

**Faculty FAQ:
CR/NC Spring 2020 Emergency Grading Policy**

[Link to COVID-19 Protocol Amending Grades Policy \(404.13\) for Spring 2020 passed by UA Little Rock Faculty Senate on March 20, 2020](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1gnhgNGkjSzZ0V4fhB0IAthH8tMf4DNb7f)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1gnhgNGkjSzZ0V4fhB0IAthH8tMf4DNb7f>

[Link to Faculty Senate President Amanda Nolen's Email Announcement about Grading Change to University Assembly \(29 March 2020\)](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tHOs5v0cx7zZe5fHm17WM5CaISQtAZ69)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tHOs5v0cx7zZe5fHm17WM5CaISQtAZ69>

[Link to CR/NC "Decision Tree"](#)

(for students and faculty to determine whether or not the CR/NC grading option will be beneficial to a student)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1aNRem3cqHaeTNqzV-41prM4UAftTCPta>

[Link to Student FAQ](#)

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1d-JB7yZtAm7Zu_RbHeadoclhYVR9sXrq

- **What is the process for determining whether or not a course is eligible for the emergency CR/NC grading option? Do individual instructors make this decision?**

Program faculty--not individual instructors--determine if the CR/NC option is appropriate for their courses. In making this decision, program faculty may consider licensure and accreditation implications, pre-requisite implications, student learning outcomes in required courses, etc. It is possible that a program faculty decide to extend the CR/NC option to all courses in a program, no courses in a program, or only certain courses in a program for spring 2020. The intent is that programs embrace this option to provide flexibility for students and not opt out for ideological reasons.

- **How will it be communicated to students if a course is eligible for the CR/NC grading option?**

For courses that will offer the CR/NC grading option, instructors should update their syllabi and announce to students that the course is eligible. Instructors should also announce the option via email and Blackboard announcements. Department chairs can also help disseminate this information through listserves or other announcement media.

Suggested syllabus statement (with links) for courses that will offer CR/NC:

This course is eligible for the emergency CR/NC grading option outlined in the UA Little Rock Faculty Senate [COVID-19 Protocol Amending Grades Policy \(404.13\) for Spring 2020](#). According to this policy, students may request the CR/NC grading option via email exchange with their instructor up until 5:00 PM on the last day of classes for the spring 2020 term. In undergraduate classes, a final grade of CR = A, B, or C; NC = D or F. For graduate classes, a final grade of CR = A or B; NC = C, D, or F.

For more information, students should contact their course instructor or program advisor. Students can also consult this [Student FAQ](#) and the [CR/NC "Decision Tree"](#) to see if the CR/NC grading option will benefit them.

- **Does the CR/NC syllabus statement have to be included in the updated syllabi uploaded to the Provost's Office by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 31?**

It would be ideal to have the CR/NC statement included in this statement, but it is not reasonable to expect program faculty to meet and decide on CR/NC options by that deadline. It will not be necessary to re-upload syllabi with CR/NC information to the Provost's repository, but instructors must ensure that the CR/NC grading option has been appropriately communicated in writing and amended to updated syllabi.

- **My program has determined that my course is eligible for the CR/NC grading option. What is the process for awarding this final grade?**
 1. Instructors communicate to students that the option is available via email/Blackboard announcement and updating their course syllabi
 3. Individual students communicate to the faculty that they want/do not want to take the option via email exchange by 5:00 PM on the last day to withdraw from the part-of-term
 4. The instructor saves the email exchange that documents the student and instructor's agreement to the CR/NC grading option as a PDF. Then the instructor uploads the PDF into BOSS>Faculty Services>COVID-19 Spring 2020 CR/NC Agreement Upload.
 5. When inputting grades, the instructor records the CR/NC grade for those students who chose CR/NC and A-F for the rest of the students.
- **Is there guidance to help students determine whether or not a CR/NC final grade would be beneficial to them?**

Yes, students and faculty can consult this CR/NC "Decision Tree."

- **What is the definition of CR/NC for this spring emergency legislation?**

For undergraduate courses,
CR = A, B, or C

NC = D or F

For graduate courses,

CR = A or B

NC = C, D, or F

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee defined CR/NC in this way to protect transferability of credits and NCAA eligibility.

- **What will this semester's emergency grading protocol look like on student transcripts?**

UA Little Rock is following the best practices of colleges and universities across the nation that are also adopting emergency grading policies. UA Little Rock will notate student transcripts in such a way that will indicate that spring 2020 courses were impacted by emergency COVID-19 pandemic protocol. Transcripts will also provide a special key for the spring 2020 semester that defines CR/NC.

- **I have other questions not addressed here. Where can I go for help?**
 - Consult with your department chair
 - Send an email to Faculty Senate President Amanda Nolen (alnolen@ualr.edu) or Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Erin Finzer (esfinzer@ualr.edu)
 - Consult the [Student FAQ](#) (also linked above)
 - Read the [amended policy](#) (also linked above)
 - Read Faculty Senate President Amanda Nolen's [message](#) to the University Assembly (29 March 2020; also linked above)