

FAQ – Alternate Grading Option – Fall 2020

Q1: Is the Alternate Grading Option available to all students?

- Yes, all students are eligible to elect the alternate grading option. Below you will find the alternate grades for undergraduate and graduate courses:

Undergraduate Courses	Graduate Courses
SE - Satisfactory - performance at the levels of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+ or C and full course credit is earned.	SE – Satisfactory - performance at the levels of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+ or C and full course credit is earned.
PE – Pass - performance at the levels of C- or D and full course credit is earned.	UE – Unsatisfactory - reflects performance at the levels of C- and D. Full course credit is earned but courses graded with UE cannot be used to fulfill graduate degree requirements.
NE – No Pass - performance at the level of F and no course credit is earned.	NE – No Pass - performance at the level of F and no course credit is earned.

Q2: Is the Alternate Grading Option available to students on all of the RIT campuses?

- Alternate Grading is available to students on the main campus (Rochester) and those in Croatia, Kosovo and Dubai.

Q3: When can students choose the Alternate Grading Option?

- Beginning on December 1st, students can elect up to two of their classes (some exceptions apply, as outlined in policy document - classes such as wellness, thesis, etc) to the alternate grading option. Students will find the request form on <https://sis.rit.edu>. Students will only be able to select a class after the grade has been submitted.

Q4: How do students declare the Alternate Grading Option?

- The “Alternate Grading Option” request form can be found at <https://sis.rit.edu>. The option to select grades for Fall 2020 will not be available until December 1st and only after a grade has been received.

Q5: Is there a limit to how many courses a student can declare the Alternate Grading Option on?

- Once grades have been assigned, students will have the option to elect up to two (2) of their classes to be graded on a Satisfactory/Pass/No Pass basis. Students with course grades on the undergraduate and graduate side of the transcript in the same semester (example: BS/MS students) are still limited to a total of two courses to be graded with an alternate grading option across both sides of the transcript.

Q6: Is there a deadline for declaring the Alternate Grading Option?

- It is likely that soon after seeing your grades, you will know right away if you would like to elect the alternate grading option. Students are encouraged to elect the alternate grading option as soon as possible however it must be completed before your degree is awarded.

Q7: If a student is graduating in Fall 2020, at what point is this option to select the alternative grading option closed?

- Students graduating this term, need to make the decision regarding the alternate grading option soon after grading is complete. Decisions should be finalized by Friday, December 14th.

Q8: If a student elects the Alternate Grading Option, how will that appear on the official and unofficial transcripts?

- If the alternate grading option is selected by the student then that is the only grade that will be reflected on the transcript. If the alternate grading option is **not** selected, the earned grades as reported by the instructor will be reported on the transcript.

Course	Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
CSCI 603	Computational Problem Solving	3.000	3.000	SE	0.000
CSCI 605	Adv OO Programming Concepts	3.000	3.000	UE	0.000
MATH 607	Graduate Seminar II	1.000	0.000	NE	0.000
Term GPA		7.000	6.000	GPA Units	0.000
0.000		Term			0.000

Q9: How does the Alternate Grading Option impact prerequisites on courses? (CHANGE FOR FALL 2020)

- Grades of SE will satisfy any prerequisites that require a C or better. A PE grade, which was based on a grade of C- will satisfy any prerequisites that require a C- or better, however, if the PE grade was based on a D grade, the C- or better prerequisite will NOT be satisfied. NE equates to a failing grade and will not earn credits or allow for course progression.

Q10: If a student opts to have one class graded as Satisfactory/Pass/No Pass (Alternate Grading Option) and the remaining classes are graded and the semester GPA is greater than 3.4, does that still qualify the student for Dean's list?

- By action of the college concerned, full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students will be placed on the Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.40, calculated using at least nine credits of traditionally graded coursework; they do not have any grades of "NE", "Incomplete", "D" or "F", (including wellness and any other non-credit but required courses); and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Q11: In the case of a dual-degree (BS/MS), if an undergraduate course results in a C- or a D, would that still get credit? Just to clarify, the UE grade only applies to graduate courses?

- Yes, the UE grade is only for graduate courses (see table above). Both the PE and UE grades earn credit however UE grades cannot be used to complete any graduate course requirements.

Q12: If a student elects the alternate grading option, can they change their mind and revert back to the grade issued by the instructor?

- Yes. While the University recommends that students make a decision to choose the alternate grading option seriously and with careful attention, students are permitted to change their mind and revert back to the grade issued by the instructor. The decision to revert back to the letter grade must be completed before a student's degree is certified. The "Alternate Grading Option" request form can be found at <https://sis.rit.edu>.

Q13: What if students require letter grades for professional programs, employment or graduate studies?

- Because letter grades will be recorded, it will be possible for students to request an official letter from the Office of the Registrar attesting those grades should that be necessary. RIT will ensure that those who need evidence of a student's academic achievements this Spring will be able to get it. Additionally, students can elect to revert back to the traditional grading option should they choose (as outlined above).

Q14: Who should students contact if they have further questions about the Alternate Grading Option?

- Please email registrar@rit.edu with any additional questions.