



*Kum-Kum Bhavnani*  
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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate  
Faculty Representative to the Regents  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

April 16, 2020

**ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS**

**Re: Grading Options for ELWR for Spring 2020**

Dear Colleagues:

The Academic Council has endorsed the enclosed joint recommendation from the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) and the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) to temporarily modify the passing requirement in Senate Regulation 636.C to allow a C- grade or above to satisfy the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) in spring 2020.

I ask Senate Division Chairs to forward the document to the appropriate individuals in the Senate and administration. I wish to thank UCEP and UCOPE for their work on this topic. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kum-Kum Bhavnani".

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair  
Academic Council

Cc: UCOPE Chair Francis  
UCEP Chair Serences  
Senate Directors  
Hilary Baxter, Executive Director, Academic Senate

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

*Darlene Francis, Chair  
University Committee on Preparatory Education  
darlenefrancis@berkeley.edu*

*University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

April 13, 2020

**KUM-KUM BHAVNANI, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC SENATE**

**RE: P/NP grading option for ELWR for spring 2020**

Dear Kum-Kum:

UCOPE has reviewed the attached UCEP recommendation related to the Pass/No Pass grading option and satisfaction of the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) during any term (Quarter, Semester, or Summer) which overlaps with the dates of March 19, 2020 through August 1, 2020,

UCOPE fully supports the recommendation for a one-time exception to allow a student who earns the non-letter-grade option of "P" (or equivalent Pass/Fail grade option) in their division-approved course or program of study to have fulfilled the ELWR during the time period specified above.

UCEP and UCOPE would like to move this joint recommendation forward to Council for approval as quickly as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Francis".

Darlene Francis,  
Chair, University Committee on Preparatory Education



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP)  
John Serences, Chair  
jserences@ucsd.edu

Assembly of the Academic Senate  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
Phone: (510) 987-9466  
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Monday, April 13, 2020

**RE: P/NP grading option for ELWR for spring 2020**

Dear Dr. Francis:

In March of 2020, UCEP provided guidelines to the divisions about the use of P/NP and S/U grade options. These guidelines reaffirmed divisional authority to define policy pertaining to grade options. A problem arises because SR 636.C states with regard to the Entry Level Writing Requirement that any student who receives a C- or below has not fulfilled the requirement. However, some divisions classify C- as equivalent to a "P" in their P/NP grade option policies, and this may prevent students from satisfying the ELWR using the P/NP option.

The current SR 636 C states:

There are two ways a student may satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement subsequent to enrollment at the University of California: by passing the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Examination, or by successfully completing a course or program of study approved for that purpose by an appropriate agency of the Academic Senate Division of the student's campus. (Am 28 May 80; Am 26 May 82; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)

1. To satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement by means of a course, the student must earn a C or above or its equivalent. A student who receives a final grade of C- or below has not fulfilled the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement and may repeat the course(s). (Am 30 Jan 2008)
2. Any award of baccalaureate credit for University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement course(s) must be consonant with SR 761. (En 30 Nov 83; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)

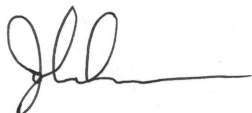
**Proposed one-time exemption to policy**

UCEP would support a proposal that during any term (Quarter, Semester, or Summer) which overlaps with the dates of March 19, 2020 through August 1, 2020, a student who earns the non-letter-grade option of "P" (or equivalent Pass/Fail grade option) in their division-approved course or program of study shall have fulfilled the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement.

We note that the Courses of Instruction (COCI) committee at UC Berkeley decided to allow a "P" grade to meet ELWR for Spring 2020. Their decision was based on understanding from the 03/19/2020 UCEP memo that recommended that Divisions allow for one-time flexibility in grading for Spring 2020 and on SR636.D., which grants authority to relevant senate bodies to allow flexibility in *when* the ELWR is satisfied.

However, because UCOPE has general authority over the ELWR, we hope that you will join us in recommending this exemption. UCEP would be happy to collaborate with you in this effort in any way that would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Serences', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Serences,  
Chair UCEP  
jserences@ucsd.edu