

Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

Proposal: Revise *Student Code* Sections § 3-103, § 3-104, and § 3-201.

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Background/History

[EP.25.085](#) approved revisions to the *Student Code* to remove the ABS grade. These revisions were approved by the Senate Educational Policy Committee (March 31, 2025), Council on Student Conduct Expectations (April 24, 2025), and Senate (April 28, 2025; these revisions went into effect with the publication of the 2025-2026 *Code*. Impacted sections were 3-102, 3-103, 3-104, 3-106, 3-201, 3-203, and 3-204. At the April 24, 2025 Council on Student Conduct Expectations meeting and upon subsequent review by the Office of the Registrar, further edits to sections 3-103, 3-104, and 3-201 were suggested. Rather than delay publication of the edits as approved by the Educational Policy Committee, the Council on Student Conduct Expectations agreed to allow the item to move forward as originally presented for publication in the 2025-2026 *Student Code* with the expectation that the discussed revisions would be presented for consideration by the Senate Educational Policy Committee upon that group's reconvening at the start of the fall, 2025 semester.

Recommendations

The Policy and Issues Group reviewing ABS grading recommends the following changes to the *Student Code* related to the removal of the ABS grading option:

§ 3-103 (b) Computation of Scholastic Averages

b. F = Failure (including courses dropped for academic integrity violations) = 0.00

ABS = Absent from final; counts as failure. **This symbol was in use prior to Fall 2025.**

§ 3-104 (b) Other Grade Symbols in Use

(within the chart)

NC No credit earned. To be used only in courses taken under the credit-no credit grading option.

Instructors report the usual letter grades. As of Fall 2022, a letter grade of F will automatically be converted to NC. (Between Fall 2022 and **Summer 2025** ~~Fall 2024~~, ABS grades will also convert to NC.)

Prior to Fall 2022, a grade of D+ or lower was converted to NC.

§ 3-201 (b)(2) Final Examinations

b. Undergraduate Students

2. For satisfactory reasons, students may be "excused" by the dean of their college and examined later by their instructor. ~~Absence from a final examination for any other cause is reported as a final grade of "failure" (F) in the course. (See § 1-103.)~~

Justification

The revisions to sections 3-103 and 3-104 are editorial; they clarify the period of time in which the ABS grade symbol was in use, retaining reference to it as it relates to the computation of scholastic averages

and conversion from ABS to No Credit because students will have ABS grades on their transcripts up through Summer 2025.

The revision to § 3-201 is partly substantive and partly editorial. Removal of the sentence about absence from a final examination equating to reporting a failing grade is substantive. When the Policy and Issues Group that reviewed ABS grading made their original recommendations, the intention was not to suggest that missing a final meant instructors should assign a failing grade to students who otherwise would have passed the course; rather, the edits done at that time were to remove the previous reference, which indicated that missing a final meant the instructor should report an ABS. The final grade assigned to the student should be determined by the instructor based on the student's body of work throughout the course, not just on the final, so this sentence is stricken. The reference back to § 3-103 is stricken as well; this is an editorial revision. § 3-103 was referenced when § 3-201 contained language about the ABS grade. With ABS references removed, there is no need to refer to § 3-103.