

Notice to all graduate students, faculty and staff:

The approved S/U grading policy for 700, 702 and 800 credits will be implemented Fall 2013. Please see details regarding the S/U grading policy below.

Beginning Fall 2013, the grades available to assign for 700, 702, and 800 credits will be S, U, X, I, or W. For students enrolled in these credits for Fall 2013 and future semesters, the F grade is no longer available. The S/F grades are still available for 700, 702 and 800 credits taken *prior* to Fall 2013.

The U grade, which replaces the F grade, is not calculated in the GPA, but provides a grading mechanism that faculty can apply in a fair and consistent manner when students do not perform satisfactorily in their research/project credits. The S/U grading policy states that if a student receives two U grades during his/her graduate studies, he/she will be considered academically deficient and subject to dismissal from the Graduate School.

Faculty should set requirements for each semester that a student is enrolled in research credits, and provide an S/U grade at the end of the semester based on the student's performance in meeting those requirements. In the event of exam failure, a U grade may be recorded for that semester's 700, 702 or 800 credits.

Because 702, 700 or 800 credits are associated with students' work on research projects or special problems/directed study, a formal course syllabus is not required; however, students are still held accountable for meeting the expectations set by the faculty who are guiding their 702, 700 or 800 work, and for the standards of conduct and the academic integrity requirements to which all WSU students are held accountable. Students found responsible for academic integrity violations in their research or special problems/directed study work for 700, 702, or 800 credits may receive a U grade for unsatisfactory progress for that semester. Repeated and/or serious offenses may result in referral to the conduct board and expulsion from WSU. For graduate students, academic integrity violation may also result in the loss of teaching and/or research assistantships. WSU's Standards of Conduct can be found at <http://conduct.wsu.edu/policies/standards-of-conduct/>.

The Graduate School recommends that the X grade is not used for 700, 702, and 800 credit when students are making satisfactory progress. The X grade provides no credit or grade points. The X grade should be used only in extenuating circumstances to indicate continuing progress toward completion of the requirements. The X grade should be changed when the faculty determines that the student has (or has not) met the requirements for that semester. ***Please note that, for financial aid purposes, the X grade, along with the I, U and W grades, indicates that the student is not making satisfactory academic progress toward their degree because no credit is earned. The X grade will have a negative impact on the student's eligibility for financial aid.***

If there are any questions regarding these policies, please contact Associate Dean Judi McDonald at jmcdonald1@wsu.edu; 509-335-0891