

The Graduate School at UNC does not have a traditional ABCDF grading system. Grades are posted in the following categories and do not convert to a traditional numerical scale or GPA.

- H - High Pass
- P - Pass
- L - Low Pass
- F – Fail

This grading policy is in effect for all master’s and doctoral programs within the Graduate School (see <http://gradschool.unc.edu/programs/degreeprograms/>). When employers require a GPA for applicants from programs within the UNC Graduate School, one of two methods may be used to handle this discrepancy:

1. **For on-campus recruitment/applications through University Career Services (UCS)** –the UCS Recruitment Coordinator will communicate with the employing organization to inform them of the grading policy. An alternative procedure will be arranged (such as submitting a transcript in addition to a resume).
2. **For individual online applications through the organization** - it is recommended that the job seeker contact the employer to inquire how to report their grades. If the employer needs additional documentation beyond the transcript, the Associate Dean for Academics in the Graduate School can provide the additional documentation found in Appendix A.

Grading policies in Kenan-Flagler Business School (Business and Accounting), Law, Medicine, or other graduate programs that are not part of the Graduate School may have different policies – employers and students should contact the appropriate career services department for details. Please see The Office of the University Registrar for more information on grading: <http://registrar.unc.edu/AcademicServices/Grades/index.htm>

Please note: the student’s GPA is automatically synced to the Handshake (UCS job and internship) database as a 4.0. This GPA field is locked and cannot be edited. A secondary “department GPA” is available but we recommend that this is left blank as there is no numerical equivalent for the grading system. Student applications will be forwarded to the employer even if the student does not meet the requested qualifications. This includes degree level as well as GPA.



To Whom It May Concern:

In the Graduate School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, each grade assigned for graduate students enrolled in courses numbered 400 or above must be one of the following:

<u>Graduate Permanent Grades</u>	
H	High Pass
P	Pass
L	Low Pass
F	Fail
<u>Special Grading Symbols</u>	
F*	Fail-Administratively Assigned; equivalent to F
S	Satisfactory progress on research courses, thesis, dissertation, and language requirements
NG	No grade assigned
<u>Temporary Grades</u>	
AB	Absent from final examination
IN	Work incomplete

All master's and doctoral programs administered through the Graduate School operate under the same grading system. The graduate grading scale in use at UNC-Chapel Hill is unique in that it cannot be converted to the more traditional ABC grading scale. Our graduate students do not carry a numerical GPA.

In 2002, the Graduate School's Administrative Board did consider changing to a traditional scale. Faculty and students were surveyed, and the final decision was made to retain the present system. Reasons for this decision included the clear distinction between the work expected of a graduate student and that expected of an undergraduate, the academic freedom and inherent value of knowledge generation provided by less of a focus on final grades, and the overwhelming student support for the more collegial and non-competitive environment cultivated by the current system.

Additional details on graduate grading may be found in the Graduate School Handbook at <http://handbook.unc.edu/> or through the Office of the University Registrar in the Registrar Policy Memorandum #24 at http://regweb.unc.edu/resources/rpm_list.php.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Schmitt *SAS*
Associate Dean for Academics, Graduate School