

PROVOST REPORT TO FACULTY COUNCIL - FALL TERM GRADES

GPA RESULTS

The table below shows fall-term grades converted to their GPA equivalents and averaged by year level per specific term. You will note the prominent increase in the average GPA in the 20/FA term over previous fall terms, particularly at the first and second-year level. For 20/FA please note that the calculation is before the alternative grade choice was recorded in the system (i.e., this includes all letter grades). It is clear that course instructors were considering the impacts of COVID on student success in their grading and course designs.

	15/FA	16/FA	17/FA	18/FA	19/FA	20/FA	6 yr Avg
100 Level	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6	3.2	2.6
200 Level	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.9	3.3	2.9
300 Level	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.2
400 Level	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6
	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.3	2.9

FALL – TERM ALTERNATIVE GRADES

There was a total of 777 alternative grades elected in the fall term after final grades were submitted. This represents 7.92% of the total of 9812 grades administered. 29.5% of these were automatic conversions of D-level grades to CP. 51% were conversions of C-level grades to P. 18% of conversions were in the B range, and there were four A- grades converted to P.

There was a substantial increase in the number of students who achieved TGPA's of 3.65 and higher this Fall term. The five-year rolling average prior to this fall was 404 students, and this term we saw 538 students achieve this result. Of these, only 8(!) students elected alternative grades, and 7 of these students converted only one grade to a P (one student chose two conversions). Fall-term alternative grades therefore had minimal impact on scholarship renewal eligibility.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Relatively few alternative grades were elected by students, and these largely (roughly 80%) replaced C-level (satisfactory) grades with a P, and D-level grades (Conditional Pass) with a CP. These were not factored into the GPA calculation.
2. Alternative grades had minimal impact on scholarship renewability but may have impacted potential academic probation or suspension in some cases.
3. Faculty adjusted grading and course design to account for the learning challenges of COVID, resulting in higher-than-normal grades for the 20/FA term.