

# SATISFACTORY/ UNSATISFACTORY GRADING OPTION

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Students may utilize the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading Option for select courses during their undergraduate study; a number of important restrictions apply (listed below). Under the student-elected S/U option, the student's grade for a course will be recorded on his or her transcript as S\* (student-elected Satisfactory) or U\* (student-elected Unsatisfactory). Neither grade will affect the student's GPA.

Students elect the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option under *Registration - S/U Grading Option* in [my.newpaltz.edu](http://my.newpaltz.edu) (<http://my.newpaltz.edu>). The course instructor is not informed that a course is being taken S\*/U\* and will submit the letter grade earned by the student. Letter grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C- will convert to S\* (Satisfactory) while grades of D+, D, D- and F will convert to U\* (Unsatisfactory). S\* grades count toward graduation; U\* grades do not.

A student may request that an S\* or U\* be changed back to a regular letter grade, which will then be counted in the cumulative average and appear on the College record. Such a request will be honored **if made within one calendar year** after the semester in which the student earned the S\* or U\*, or before the student graduates, whichever period is shorter. *[Policy revision effective Fall 2012.]*

The following restrictions apply to the use of the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading Option:

- *Students who began at New Paltz as freshmen or who entered New Paltz with fewer than 60 transfer credits* may select the S\*/U\* grading option *four times* during their undergraduate work. A student may use the S\*/U\* option for no more than four credits per semester and for no more than 12 credits of undergraduate work at New Paltz.
- *Students with 60 or more transfer credits* may use the S\*/U\* grading option *two times*. *[Policy revision effective Fall 2014.]*
- Courses that have been elected Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory will NOT be counted toward General Education or Writing Intensive requirements, the Education curricula, or the student's major or minor requirements, unless the student requests that the S\* or U\* be changed to a regular letter grade.
- The S\*/U\* option is not available for the following courses: Composition I (ENG160) or Composition II (ENG180) or the equivalent; independent study courses; and any course listed in the Undergraduate Catalog with an S\*/U\* restriction ("Students cannot elect the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade option for this course"). Graduate students may not elect S\*/U\* for courses in their plans of study.
- The deadline for choosing S\*/U\* is one week after the course withdrawal deadline. Refer to the Academic Calendar for the exact date each semester.