

Temporary Compassionate Grading Policy			
Policy Sponsor	Provost Vice President Academic	Category	Academic
Policy Contact	Deputy Provost, Academic Operations	Effective Date	August 25, 2021
Approved By	General Faculties Council	Review Date	August 25, 2026
Approved Date	August 25, 2021		

1. Purpose

As part of ongoing efforts to support learner mental health and wellness, and to recognise the impact of the pandemic, Athabasca University is giving learners the option to opt for a flexible grading option for any **one course** per academic year.

2. Scope

The Policy is applicable to both undergraduate and graduate learners attending the University. The Policy is temporary and will be in force for courses taken between 01 March 2020 and 31 December 2021.

This Policy will be reviewed in November 2021 to determine if it needs to continue, based on the current pandemic situation.

NOTE: The flexible grading option may not apply for courses with external accreditation requirements. Learners should consult with Academic Advising for guidance.

3. Definitions

Grade Point Average (GPA)	The cumulative grade point average of all Athabasca University completed courses.
Grade Point	A grade point is a number between 0 and 4.00 that is assigned to a grade (alpha or percentage) and then used to calculate a grade point average (GPA). The grade point value is reflected on the Official Student Record.
Official Student Record	An official document issued by AU that confirms courses completed and the grades achieved in those courses. Also called the transcript.
University	Athabasca University

4. Guiding Principles

- a. Learners in undergraduate and graduate programs may want to select one course for the flexible grading option.
- b. Course eligibility will be based on the grade achieved as follows:
 - i. Undergraduate learners must have passed the course with a grade of C- or higher.
 - ii. Graduate learners must have passed the course with a grade of B- or higher.
- c. Official final grades must have been posted for the select course before any request for Compassionate Grading is considered. The request must be made within 30 days of the end of this Policy.
- d. The grade will become unweighted and will not be included in their GPA calculation. It will appear on the learner's Official Student Record (transcript) as a "P" for Pass.

5. Applicable Legislation and Regulations

None Applicable

6. Related Procedures/Documents

[Temporary Compassionate Grading Procedure](#)

[Graduate Grading Policy](#)

[Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy](#)

[Undergraduate Academic Standing Procedures](#)

[Undergraduate Grading Policy](#)

[Undergraduate Honours List Policy](#)

The Universities Coordinating Council Common Grading System Committee, June 2001 Update Report.

Athabasca University Grading Policy: Minimum Passing Grades, Recording of Failures, and Withdrawals, original 17 October 1988, revised 20 November 1990.

History

<i>Date</i>	<i>Action</i>
August 25, 2021	GFC Motion# 66-02 (Policy approved)