UVA SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
GRADING POLICIES FOR SPRING 2020
ISSUED: MARCH 19, 2020 (V.3)

The University of Virginia has established an updated grading policy for undergraduate students for the Spring 2020 semester, adopted by all Schools and degree programs. The School of Architecture has subsequently also reviewed and issued a policy on grading for its graduate students. Both policies can be found in this document.

UNDERGRADUATE GRADING FOR SPRING 2020

• For this semester, the default grading system for all undergraduate students will be Credit/General Credit/No Credit (CR/GC/NC). This is essentially the same as a Pass/Fail system. There are three grading designations under this policy described as:

  Credit (CR): awarded if a student meets the class’s requirements for credit (C or higher). For Spring 2020 only, CR will meet all undergraduate degree requirements, including prerequisites, general education, and requirements for majors and minors. CR will not count towards your GPA.

  General Credit (GR): awarded if a student receives a passing grade below a C. GC will earn the credit hours associated with the course and will fill undergraduate requirements that can be met by a passing grade lower than a C. GC will not affect your GPA.

  No Credit (NC): awarded if a student receives a grade of F. This grade will not earn credit or meet any requirements. NC will not affect your GPA.

• All students have the option of taking a letter grade for any course (see deadline noted below) instead of receiving Credit/General Credit/No Credit.

• All courses taken for CR/GC/NC during Spring 2020 will not be factored into a student’s GPA. All courses taken for a letter grade during Spring 2020 will be factored into a student’s GPA.

• UVA will include a designation on students’ transcripts to indicate that the CR/GC/NC option was created in the midst of an extraordinary crisis and part of the University’s effort to manage the transition to online instruction.

• This policy applies to all undergraduate level courses offered during the Spring 2020 semester.

• Students may elect CR/GC/NC for an individual course, multiple courses, or all current Spring 2020 courses.
• Students have until the last day of spring semester classes — **Tuesday, April 28** — to elect to receive a letter grade or select the CR/GC/NC option. This selection will occur through SIS and will allow students to make their choice for each course individually. Instructions on how to make your selection can be found [HERE](#) and within the Resources Section of the SARC website.

*More information about the factors considered in developing this policy are provided at the end of this document.*

**GRADUATE GRADING FOR SPRING 2020**

• **For this semester, the default grading system for all graduate students will be Credit/No Credit (CR/NC).** This is essentially the same as a Pass/Fail system.

• All students have the option of taking a letter grade for any course (see deadline noted below) instead of receiving Credit/No Credit.

• **A pass (Credit) for graduate students will be a B- or better grade.** Students must complete the class with a grade of B- or better to receive credit. If a student is unable to complete the course or receives a C+ or lower, the student will receive NC (No Credit).

• All courses taken for CR/NC during Spring 2020 will count toward curricular, major, and graduation requirements if completed with a CR (Credit) designation.

• All courses taken for CR/NC during Spring 2020 will **not** be factored into a student’s GPA. All courses taken for a letter grade during Spring 2020 **will** be factored into a student’s GPA.

• UVA will include a designation on students’ transcripts to indicate that the CR/NC option was created in the midst of an extraordinary crisis and part of the University’s effort to manage the transition to online instruction.

• This policy applies to all graduate level courses offered at the School of Architecture during the Spring 2020 semester. Graduate students who are taking graduate-level courses outside the School of Architecture should consult their professor for grading options for those specific classes.

• **Students may elect CR/NC for an individual course, multiple courses, or all current Spring 2020 courses.**

• Students have until the last day of spring semester classes — **Tuesday, April 28** — to elect to receive a letter grade or select the CR/NC option. This selection will occur through SIS and will allow students to make their choice for each course individually. Instructions on how to make your selection can be found [HERE](#) and within the Resources Section of the SARC website.

*More information about the factors considered in developing this policy are provided at the end of this document.*
SPRING 2020 GRADING POLICY — BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The decision to make the change to a Credit/General Credit/NoCredit (CR/GC/NC) grading system for the Spring 2020 was not an easy one. It involved all the deans and leadership of the undergraduate schools as well as upper administrative leadership across the university. This was also discussed among, and unanimously supported by our internal leadership group—all the deans, chairs, and program directors—at the School of Architecture.

Given the many known, and unknown, challenges that students are facing because of the changes that have come about due to the coronavirus, the established grading policy reflected the most compassionate and empathetic response administration could make to support student needs.

Administration also took into consideration that students had already completed seven weeks, more than 50% of the semester, before the operational changes that occurred after spring break. For this reason, and to ensure that this decision is not met with discouragement, and to give all students the most flexibility possible, students also have the option to take a letter grade. The letter grade will count toward an overall GPA, whereas a Credit (Pass) will not. Both, however, will fully count toward majors, minors and degrees as they would have previously.

In order to be equitable and fair to the School of Architecture’s graduate students who are also dealing with similar issues to undergraduate students, the School is extending this model to our graduate students as well. This was decided and unanimously supported by the School’s academic leadership. At the graduate-level, the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grading policy is made at the discretion of each individual School and is not a University-wide policy.

IMPACTS TO HOW STUDENTS ARE EVALUATED

This grading system change DOES NOT, in any way, affect the evaluation/grading system for each class. Despite the default of a Pass/Fail (Credit/No Credit) system, all students will be graded throughout the remainder of the semester as they normally would. At the end of the semester, these grades will then be simply be converted into a Pass/Fail (Credit/No Credit) or remain as a grade for the students who opt for this.

Faculty have been directed to give students clear feedback throughout the remainder of the semester so that students are aware of how they are progressing. If you have concerns about grading and evaluation, please reach out to Associate Dean Anselmo Canfora at anselmo@virginia.edu.