New temporary academic grading policy: How do CR, CR-D, and NC grades work?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Notation Requirements</th>
<th>Earns a unit</th>
<th>Counts for general education</th>
<th>Counts as meeting pre-requisites</th>
<th>Counts toward major/minor requirements</th>
<th>Has an impact on GPA (+ or -)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard Grade “A-D” letter grade</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>*Maybe</td>
<td>*Maybe</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit “CR” *Must earn C- or better</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit with D “CR-D” *Must earn D- or better</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>*Maybe</td>
<td>*Maybe</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Credit “NC”</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal “W”</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**While most courses require a grade of C- or better for a course to count as a pre-requisite or a major/minor requirement, some may only require a D- or better. Standard grades of “F” will not earn units, count towards general education, prerequisites, or major/minor requirements, and will negatively impact GPA.**

**FAQ:**

**Q.** What are grading options students have available?

**A.** Students have two options: 1) Standard Grading 2) New Spring 2020 grading option (CR, CRD, NC). Option 1, standard grading, is what you have been doing until recently. The student will be given a letter grade “A-F” that may or may not earn a unit, meet graduation requirements or major/minor/general education requirements based on grade. Option 2, New Spring 2020 grading option (CR, CRD, NC), allows students to opt in and the grade earned will determine the notation on their transcript and if it meets any units earned, graduation requirements, or major/minor/general education requirements (see above chart).
Q. What is the deadline to withdraw from a course or choose Credit/Credit with D/No Credit option?
A. The deadline is Friday, April 24th by 5:00 pm

Q. How would a student go about changing from letter grade to credit/no credit option?
A. Students will be able to log into Banner Web on or after March 27th to complete a survey requesting the change. Under the “Personal Information” tab choose “Answer a Survey”. The survey and related instructions are available there. Responses are due by 5 p.m. EDT Friday, April 24, 2020. Please visit the registrars website for more information.

Q. How do I advise a student on the best option?
A. There are a variety of reasons a student may choose an alternate grade option from the standard grading. Here are a few that may arise and some considerations as you talk with students:
  o Will this impact my financial aid?- The new policies enacted for the 2020 (only) spring semester will not impact your financial aid as long as you continue to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress, including completion of enough earned units and meeting the minimum GPA for your term of enrollment. A course graded as a CR/NC will count as an attempted unit, and NC grades will NOT count as earned units. As always, please refer students to the Office of Financial Aid at finaid@richmond.edu with questions.
  o Will this impact my satisfactory academic progress(SAP) or result in probation?-Click here to review SAP guidelines
  o Is this class for a major or minor: Some majors may require a minimum grade in all major/minor courses, please review individual program requirements with your student and refer to chart above
  o Will this impact graduate school: If a student is taking a course for graduate school, the standard grading option may be best if the student needs minimum grade requirements.
  o I took it because it looked interesting and to help me be full-time. I will meet my minimum units to graduate-All options are available except “W”
  o Student is having a really hard time with the online learning environment and staying in the course is causing more harm and stress than good—“W” may be the best option in consultation with their advisor and college dean
  o Is there a GPA concern: If the student’s GPA is not as high and there is a concern, standard grading may not be the best option

Q. What is the difference between P/F and the new spring 2020 grading option (CR, CRD, NC)?
A. The biggest different is that CR/CRD/NC does not impact the GPA if a student fails the class, unlike P/F if a student fails a course it will impact their GPA.

Q. What do I do if a student has an incomplete?
A. No grades of “I”, “M”, or “V” will be assigned for Spring 2020. Only “Y” grades should be given for incompletes for the spring. Please work with the student to determine a timeline for course completion. Only “W” grades will be given for courses dropped after the deadline period, no “M” grades shall be given.

Q. Is there a limit on the number of “CR”, “CRD”, or NC a student can have?
A. There is no limit on the number of courses for which a student can be enrolled and have “CR”, “CRD”, or NC notations. Spring 2020 notations will not count against student-selected courses with P/F

Q. Can a student switch a course that is currently pass/fail to the new grading option of CR/CRD/NC?
A. If the course was originally a standard-graded course and the student opted for pass/fail, they can change to CR/NC. If the course is only offered as a P/F course—the policy does not offer an option to change it to CR/NC.

Q. What should we tell students who elect to withdraw from courses this semester but the withdrawal drops them below the 3.5 units required to be a full-time student?
A. Students can drop below full-time status without dean’s permission for this semester only. They just need to do the withdraw part of the Banner survey that opens March 27th. They will still be subject to SAP rules for financial aid and institutionally. Dean’s may take the present situation into account for institutional SAP. For financial aid, students should contact that office.

Q. What about summer courses?
A. General education course taken Summer 2020, regardless of method of delivery can count toward meeting general education requirements.

**This is not exhaustive, but a good place to start. Should any issues arise that are not covered, please reach out to the AARC.