Grading Options
1 message

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Cc: Lori Kletzer <lkletzer@ucsc.edu>, Tchad Sanger <cpsanger@ucsc.edu>, Stacey Sketo-Rosener <ssketo@ucsc.edu>, senate@ucsc.edu, alldeptmanagers@ucsc.edu, coda@ucsc.edu, preceptors@ucsc.edu, CP/ EVC <cpevc@ucsc.edu>

March 18, 2020

To: UC Santa Cruz Faculty
From: Richard Hughey, Vice Provost & Dean, Undergraduate Education
Subj: Grading Options

We are facing a time of unprecedented challenges, and I appreciate your flexibility and commitment to our students as we adjust daily, and even several times a day, to this rapidly changing situation.

As we move toward winter quarter grading, I want to encourage instructors to continue to respond flexibly as students seek to navigate travel, technology, and other challenges in the completion of assignments. Academic Senate committees have provided communications (listed below) to provide additional options for faculty in grading:

- Instructors may grade based on material already available if the instructor believes such grades will be accurate.
- Instructors may choose not to use + or – modifiers if this is consistent with their syllabus or if a student consents.
- Instructors may assign P and NP grades to letter-grade-option students if the student consents to being graded on this basis. The P and NP grades have been added as options in MyUCSC (AIS) for Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 letter-graded students. Such P/NP grades are not considered to be temporary grades.
- If these options are not possible, "the instructor should offer students reasonable options to replace the missing work." The options should be discussed with the course- sponsoring department chair or college provost.
- If a student is unwilling or unable to assist the instructor in obtaining enough information to assign a grade, an I (Incomplete) grade or a failing grade can be assigned.
    - Incompletes from fall 2019 or winter 2020 will need to be finished by the student by the spring 2020 removal of incomplete deadline, Thursday, June 11.
    - Students, through a petition process, will be able to convert such grades to Withdraw (W), or to remove the course from the transcript.
- With these options, fall 2019 and winter 2020 courses can be fully graded.
    - CEP does not support the extension of partial grade rosters to Winter 2020 grades. However, to make possible timely (March 25) posting of grades in cases where instructors have received some but not all grading information, instructors can save grades in the grade roster and, as a one-time request, seek approval for partial posting by email to vpdue@ucsc.edu, copying the relevant department chair or college provost for concurrence.
- Instructors with unfinished grading for fall 2019 courses should determine the approach(es) they will take and complete fall 2019 grading in early spring quarter.
- Students may also access the Senate's grade grievance process, however with these options, it is hoped that all students will be able to be appropriately graded.
- Several of these options presently only apply to fall 2019 and winter 2020 grading.

Please feel free to contact me at vpdue@ucsc.edu with comments or questions.

Communications:
- January 23. CEP. Impacts of missing fall 2019 grades.
- February 7. VPDUE. Temporary Pass (P) grading.
- February 13. CEP. Faculty mentors or chairs may grade fall 2019 student-led courses.
- March 5 and March 6. CEP. Fall grades.
- March 6b. CCI, CEP, GC, COT. Changes to syllabus.
- March 12a. CEP. Examinations and grades in winter quarter courses.
- March 12b. CEP. Student options for missing grades.
- March 16. CEP, GC, CCI. Contingency planning.