

## Plus/Minus Grading – Faculty FAQs

**Q:** When will Plus/Minus grading be implemented?

**A:** Plus/Minus grading will start with **Fall 2010** semester.

**Q:** How will **honor points** for the GPA be assigned to Plus/Minus grades?

<b>A:</b>	A	= 4.00	B+	= <b>3.33</b>	C+	= <b>2.33</b>	D+	= <b>1.33</b>
	A-	= <b>3.67</b>	B	= 3.00	C	= 2.00	D	= 1.00
			B-	= <b>2.67</b>	C-	= <b>1.67</b>	D-	= <b>0.67</b>
						F	= 0.00	

**Q:** Is there a **standard grading scale** that must be used to assign grades using the Plus/Minus grade scheme?

**A:** **No.** It is up to each individual instructor and/or department to determine the point or percentage value required in a course for each grade in the Plus/Minus grade scheme.

**Q:** How will Plus/Minus grading affect a student's **previous grades**?

**A:** Grades received prior to the implementation of Plus/Minus grading will remain as they were originally earned. The honor points and GPA associated with those grades will remain the same as well. **Plus/Minus grading will only apply to grades earned beginning Fall 2010.**

**Q:** How will Plus/Minus grading affect a **student's academic standing**?

**A:** The **current GPA thresholds** utilized at the University level to determine academic status **will remain the same.** You may refer to the Student Academic Progress section of the undergraduate catalog for specific GPA requirements. Please note that GPA thresholds currently defined as a grade of C or B are considered the basic form of those letter grades: **C = 2.0 and B = 3.0.**

**Q:** How will Plus/Minus grading affect **course prerequisites or program requirements based on GPA**?

**A:** Each college, school, department, program, major and/or minor that utilizes GPA thresholds may choose to examine the existing thresholds in light of Plus/Minus grading and may propose changes through the appropriate governance channels; however, **existing thresholds currently** defined as a grade of C or B **are considered the basic form of those letter grades: C = 2.0 and B = 3.0.**

**Q:** How will the **transcript** be changed to reflect Plus/Minus grading?

**A:** A **notation will be made on the transcript** indicating that the University adopted Plus/Minus grading for undergraduate students effective Fall 2010.

**Q:** Will **Plus/Minus** grading apply to **all students** at WIU?

**A:** Plus/Minus grading has been approved at the undergraduate level, but not at the graduate level. Therefore, Plus/Minus grading will apply to **undergraduate courses only.** Whether a student is a graduate student or an undergraduate, the student will earn a grade from the Plus/Minus grade scheme if s/he takes an undergraduate course.

**Q:** What if I teach a **400(G) course** that can be **taken for either undergraduate or graduate credit**?

**A:** 400-level courses that can be taken for undergraduate credit or graduate credit must use the Plus/Minus grade scheme for undergraduate credit and the basic letter grade scheme (A, B, C, ...) for graduate credit. Just as the syllabus reflects different requirements for the two levels of the course, the syllabus should clearly state the specific grade scheme that will be used for evaluating **undergraduate level (Plus/Minus)** and **graduate level (basic letter)** work.

**Q:** What about **bridge (B) courses** that are taken **for integrated degree programs** (baccalaureate + master's)?

**A:** Students in integrated degree programs who are taking a **400(B) course will have Plus/Minus** grading apply. Students in integrated degree programs who are taking a **500(B) or 600(B) course will not have Plus/Minus** grading apply.

**Q:** **Are faculty** members **required to use Plus/Minus** grading in undergraduate classes once Plus/Minus grading is implemented?

**A:** **Yes.** The Plus/Minus grading system identified above was approved as official university policy and, once fully implemented, is required for all undergraduate level coursework.