

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

**GRADING NORMS**

**Effective August 2009**

Grading norms are applied only to first year and any other required course.

<b><u>First Year Required Courses</u></b> (except Legal Writing & Research)		<b><u>Legal Writing &amp; Research</u></b>		<b><u>Upperclass Required Courses</u></b> (currently Professional Responsibility and the Legal Profession and Civil Procedure B)
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
A+	(3%) )			(3%) )
A	) 20% )			) 25% )
A-	) 65% )	Honors	25%	) 75% )
_____ )				_____ )
) )				) )
B+, B, B- )				) )
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C+, C	35%			) )
		Pass	---	) 40% )
C-	10%			
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D+, D	10%	Low Pass	20%	10%
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F	5%	Failure	5%	5%
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**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:**

The following policies have been adopted by the faculty concerning grading norms:

1. Before any grades in regularly scheduled examinations are posted, the grades must be approved by the Dean.
2. Whenever there is a substantial deviation from the grading norms, the Dean shall request a meeting with the professor to review grades prior to his/her approving them.
3. The norms apply to the final grades in each course.
4. Grading norms are mandatory in the first year day courses, and the required courses of the first year evening program. Exceptions from the norms may be authorized by the Dean only in exceptional circumstances.
5. The first year norms are to be applied in the second year evening program to those courses required in the first year day program. However, professors should take into account the fact that these students have had the benefit of one year of law school.
6. For upperclass elective courses, there are no mandatory grading norms. For upperclass elective courses with more than 35 students, faculty members are encouraged to follow the grading norms for the upperclass required courses, but are not required to do so.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

**CURRENT GRADING SYSTEM**

**EFFECTIVE 1971-72, AS AMENDED**

Beginning with the class entering September 1968, the grading system is based on a 12 point letter system, the base being C = 2.00. For the period 1968-69 through 1970-71, both letter and number systems were in effect. Beginning September 1971, all students were graded on the letter system. The grading system is as follows:

A+ = 4.00	C+ = 2.33	P = Pass
A = 4.00	C = 2.00	F = Fail* (equivalent to a grade of D+ or below, used prior to May 1978 instead of NC)
A- = 3.67	C- = 1.67	NC = No Credit (equivalent to a grade of C- or below)
B+ = 3.33	D+ = 1.33	I = Incomplete
B = 3.00	D = 1.00	<i>Prior to Fall 2006, after 4<sup>th</sup> week of classes</i>
B- = 2.67	F = 0.00	W = Withdrawal

Beginning Fall 1992 the first year Legal Writing and Research course is graded on the following grading system:

H = Honors
P = Pass
LP = Low Pass
F = Failure

For students graded on the Honors, Pass, Low Pass, Failure System, the Legal Writing and Research grade has no affect on the grade point average.

<i>Beginning Fall 2006, after 4<sup>th</sup> week of classes</i>
WP = Withdrawal with a passing grade earned to date
WF = Withdrawal with a failing grade earned to date
WN = Withdrawal never attended, or no graded work to date
CR = Credit
NCR = No Credit (did not complete program)
Y = Deferred
IP = Course in progress
NR = Not Reported
Z = Audit

Continuance in Law School requires an average of 1.67 or above in the first year. Students with an average of 1.67 to 1.99 are placed on probation and must maintain a 2.00 average on all work taken between that point and the end of the subsequent academic year.

Students first enrolling before June 1974 must earn an average of 2.00 on the 120 quarter credit hours submitted for a degree, including all required courses.

Students entering for the first time in June 1974 or thereafter must complete 120 quarter credit hours and must earn an overall average of 2.00 or better on all hours completed.

Beginning August 1980, the Law School converted to semester hours. Students must complete 80 semester hours and must earn an overall average of 2.00 or better on all hours completed.

Students entering for the first time in June 1981 or thereafter must complete 86 semester hours and must earn an overall average of 2.00 or better on all hours completed.