

Grades and GPA

Grading System

The Nazarbayev University Schools use a letter-numerical grading system. A letter grading system A, B, C, D, F includes further differentiation with “+” for the top of the grade range or “-” for the bottom of the grade range. Based on the grades assigned, a grade point average is calculated and recorded on the student’s transcript.

The grading of all modules/course units is under the US style 4-point grade averaging scheme. The Table 1 below shows the point scores associated with each grade:

Grade	Points
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
F	0.00

Table 1. Grades and Equivalents

Administrative Grades

The following notations do not affect the calculation of the grade point average:

Grades	Description	Points
I	Incomplete	N/A
W	Withdrawal	N/A
*in progress	Grade will be assigned later	N/A

Incomplete

When a student has completed a substantial portion of the requirements for a course but due to extenuating circumstances is unable to complete all requirements, the instructor may assign a temporary grade of *Incomplete*. The grade of “I” has no grade points and is not included in the calculation of the GPA. When the work that is required under an *Incomplete* agreement is completed, the original grade of “I” will be removed from the student’s record upon submission of a new grade by the instructor or the conversion of the “I” to an “F”.

Withdrawal

The grade of W denotes a student has withdrawn from the course and has not completed the course requirements. The grade “W” is automatic and not included in the calculation of the GPA.

In progress

The phrase “*in progress*” means that student is still waiting for the grade from instructor. The phrase is assigned for each course of the student, while the grade will not be submitted by the instructor.

Calculation of GPA

The GPA for graduation is computed by dividing the total cumulative grade points by the total graded credits attempted for courses taken in residence at the University. Grade points are calculated by multiplying the number of credits by the numeric value of the grade for each course. The sum of the grade points is then divided by the total graded credits earned.

The following is an example:

<i>European Union</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>1 credit</i>	<i>4.00 (for A) x 1 (credits) = 4.00</i>
<i>Introduction to Macroeconomics</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>4 credits</i>	<i>3.00 (for B) x 4 (credits) = 12.00</i>
<i>Silk Road 2</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>3 credits</i>	<i>0 (for F) x 3 (credits) = 0</i>
<i>World Religions</i>	<i>B-</i>	<i>3 credits</i>	<i>2.67 (for B-) x 3 (credits) = 8.01</i>

Enrolled Credits = 11, Earned Credits = 8

Grade points sum: 4.00+12.00+0+8.01=24.01

GPA=Grade points sum/Enrolled credits=24.01 / 11 = 2.18

Semester GPA: 2.18, Cumulative GPA: 2.18

In the example above there are several expressions which are listed on student's transcript:

Enrolled credits are the sum of the credits which student was registered for at the beginning of the semester

(A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, P, F, I, W).

Earned credits are the sum of the credits, except courses which were graded "F" – Fail, "W" – Withdrawal and

"I" – Incomplete (A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, P).

- Semester GPA** is calculated and based only on grades from courses taken in a particular semester.
- Overall GPA** is based on grades from all courses taken from the beginning of study.

*If the course was transferred from CPS, Credits earned for the Undergraduate transferred course (e.g. Physics and Engineering I with lab) in Fall semester will be counted toward **Semester earned credits, Semester enrolled credits, Overall enrolled credits** and **will influence Semester GPA**.

However, the credits earned for Undergraduate transferred course will not be counted toward Overall earned credits and Overall GPA, instead CPS credits (e.g. Physics I and Physics II, 8 credits) will be counted toward Overall earned credits.

*If the course was retaken, course credits for the first attempt (e.g. Pre-Calculus) in Fall semester will be counted toward **Semester earned credits (except if the student received F grade), Semester enrolled credits, Overall enrolled credits** and **will influence to Semester GPA**. However, only course credits for the **last attempt** will be counted toward **Overall earned credits and will influence on Overall GPA**.