Policy Update  Beginning Fall 2011 the Graduate Faculty Senate, in conjunction with the Registrar’s Office, will make available a grading option for those faculty who wish to assign a plus or minus to a graduate student grade. We hope this change will assist faculty that would like to be able to differentiate beyond the current A, B, C grading scale and allow them to give more accurate feedback when assigning grades to graduate students.

Key Points

- Participation is not mandatory
- Must designate on syllabus which grading scale the course will be using
- Grade point averages will still be calculated on a 4.0 scale
- D grades still may not be awarded

Policy Statement:

Graduate students’ grades in all courses counting toward an advanced degree may be reported as: A +/-, B +/-, and C +/- . Faculty members are not required to use a plus/minus grading scale; that decision should be based on the faculty member’s evaluation of student performance and/or polices of their academic program. Grade point averages are calculated as: A+ (4.0), A (4.0), A- (3.7), B+ (3.3), B (3.0), B- (2.7), C+ (2.3), C (2.0), and C- (1.7). The Graduate School considers grades of C+, C and C- as passing grades; however, grades in the C range may not be acceptable for specific programmatic requirements and may result in the student being unable to maintain a 3.0 cumulative average.

No D grade may be awarded graduate student, and a grade of F means the work has not satisfied the minimum requirements of the course. W denotes withdrawn passing and does not affect a student’s grade point average.