

## **Grading Policy Change**

### **Effective Fall 2002**

During the spring semester of 2001, the Faculty Senate undertook an intensive evaluation of the grading policies at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. An ad-hoc committee was formed to review the practice of grading on an A, B, C basis as compared to a plus/minus (+/-) system.

As part of this process, the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading interviewed representatives of our Peer Institutions, other institutions in the UNC system, and the COPLAC institutions (you may access the UNCA website for listings of these institutions) and determined that a +/- grading system is being used by a majority of these institutions. The UNCA faculty were also polled for their thoughts on the conversion. A majority felt that the option of awarding +/- final grades would allow them an opportunity to provide relevant and appropriate evaluations of student progress and would reflect a more accurate representation of course mastery.

At the conclusion of this process, the Ad Hoc Committee of Grading recommended to the Academic Policies Committee and then to the Faculty Senate that beginning in the fall semester of 2002, the University should change the University's final grading scale to a plus/minus system. All bodies approved this action.

This conversion will not affect any grades you earn prior to the fall semester of 2002. Your grade point average through the summer of 2002 will not be retroactively recalculated. When the fall semester grades for 2002 are posted, you will notice that your term and cumulative grade point average will reflect the new grading scale. A notation will be placed on your transcript which will explain that the university changed the grading scale. Agencies such as the MCAT and LSAT organizations will also be alerted to the grade scale change. This conversion affects the final grading scale only.

The new grade scale is:

Grade to be recorded	New quality points
A	4.0
A-	3.667
B+	3.333
B	3.0
B-	2.667
C+	2.333
C	2.0
C-	1.667
D	1.00
F	0.00

Some faculty may choose not to use the +/- grading scale and that is their prerogative. As part of the syllabus for each class, each faculty member should inform you if they will use +/- grades or the 'flat' grading system currently in use.

We hope this change will enhance your academic record at UNCA. If you have any questions regarding this information, you may contact the Registrar's Office at 282-251-6575.