

6-6 Graduate School Grade Calculation

(a) Grade evaluation

As a rule, the academic results are assessed by examination and regular learning achievement. The results are indicated by the rating consisted of “grade point” that is calculated from the raw score (more than 60 out of 100 points is accepted for a credit) and “letter grade (A, B, C, or D, with D constituting a failing grade).” Courses that have been passed are indicated on transcripts and report cards.

The letter grades, the corresponding grade ranges and evaluation criteria are as follows.

A (80 points or higher): Fully achieves the basic goals.

B (70 to 79 points): Achieves the basic goals.

C (60 to 69 points): Achieves the basic goals at the minimum level.

D (Under 60 points: failing grade): Does not achieve the basic goals. Must be retaken.

If an assessment cannot be made because the student has discontinued the course, a failing grade of D will be given. Some courses utilize a raw score calculation and others utilize letter grades. Grades are determined as follows in the case of the latter.

$$A = 90, \quad B = 75, \quad C = 65, \quad D \text{ (failing grade)} = 55$$

(b) GPA system

The University has adopted the grade point average (GPA) system as an index of learning achievement. Under this system, the student's grades for each course are converted to grade points (GP) through a fixed method, and then the GP is multiplied by the number of credits for the course. The total for all courses is calculated, then that value is divided by the total number of credits for all courses taken.

The GPA system makes the term-by-term learning assessment more clearly. If a student fails a course, the GP used in GPA calculation is 0, and the number of credits for that course is added to the denominator in that calculation. Because of that, failing a course does significant damage to the student's final GPA.

(c) GPA calculation method

The GPA is obtained by converting the grade for each course (the raw score R, out of 100 possible points) to GP using the calculation method indicated in 1), then multiplying the GP by the number of credits for the applicable course using the calculation method indicated in 2). The combined total of the resulting values for all courses taken is then calculated and divided by the combined total number of credits for all courses taken.

1) $GP = (R - 55) / 10$ However, if $GP < 0.5$, $GP = 0.0$.

R is the raw score out of 100 possible points.

2) $GPA = (\text{Combined total of [“GP of the course taken”} \times \text{“No. of credits for that course”]}) / \text{Total number of credits for courses taken}$

The combined total number of credits for courses taken also includes the number of credits for failed courses (GP = 0).

(d) Combined use of two GPA indices (f-general GPA and f-strict GPA)

To fully utilize the functional properties of the GPA, and to maintain compatibility with other domestic and overseas universities, the University utilizes both the f-strict GPA and f-general GPA indices (f- = functional).

We have verified that f-strict GPA is, in practice, fully compatible with the GPA currently used at many universities. However, in the case of the maximum and minimum grade zone, many universities, particularly in the U.S. and Japan, utilize a maximum GP(A) of 4.0, and a minimum passing GP(A) of 1.0, while f-strict GP(A) utilizes a maximum of 4.5 and a minimum of 0.5. Accordingly, the University has prioritized compatibility with other organizations, and utilizes an f-general GPA in which an f-strict GP of 4.0 or higher (95 points or higher out of 100) is set at a uniform 4.0, and 0.5 to 1.0 is set at a uniform 1.0.

On the other hand, when the GPA is used for a variety of purposes within the University, f-strict GP(A) (which accurately reflects the original grade for the entire grade range) is used.

(e) Courses included in GPA calculation

All courses are included in GPA calculation, except courses taken at other universities (including overseas study) or at the University that are evaluated as transfer credits or utilize a pass/fail system, rather than a letter grade or raw score.

(f) GPA calculation date

GPA is calculated based on the grades that have been finalized by the GPA calculation base date. As a rule, the calculation base date is September 15 for the **first (spring) semester** and March 20 for the **second (fall) semester**. The courses calculated in the **first (spring) semester** constitute all courses taken from since the time of enrollment, including courses taken in the first semester, the first (**spring**) quarter, and the second quarter of the applicable academic year. The courses calculated in the **second (fall) semester** constitute all courses taken from since the time of enrollment, including courses taken in the second (**fall**) semester, the third quarter, the fourth quarter, and the entire year of the applicable academic year.

(g) Listing on transcripts and report cards

Transcripts and reports cards include both the f-strict GP(A) and the f-general GP(A), as well as an explanation of the purpose.

In addition, an explanation of the GPA calculation method and the number of credits that were not approved are also included, and the consistency between the grades and the GPA is clarified.