

Graduate Policy: Alternate Grading Option (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass)

Rochester Institute of Technology has adopted an amended grading option that graduate students can elect to take advantage of for the Fall 2020 (2201) and Spring 2021 (2205).

- At the conclusion of the semester all instructors will assign grades for classes as normal.
- Once grades have been assigned, students will have the option to elect **up to two**ⁱ of their classes to be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass basis.
- This option is available for graduate courses that are traditionally graded *excluding* comprehensive exam, thesis and seminars already designated as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.
- Students are permitted to have a combination of traditionally graded coursework and Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass coursework.

If a graduate student elects the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass option, they will earn credit in the following manner:

Grade	Description
SE	Satisfactory - performance at the levels of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+ or C and full course credit is earned.
UE	Unsatisfactory - 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.

Courses graded with the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass option will not impact the term or cumulative GPA.

- Grades of UE do not qualify to be used toward graduate degree requirements. This grade represents work completed at the C- or D level, which per policy may also not be used toward graduate degree requirements.

Starting after grades are submitted, students may elect to change courses to the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass option with a limit of **two courses**. The option remains available until the time the degree is certified.

A student may also request that the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/No Pass option be changed back to a regular letter grade, which will then be calculated in the term and cumulative GPA. Such a request will be honored if made before the student degree is certified. Should an instance occur in which the importance of a traditional grade is not known until after degree certification, the University will have an appeal process in place by which students can request that special attention be paid to their request for grade reversal. This request will be managed by the Office of the Registrar and in consultation with the college Dean's Office and the Office of the Provost.

ⁱ 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.