

S/U in the time of Covid: A History

Spring 2020

- All courses changed to S/U
- All courses carry curriculum codes and count toward the same major, minor or certificate requirements as it had as a letter-graded course
- Students could opt-in to a letter grade

Summer 2020

With the consent of the instructor and academic dean, a student may register for grading on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) basis in one course credit per summer session. This policy only pertains to courses that are offered on a graded basis

- In each summer term, a student could take 1.0 course credit on an S/U basis by itself
- Courses taken on an S/U basis may not be used to satisfy the requirements of any major, minor or certificate program (including prerequisites), unless the Director of Undergraduate Studies gives special permission.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis may not be used to satisfy curriculum requirements.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis will not be approved for transfer to Duke, if you are studying abroad, on a domestic study away program, or are transferring courses as institutional transfer credit.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis will count toward annual and semester continuation requirements and toward the 34 credits required for graduation.

Fall 2020

Voluntary S/U policy

With the consent of the instructor and academic dean, a student may voluntarily register for grading on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) basis in one course credit per semester. This policy only pertains to courses that are offered on a graded basis.

- Courses taken on an S/U basis may not be used to satisfy the requirements of any major, minor or certificate program (including prerequisites), unless the Director of Undergraduate Studies gives special permission.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis may not be used to satisfy curriculum requirements.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis will not be approved for transfer to Duke, if you are studying abroad, on a domestic study away program, or are transferring courses as institutional transfer credit.
- Courses taken on an S/U basis will count toward annual and semester continuation requirements and toward the 34 credits required for graduation.

Involuntary S/U

Departments may convert any or all of their 100-level courses to a S/U grading basis while retaining existing curriculum codes for those courses, but no department is obligated to do so.

As a special provision of this decision, courses converted to S/U under this policy *will* satisfy the requirements of any major, minor or certificate program as well as T-Reqs and other requirements for graduation. S/U grades are not factored into students' GPA, and will not count toward Latin Honors.

- Courses cross-listed with other departments or schools that are linked to an original course numbered 199 and below will default to the S/U grading in all cases, even if some departments list the course above the 100 level.
- All sections of a single course must be consistently S/U, if adopted. The designation cannot be limited to an individual class section or instructor.
- This change is to a mandatory S/U grading basis, so no student in these mandatory S/U courses will be able to opt into receiving a letter grade.
- This revised S/U grading policy will apply only to the Fall 2020 semester.

Spring 2021

- Courses taken on a voluntary S/U basis during the Spring 2021 semester will not be counted toward the current limits of 1 voluntary S/U course per semester and 4 voluntary S/U courses during a student's undergraduate career. (Multiple voluntary S/U enrollments are not available for students enrolled in overloads of 5.0 or more course credits)
- Any course that carries a mandatory S/U grade will have the same curriculum codes and will count towards the same major, minor or certificate requirements as it had as a letter-graded course.
- Voluntary S/U courses can be used to meet Trinity requirements. However, the decision about whether to allow voluntary S/U courses to count toward major-minor-certificate requirements and associated prerequisites is still reserved to the departments.
- The current application process for voluntary S/U courses, which requires both instructor and Academic Dean permission, will remain in place.
- The current dates for submitting requests for voluntary S/U grading (end of the third week of classes; also known as the correction week deadline) or changing back to letter grading (four weeks from the last day of classes; also known as the withdrawal deadline) will be maintained.

Fall 2021

- Courses taken on a voluntary S/U basis during the Fall 2021 semester will not be counted toward the current limits of 1 voluntary S/U course per semester and 4 voluntary S/U courses during a student's undergraduate career.
- Students in underloads cannot take a voluntary S/U class. Students in overloads of 5 course credits or more can only enroll in one voluntary S/U course.
- Voluntary S/U courses can be used to meet Trinity requirements. However, the decision about whether to allow voluntary S/U courses to count toward major-minor-certificate requirements and associated prerequisites is still reserved to the departments.
- The current application process for voluntary S/U courses, which requires both instructor and Academic Dean permission, will remain in place.
- The current dates for submitting requests for voluntary S/U grading (end of the third week of classes; also known as the correction week deadline) or changing back to letter grading (four weeks from the last day of classes; also known as the withdrawal deadline) will be maintained.