

Understanding University Grades:

As a university student, you will learn that different instructors may establish their own unique grading system for their individual courses. This is an accepted practice and a protected faculty right at UNCW, in accordance with the [university's grading policies](#):

Any student considering a grade appeal should understand that each faculty member has the academic freedom and responsibility to determine grades according to any method, chosen by the faculty member, that is professionally acceptable, communicated to everyone in the class, and applied to all students equally.

While some instructors may employ a ten-point scale (e.g. 90-100 = A; 80-90 = B, etc.) and some may employ a seven-point scale (e.g. 93-100 = A; 85-92 = B, etc.), others may design a grading system derived from an accumulation of points earned throughout the semester (e.g. "Out of 435 possible points, an 420-435 will an A+; 400-419 will equal an A," and so on). What is important to remember is this: the **final grade for the course will conform to the university's standardized grading scale**. Meaning, a B+ in a science class operating on a ten-point scale, will earn the same number of quality points as a B+ earned in any other class, regardless of the grading scale the teacher uses. Those interested in reading more about the university's grading scale can find this information the undergraduate catalogue online, under the heading [Grades and Reports](#). Essentially, the scale breaks down as follows:

Grade	Grade Points*	
A	4.00	Excellent
A-	3.67	
B+	3.33	Good
B	3.00	
B-	2.67	
C+	2.33	Average
C	2.00	
C-	1.67	
D+	1.33	Passing
D	1.00	
D-	0.67	
F	0.00	Failure
I	0.00	Incomplete
IP	0.00	In Progress (Multi-Term Courses and Projects)
W	0.00	Withdrawn
WF	0.00	Failure/Late Withdrawal
NR	0.00	Not Reported by Faculty
Z	0.00	Under Appeal
P	0.00	Satisfactory Work

*Earned grade points equal quality points

High School Transcripts vs. University Transcripts:

The greatest difference between your high school transcript and your university transcript is that university grades are alphabetic, whereas high school grades are numeric. Meaning, if you earn a B in high school Algebra, your transcript may reflect a numeric grade of 90; but, a B in your college Algebra course will post to your transcript as an alphabetic grade of B. This can be confusing when you consider the fact that some professors at the university may count a 90 as an A in their course. If you then earn an A in that particular course, it will appear on your transcript as an A; but, on your high school transcript, it will be posted as a 96.

The following is a breakdown of how your university grades align with your high school equivalent:

UNCW Grade	IBEC Equivalent	
A*	96	Excellent
A-	93	
B+	92	Good
B	89	
B-	85	
C+	84	Average
C	80	
C-	77	
D+	76	Passing
D	73	
D-	70	
F	69	Failure
W	W	Withdrawn
WF	69	Failure/Late Withdrawal

*Note: UNCW does not award a grade of A+ in any course