

MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Policy and Procedures Manual

SUBJECT: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Policy 301.5.3 – Minimum course grades

Adopted: May 20, 2005; Effective: Fall Semester 2005; Revised September 13, 2018

Board Policy:

A. All students in the Montana university system (MUS) and the three (3) community colleges must earn the following minimum grades to demonstrate their competency and preparation:

1. a “D-“ or better in all classes that are used to satisfy so-called free or elective credits in an associate or baccalaureate degree program;
2. a “C-“ or better in all classes that are used to satisfy a general education program;
3. a “C-“ or better in all classes that are used to satisfy the pre-requisites or required courses in a major, minor, option or certificate.

In cases where it has been deemed appropriate through a campus’s curriculum review process or by an accrediting body to offer a course on a credit/ no credit (pass or fail) basis, a “pass” grade may serve as the minimum grade.

B. Individual programs may establish grade standards that are higher than the minimums set out in paragraph A above for some or all the courses that are used to satisfy the pre-requisites or requirements for a major, minor, option, certificate or general education. Students will be notified of that expectation.

To ensure that students are notified of this expectation, campuses must include in their catalogues, advising guidelines and websites detailed information about such exceptions, including the names of the programs with the courses and grades that are required.

C. All campuses of the MUS and the three (3) community colleges will adopt a grading system that includes the use of pluses and minuses, in addition to letter grades. The grade point average calculation will also be the same throughout the system.

D. Students are required to meet the overall MUS standard of a 2.00 grade point average for satisfactory academic progress, as specified in board policy 301.8.

History:

New policy (Minimum Course Grades) approved by the Board of Regents May 20, 2005 (Item 126-105-R0305). Revision approved September 13, 2018 (Item 180-101-R0918).