

Resolution on Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Grade Mode Policy

#05-10/11-APC – November 9, 2010 (Second Reading)

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that petitions to change grade mode from CR/NC to a letter grade, or from a letter grade to CR/NC be restricted to only those needed for graduation (e.g., major requirements, maximum of 24 units of CR/NC), retention, or financial aid . The Office of the Registrar will be responsible for reviewing and approving these petitions; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that Faculty will enter letter grades for all students regardless of the student's preferred grade mode, and that the Registrar's Office will convert the grades to CR/NC where students have selected that grading mode. This does not apply to courses that must be taken CR/NC; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that students, in consultation with their advisors, will be responsible for ensuring that no more than 24 SCU of CR/NC courses apply towards their degree.

Rationale:

1. Petitions to change grade mode after the deadline clog the system and do not serve the university well. These petitions are often opportunistic and represent an effort to avoid lowering GPA by selecting a CR/NC mode while leaving open the option to change to a letter grade if the course goes better than expected. There are a few situations which may require a grade mode change (e.g., change in major, over 24 units of CR/NC at graduation, loss of financial aid or for retention), and petitions should be limited to these situations.
2. Most courses that are required for a major have to be taken for a letter grade. When students change majors, students are sometimes required to change CR/NC grades to letter grades for major's courses. Currently, when students successfully petition to change from a CR/NC to a letter grade, the original faculty member has to be found to provide the letter grade. This is sometimes impossible. By grading every student using the letter grade mode, the later conversion from a CR/NC grade to a letter grade is automatic.
3. HSU limits students to 24-units of CR/NC that can be applied to graduation with an undergraduate degree. This requirement is only reviewed at the university level when students apply for a degree check. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student and his/her advisor to monitor the student's DARS report to ensure that no more than 24-units are applied towards satisfying graduation requirements.