July 7, 2021

ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS

Re: Grading Options for ELWR in Fall 2021

Dear Colleagues:

In July, September, and December 2020, the Academic Council endorsed recommendations from the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) to temporarily modify the passing requirement for the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) in Senate Regulation 636.C.1. At its June 2021 meeting, the Council endorsed the enclosed recommendation from UCOPE to extend that temporary modification to summer session 2021 and fall 2021.

In short, SR 636.C normally requires the ELWR to be satisfied with a C or better. The modification allows each Division the flexibility, if they need it, to determine whether a grade of Pass (P) can satisfy the ELWR, even if a C- is the minimum passing grade on the campus.

I ask Senate Division chairs to forward the UCOPE document to your respective Committees on Education Policy and Undergraduate Councils. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Gauvain, Chair
Academic Council

Cc: UCOPE Chair Gagnon
    Senate Directors
    Hilary Baxter, Executive Director, Academic Senate

Encl.
Mary Gauvain, Chair  
ACADEMIC SENATE

RE: LETTER GRADE AND P/NP OPTIONS FOR ELWR DURING SUMMER AND FALL 2021

Dear Mary,

Senate Regulation 636.C.1 stipulates that the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) must be satisfied with a grade of C or better or its equivalent, not a C-. In December, the Academic Council endorsed a recommendation from UCOPE to temporarily modify the passing requirement in Senate Regulation 636.C.1 to allow a C- grade or above to satisfy the ELWR in Winter and Spring 2021.

For Summer session and for all sessions in Fall quarter/semester 2021, UCOPE recommends that each Division be allowed to determine whether a grade of C- or better or its equivalent, or a grade of Pass (and Satisfactory) can satisfy the ELWR, even if a C- is the minimum passing grade on their campus.

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.

Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Best wishes,

Jeff Gagnon,  
Chair, University Committee on Preparatory Education