

FAQ for Students Considering Electing the Spring 2020 CR/NC Option

If you are considering electing the Credit(CR)/No Credit(NC) option, please read through the following frequently asked questions to help you make an informed decision before electing this option.

1. Does a grade of CR or NC affect my GPA?

- a. No.

2. What happens if I earn a grade of CR?

- a. You earn credit for that course, and you were taking the class to fulfill a requirement (e.g. general education, 300 level course), that requirement will be fulfilled.
- b. A grade of CR will appear on your transcript for that course.

3. What happens if I earn a grade of NC?

- a. Your GPA is not affected, but you do not earn credit or fulfill any requirements with that course.
- b. A grade of NC will appear on your transcript for that course.

4. What grade do I need to earn to receive CR?

- a. You will receive CR for grades of C- or above.

5. What grades will I receive NC for?

- a. You will receive NC for grades of D or F.

6. Will my professor know that I have elected to take their course CR/NC?

- a. No. Your professor will submit a letter grade, and the system will automatically change it to CR for grades of C- and above, or NC for grades of D and F.

7. If I am planning to go to graduate/professional school, should I elect the CR/NC option?

- a. It depends on the graduate/professional program, and we recommend that you review the admissions requirements of the graduate/professional programs you plan to apply to before you elect CR/NC. You may also consult with your academic advisor or department/program chair if you have this question.

8. Are there career paths where taking a class CR/NC could negatively impact me?

- a. Students working toward careers in education, medical fields or other competitive/licensed professions may have restrictions about the grading mode they will accept, and you should seek guidance from your advisor or department/program chair before electing this option.

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9. If I think I may get a D in a class, should I elect the CR/NC option?

- a. This would be a tough decision. A grade of D in a course will grant you credit for the course unless you already have the maximum allowed number of Ds, but a grade NC will not grant you credit for the course. A grade of D will be calculated into your GPA, but a grade of NC will not. So, you will need to decide what you are more comfortable with - earning credit for the course and having a D on your transcript which affects your GPA, or not getting credit for the course, but not having the NC affecting your GPA.
 - i. If you would like assistance in calculating how a D in a class will affect your GPA, please email Director of Academic Advising, Chandra Shipley (cshipley@iwu.edu).
- b. Before making this decision, it is recommended that you check to ensure that you will not exceed the limitations on D grades towards your degree if you do not elect this option (you may check your [unofficial transcript](#) in your MyIWU account to see all of your grades).
 - i. Per the [University Catalog](#), "No more than four units of "D" work may be counted toward the degree. No more than one unit of "D" work can be counted toward the major or the minor. No more than two units of "D" work may be counted toward general education requirements."

10. If I am on academic probation, how will taking a class(es) CR/NC affect my academic standing?

- a. If you are on academic probation, since grades of CR/NC do not affect your GPA, the grades in your other classes are what will be used to calculate your GPA.
 - i. That said, it is recommended that you calculate your GPA both with the grade you think you might get in the course and without a grade in this course before you make your decision.
 - ii. If you have questions about how to do this, please email Director of Academic Advising, Chandra Shipley (cshipley@iwu.edu).
- b. Each student's academic standing will be reviewed individually at the end of the semester.

11. Will taking a course CR/NC affect my financial aid?

- a. Typically, no, if your cumulative GPA has consistently been above a 2.0 and you have earned units that are needed to maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- b. If you are concerned about electing this option and how it may affect your financial aid, please email iwufaid@iwu.edu.

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12. Will taking a course CR/NC affect my athletic eligibility?

- a. Typically, no, if your cumulative GPA has consistently been above a 2.0 and you have earned units that are required to be athletically eligible.
- b. However, if you have had concerns in the past due to your GPA or not having enough units to be athletically eligible, please email registrar@iwu.edu with questions.

13. If I elect to take a course CR/NC, can I change it back to a letter grade?

- a. No.

14. What if I am not comfortable talking to my advisor about questions I have about the CR/NC option?

- a. You are welcome to email the Associate Provost, Rebecca Roesner (rroesner@iwu.edu), or Director of Academic Advising, Chandra Shipley (cshipley@iwu.edu) if you have questions. They are both available to answer your questions via email, and even set up a Google Meet meeting with you if requested.

15. Am I still eligible to be on the Dean's List if I take a course CR/NC?

- a. The Dean's List requirements have *not* changed. The student must meet the following conditions to qualify (p. 79 of the [University Catalog](#)):
 - i. Grade average of 3.50 or higher for courses taken during the grading period (exclusive of military science courses).
 - ii. A minimum load of *three* graded course units. Courses taken for "Credit-No Credit," and non-degree credit courses do not count towards the minimum.
 - iii. No incomplete grades for courses taken in the grading period.
- b. *That said, students who hope to qualify for the Dean's List should make sure to continue in three graded course units, and not take any Incomplete grades.*