



Title	Grading System and Grade Records
Category	Academic Policies
Date Approved and/or Revised	August 31, 2017 (revised)

Grading Scale. The following grading scale is used by the law school: A = 4.0, B+ = 3.5, B = 3.0, C+ = 2.5, C = 2.0, D+ = 1.5, D = 1.0, F = 0.0, CR = Credit, NL = No Credit.

Incomplete Grades. The law school does not use "Incomplete" grades. Students are required to complete the work for a course in the semester in which they are registered. Otherwise a student must either withdraw from the course, if given permission by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the professor, or take a "WF" for work not completed. This is a failing grade and will be calculated into the student's average with a grade of "F."

Computation of Grade Point Average. A grade is weighted by the number of credits for the course in order to calculate the grade points (e.g., letter grade for Property, 4-credit course, grade of B, $4 \times 3.0 = 12.0$ grade points). Calculating a student's semester average requires totaling the grade points and dividing them by the total number of graded credits taken for that semester. The cumulative average is calculated by dividing a total of all grade points by the total number of graded credits. Semester and cumulative grade point averages are recorded to the third decimal without rounding. A grade average of 2.5327, for example, is recorded as 2.532.

Credits earned in courses graded "CR" (credit) are not used in calculating a student's average, but do count toward the 90 hours required for graduation. For courses in which a student received an "NL" grade (no credit), credit is not awarded, but such a grade does not affect grade averages.

Grading Policy. The faculty adopted the following grading policy on February 22, 2017, effective with the Fall 2017 Semester.

The Grading Policy

"Evaluation of student work is one of the fundamental obligations of law professors. Examinations and assignments should be conscientiously designed and all student work should be evaluated with impartiality. Grading should be done in a timely fashion and should be consistent with standards recognized as legitimate within the university and the profession." Statement of Good Practices By Law Professors in the Discharge of Their Ethical and Professional Responsibilities (Association of American Law Schools 1969).

"The responsibility for determining all grades and for judging the quality of academic performance in a course rests with the instructor." Student Grade Appeal Operating Policy and Procedure (1)(a) (Texas Tech University 1990).

Principle One. The responsibility to evaluate individual student academic performance and to assess the academic performance of a class of students comes within the discretion of the individual professor. This discretion includes determination of the distribution of grades for the course. The professor is obliged to evaluate the performance of the individual student along with the performances of the class, within the context of the professor's experiences and professional judgment. This responsibility partakes of the individual professor's academic freedom. Consistent with professional standards and university policy, the only external limitation on this evaluation is that the grade or grades cannot be the product of prejudice, or arbitrary or capricious action.

Principle Two. The Faculty recognizes that grading appropriately rests in the sound discretion of the individual professor. At the same time, the Faculty understands that using a grading policy similar to the practices of the law school's peer institutions would provide several benefits. A policy would help to minimize potential employers' misunderstandings in comparison of grades across institutions. It would further minimize grading disparity between sections of the same course in the law school, particularly in first year sections. As such, the Faculty suggests that individual faculty members consider the grade distribution below, acknowledging that the distribution of grades within every course is left to the wisdom of the professor.

Using another grade distribution or departing in any way from this suggested distribution will not constitute grounds for an individual grade appeal. Seminars and other small enrollment classes are not included in these suggested distributions.

Suggested Grade Distribution

A	15%
B+	20%
B	30%
C+	20%
C	10%
D+, D, F	5%

MEAN: 2.95

MEDIAN: B

Grade Reports. Students may view their grades on MyTech at <https://raiderlink.ttu.edu>.

Dean's List. While the Dean does not report an official Dean's List each semester, students who have a semester average of at least 3.200 for a fall or spring semester may report themselves on resumes, etc., as being on the Dean's List for that semester.

Review of Examinations. Students who want to review an exam after taking it should contact their professors.