2020 Winter Term Grading (Master’s Programs)

This document provides students in the Faculty of Architecture Master’s programs information regarding:

A. how 2020 winter term grades will be assigned,
B. student choices as to how grades will appear on their transcript, and
C. how grades will be used for admission, prerequisite requirements and graduation requirements.

Additionally, this document provides students important information as to

D. how a 2020 winter term course grade of “C”, “D” or “F” can be optionally changed to a “VW”.

If you have questions regarding any information in this document, contact the student advisor, Yvonne Halden (Yvonne.Halden@umanitoba.ca).

A. How 2020 Winter Term Grades Will Be Assigned?

In all courses and studios instructional staff will assign a grade of A+ to F for each student based on term work and final exam/review outcomes (if applicable) as per the marking scheme indicated on the course outline. Winter term grades are due April 30, 2020 and will then become available to students.

B. Student Choices as to How Grades Will Appear on Their Transcript

The University of Manitoba Senate has passed several motions allowing students choices as to how their grades will appear on their transcript. These motions are available at: https://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/senate/motions/senate_executive_motions_2020.html

By May 10, 2020 students must indicate their choice, which are:

Standard Approach: Accept the Letter Grade received: This is the standard grading approach approved at the UM and represents the default grading approach for students. The grade will be used in GPA calculations.

Option 1: Accept the Letter Grade received but exclude it from the UM GPA calculations. Letter grade will appear on the student’s transcript with a notation indicting that the student chose to exclude it from their UM GPA calculations due to the COVID-19 situation. Grades excluded in the calculation of the GPA will not be used in calculating GPA for the purpose of program progression and/or overall graduation GPA requirements. However, letter grades will continue to be used to satisfy UM pre-requisite requirements for entry into other courses, or admission to other programs, and to satisfy any other program requirements. (APPROVED BY SENATE EXECUTIVE; MARCH 25, 2020)
Option 2: Choose to have performance assessed as ‘Pass’ or ‘Fail’: In this scenario no letter grade will be recorded or retained. A notation will be used to indicate that the student chose this approach. ‘Pass’ grades will be available only if the original letter grade is ‘D’ or higher and will not be included in the UM GPA calculations. If a student chooses to receive a ‘Pass’ or ‘fail’ grade, no letter grade will be retained or associated with the student’s performance in the course. (APPROVED BY SENATE EXECUTIVE; APRIL 1, 2020)

C. How Grades Will Be Used for Admission, Prerequisite and Graduation Requirements

Important: Senate mandated that regardless of any choice made with respect to course grading, students will remain obliged to meet all existing admission, prerequisite, progression, degree, and graduation policies and requirements that apply to them.

For all Master’s programs in the Faculty of Architecture a minimum grade of “C+” is required to pass all courses/studios. However, an Option 2 ‘Pass’ can be grade of “D” or higher; accordingly, students in Faculty of Architecture Master’s programs are advised that any course for which a ‘Pass’ grade is selected:

- will not be considered eligible to meet any prerequisite requirements, and
- will not count toward completion of a Master’s degree in the Faculty of Architecture.

D. How a 2020 Winter Term Course Grade of “C”, “D” or “F” Can Be Optionally changed to a “VW”

For the 2020 winter term, students who receive a “C”, “D” or “F” grade in any course within a Master’s program in the Faculty of Architecture can apply to the student advisor to have this grade changed to VW. It is expected that applications for this grade change will normally be approved. Credit will not be given for courses with a final grade of “C”, “D”, “F”, or “VW”, nor will these courses satisfy degree requirements. To obtain credit, these courses must be repeated with a final grade of “C+” or higher.

Additionally, regardless of the final grade, students can request a VW for a 2020 winter term course. Maximum flexibility possible will be exercised for these requests.