

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

Kum-Kum Bhavnani
Telephone: (510) 987-9303
Email: kum-kum.bhavnani@ucop.edu

*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*

May 6, 2020

ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS

Re: Clarification of letter grade and P/NP options for ELWR for Spring 2020

Dear Colleagues:

In April, the Academic Council endorsed a joint recommendation from UCOPE and 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.

In response to follow-up questions from campuses, the attached UCOPE/UCEP letter clarifies that on campuses where a grade of C- qualifies as a passing grade, a course taken for a letter grade would also satisfy the ELWR if a C- or better was earned.

I ask Senate Division Chairs to forward the document to the appropriate individuals in the Senate and administration.

Sincerely,

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair
Academic Council

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



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

Assembly of the Academic Senate
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200
Phone: (510) 987-9466
Fax: (510) 763-0309

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

RE: Clarification of letter grade and P/NP options for ELWR for Spring 2020

Dear Kum-Kum,

The ELWR, under existing senate regulations, must be satisfied with a grade of C or better, not a C- (per SR636). For the Spring 2020 quarter/semester, UCEP and UCOPE recommended that each Division be allowed to determine whether a P grade can satisfy the ELWR (in lieu of a letter grade), even if a C- is the minimum passing grade on their campus.

System-wide Academic Council endorsed this exception on April 14, 2020.

In response to queries from several Divisions about grading options for Spring term 2020, UCEP and UCOPE are writing to clarify that, on campuses where a grade of C- qualifies as a passing grade, a course taken for a letter grade would also satisfy the ELWR if a C- or better was earned.

On campuses where a grade of C qualifies as the passing grade (P), a letter grade of C or better (P) continues to satisfy the ELWR for the duration of Spring term 2020.

Divisional Senates should take any necessary action to modify their standing Divisional Regulations regarding ELWR for Spring 2020 so that either a Passing Grade or a letter grade of C- or higher satisfies ELWR.

Guidance for Summer 2020 is provided in a separate memo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "John Serences", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Serences,
Chair UCEP
jserences@ucsd.edu

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Francis".

Darlene Francis,
CHAIR UCOPE
darlenefrancis@berkeley.edu