

1. The following definitions of letter grades are a guide to the evaluation of student performance and an indication to students as to what level of performance earns a given grade.

- A      Extraordinarily high achievement; shows unusually complete command of the course content and exceptionally high degree of originality and/or scholarship.
- A-     Outstanding achievement; thorough command of the course content.
- B+     Very good work; above average in performance and comprehension.
- B      Good work; solid and acceptable performance.
- B-     Fair; acceptable performance on most but not all aspects of the course.
- C+     Not wholly satisfactory; marginal performance on several aspects of the course.
- C      Marginal; minimal performance or comprehension regarding important aspects of the course.
- C-     Largely unsatisfactory, inadequate performance or comprehension regarding most aspects of the course.
- D+      D+  
D  
D-     Unacceptable work; performance or comprehension falls substantially below acceptable standards.
- F      Wholly unacceptable; little or no command of the course content.

Counseling by the department is recommended if the final grade is C or below; Student's suitability for continuation in the program should be reconsidered if the final grade is below C-.

2. The above definitions are to be applied to all levels of graduate courses in the School of Education. In 400 and 500 level Education courses taken for graduate credit the modal grade is expected to be B. This means that more Bs (including B+ and B-) will be awarded than any other grade. C's should not be unexpected, particularly in larger enrollment classes. Students in 600 and 700 level Education courses are assumed to be more highly selected and more highly motivated than those in lower numbered courses, consequently they are expected to perform very well. It would not be unusual, therefore to have distributions with more A's than any other grade in these classes.

NOTE: The School of Education requires an average of 3.0 to remain in good standing. No grade lower than a C counts toward a degree. Any graduate program expects students to earn more A's than C's, but C's will be given for marginal work.

In order to make implementation of these guidelines more likely, the Graduate Program Committee also recommends the following.

3. Department chairs are instructed to review the grade distributions of every faculty member in their department and monitor adherence to these guidelines.