or all courses used to satisfy the major must be taken for a letter grade.	
	1 2 A course graded D or F cannot be used to satisfy a course prerequisite or to satisfy major or general education requirements. Credits earned with a D will not count toward satisfactory academic progress. Any course graded P is equivalent to a C or better and can be used to satisfy general education requirements and will count towards satisfactory academic progress.	
Incompletes	1 2 The notation I (Incomplete) may be assigned when work for a course is of passing quality but is not complete. Prior arrangements must be made with the instructor for a grade of I. To remove the Incomplete, the student must file a petition and the completed course work by the deadline on the last day of the following quarter. If an I is not removed by the deadline, it will lapse to F or NP, depending on the grading option in effect. The F and the NP will appear on official transcripts, along with the removal of incomplete notation.	
Repeats	1 2 Undergraduates may repeat courses in which they earn a D, F, or No Pass. Courses in which a D or F is earned may not be repeated on a Pass/No Pass basis. Courses in which a grade of No Pass is earned may be repeated on the same basis or for a letter grade. Students may only repeat a maximum of 15 credits for courses in which a grade of D or F was received. In computing the GPA for these repeats, only the grade and corresponding grade points earned the last time the course was taken will be used. After the 15-credit maximum is reached, the GPA will be based on all grades assigned and total credits attempted. To repeat a course more than once, consult with your college adviser. Credit is not awarded more than once for the same course, but the grade assigned each time the course is repeated will be permanently recorded on the official transcript.	
Graduation Requirements	1 No more than 25 percent of the UCSC credits applied toward graduation may be graded on a Pass/No Pass basis. This includes any credits completed in the Education Abroad Program or on another UC campus in an intercampus exchange program. Departments may require that some or all courses used to satisfy the major must be taken for a letter grade.	2 There is no limit on the number of credits graded Pass/No Pass which may be applied toward graduation.
	1 2 Students must complete all requirements for the major with a grade of P, C (2.0), or better. All undergraduates, regardless of when they entered UCSC, must meet the minimum UC GPA requirement of 2.0 in order to receive a degree from UCSC. See the section on <i>Catalog Rights</i> (page 5) regarding graduation requirements in effect for each student.	