

Accreditation

The University of Alberta is a member of:
Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
Association of Commonwealth Universities

Academic Sessions

The Winter Session is comprised of two terms, each with 13 weeks of instruction plus examination time. For students in the DDS, LLB, and MD programs, the term is 14-16 weeks. Prior to May, 1991, Spring and Summer Sessions were offered, each comprised of two 3-week terms. Effective May, 1991, Spring and Summer Sessions were discontinued and replaced with an Intersession comprised of two 6-week terms. Prior to 1980, Intersession registration for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research was recorded on the transcript; as of the Summer of 1980, this information has not been collected by the Registrar.

Grades and Remarks

In most courses, numeric grades are assigned on a nine-point scale. The distribution of grades need not be standard; rather, instructors are asked to rank the students in their class and then decide what percentage of the class should receive each of the nine possible grades. Therefore, the class average and class enrollment should be considered in evaluating the student's standing. "Pass/Fail" courses are graded as CR or F (see below).

The Nine-Point Grading System

Course Grades Obtained by Undergraduate Students:

9	}	Excellent
8		
7	}	Good
6		
5	}	Satisfactory
4		
3	}	Unsatisfactory
2		
1		

Course Grades Obtained by Graduate Students:

9	}	Excellent
8		
7	}	Good
6		
6	}	Satisfactory
5		
5	}	Unsatisfactory
4		
3		
2		
1		

Other Final Grades

AE	aegrotat standing
AU	registered as an auditor
AW	registered as an auditor and withdrew
CR	completed requirements; no numeric grade assigned
DB	debarred from final examination
DW	did not write
EX	exempt
F	failure; no numeric grade assigned
IN	incomplete
IP	course in progress; completed in another program
W	withdrew with permission
WF	withdrew failing

As of September, 1986 (effective with the 1986-87 Winter Session), a grade of 3 is a failing grade for undergraduate students. Prior to September, 1986, credit might be conceded by a Faculty for a grade of 3 in an individual course if warranted by a student's overall academic record. Effective July 1, 1989, a grade of 5 is a failing grade for graduate students. Prior to July 1, 1989, credit might be conceded by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for a grade of 4 or 5 in an individual course if warranted by a student's overall academic record.

Current Remarks

A	grade includes a mark of '0' for the missed final examination, or for significant term work missed, or both (effective September, 1991)
D	granted deferred final
F	failure
N	credit withheld
R	reexamination granted
+	extra to degree requirements
*	course used by Faculty of Law to satisfy written work requirement

Obsolete Grades and Remarks

AB	absent from final examination (discontinued effective September, 1988)
H	pass with honors standing (discontinued prior to September, 1986)
RC	registration cancelled (discontinued prior to September, 1986)
A	grade included mark of '0' for final examination missed (discontinued effective September, 1991)
B	grade included mark of '0' for term work missed and a mark of '0' for final examination missed (discontinued effective September, 1991)
C	credit conceded (discontinued effective September, 1986)
S	failure, supplemental granted (discontinued effective September, 1985)
X	grade included mark of '0' for some term work missed (discontinued effective September, 1991)

Course Information

Course Weight is assigned for the purpose of calculating a weighted (grade point) average. Normally, a full course carries a weight of 6.0 and includes three hours of lecture per week for the entire session; a half course carries a weight of 3.0 and includes three hours of lecture per week for one term. Parentheses around the weight indicate that the course was not used in the calculation of the grade point average.

Units are used only for the students in undergraduate engineering programs. Units are normally calculated in the same manner as hours of instruction index for courses offered by Engineering and Agricultural Engineering and for required courses offered by other Faculties; for other courses, the unit value of a course is normally the same as the course weight. An asterisk (*) appears beside the unit value for a course not credited towards the degree. Parentheses around the unit indicate that the course was not used in the calculation of the Engineering and Agricultural Engineering term average.

Grade Points are calculated by multiplying the grade by the course weight; for undergraduate students in Engineering and Agricultural Engineering, by multiplying the grade by the unit value. For sessions previous to 8307, the Grade Point Average (GPA) was calculated differently from the current GPA in the following ways: for the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, grades for courses declared 'Extra to Degree' are excluded from the GPA; for the Faculty of Engineering, a grade of 1 was substituted for grades of 'ABF', 'DB', 'F', and 'WF' (For all other faculties; these grades were not included in the GPA.); students in the Faculty of Law had no GPA.

Course Hours: The hours of instruction index is a weighted value based on the number of instruction hours per week as follows: Total hours per week of lecture plus half the hours per week of all other types of instruction, eg., a full course with three hours per week of lecture and three hours per week of seminar for two terms would have an hours of instruction of 9.0. A course weight of 6 may be considered as equal to six semester-hours or nine quarter-hours.

Course Numbering: A major course renumbering came into effect as of the 1990-91 Winter Session. Details of this renumbering are available in the 1990-91 University of Alberta Calendar.