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University of Mississippi
School of Law Grading Policy
Adopted by Faculty 3/11/2010 (Revised 3/9/2012, 11/5/2014, 5/8/2019, and 4/12/2023)

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Grades:

Grades With Grade Point Values:

A+	= 4.3

(see note on Award of the A+)

A	= 4.0
A-	= 3.7
B+	= 3.3
B	= 3.0
B-	= 2.7
C+	= 2.3
C	= 2.0
C-	= 1.7
D+	= 1.3
D	= 1.0
D-	= 0.7
F	= 0.0

Grades With No Grade Point Value:

Z	= Pass

(see Note on Z Credits)

X	= Audit
W	= Withdrawn
I	= Incomplete

Award of the A+ (Revised 11/5/2014)

The A+ recognizes students for extraordinary work. Accordingly, an instructor should not automatically award an A+ even to the student with the highest grade. An instructor may award an A+ only to

1 student if the class size ranges from 1 to 50;
2 students if the class size ranges from 51 to 100;
3 students if the class size ranges from 101 to 150; or
4 students if the class size is 150+.

The Registrar and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will ensure compliance with this strict limit.

Z Credits (revised 4/12/2023 and effective Summer Term 2023):

In order to receive a Z-credit in any class, a student must achieve a grade of C or better. If a student's work is at the level of C- or below, the student will receive an F for the course. This policy applies to both (1) classes graded only on a Z/F scale and (2) letter-graded classes in which the student chooses the Z-grade option.

Grade Point Average:
      The Registrar will calculate a student's GPA using the Grade Point Value for each grade multiplied by the credit value of the course and divided by the student's total number of such credits. Grades with no Grade Point Value do not affect GPA. GPA calculated to two decimal places only. Maximum possible GPA = 4.0. The Law Registrar may calculate a student's weighted GPA for Law School awards.

Standards for Honors at Graduation:
      Summa Cum Laude   = 3.80+
      Magna Cum Laude   = 3.60+
      Cum Laude   = 3.30+

Grade Distribution Policy:
      The Registrar will distribute the relevant portions of the Grade Distribution Policy to instructors each semester.

Mandatory Grade Distribution for 1L Courses (Revised 5/9/2019):
      In order to ensure fairness among the 1L sections and maintain rigor in grading, the following standards apply to the required 1 L courses, including Legal Research and Writing I and Il (Law 514 and 515) but not including Contract Drafting and Negotiation (Law 590):
            Target average GPA= 3.1
            Mandatory minimum average GPA of 3.05
            Mandatory maximum average GPA of 3.I5

      The following standards apply to Contract Drafting and Negotiation (Law 590):
            Target average GPA= 3.3
            Mandatory minimum average GPA of 3.25
            Mandatory maximum average GPA of 3.35

      In addition, the following standards apply to the required 1L courses other than Legal Research and Writing I and II (Law 514 and 515) and Contract Drafting and Negotiation (Law 590):
            A to A+   = 15% Maximum
            B to A-   = 40% Minimum
            C- to B-   = 20% Minimum
            F to D+   = 5% Minimum

      The Dean may grant, upon request of an individual faculty member based upon good cause, a waiver of these requirements.

Grade Distribution for Other Courses:

In order to ensure general fairness and maintain rigor in grading, the following standards apply to all other ABC Graded courses:

Class size of 25+ = GPA = 2.70 to 3.10

Class size of 10 to 24 = GPA = 2.60 to 3.20

Class size of 9 or fewer AND class with grade based on a paper or other assignment(s) with rigor equal to a paper
= GPA at discretion of instructor

Advisory for Resident Faculty:

These standards constitute advisory guidelines for resident faculty (including tenured, tenure-track, visiting, acting, and others with equivalent faculty rank).

Mandatory for Adjunct Faculty:

These standards constitute mandatory grade distribution requirements for adjunct faculty and other instructors. The Dean may grant, upon request of an adjunct or other instructor for good cause, a waiver of these requirements.