

Grading Policies

Class and Ensemble Grades

Grading for School of Music classes and ensembles follows the university policies.

(See Grading Policies/Policy Statement at <http://www.cmu.edu/policies/documents/Grades.html> and below.) Specifically, grading for School of Music classes is based on the requirements outlined in the syllabus for the class; grading for School of Music ensembles is based on the requirements stated in the written policies for the ensemble, which may include attendance.

University Grading Standards

The undergraduate student Grading Standard is as follows:

Grade	Quality Points	
A	4.0	Excellent
B	3.0	Good
C	2.0	Satisfactory
D	1.0	Passing
R	0.0	Failure
X	0.0	Conditional Failure
P	Non-Factorable	Passing
N	Non-Factorable	Not Passing
O	Non-Factorable	Audit
W	Non-Factorable	Withdrawal
I	Non-Factorable	Incomplete
AD	Non-Factorable	Credit granted for work completed at another institution or examination credit

The graduate student Grading Standard is as follows:

Grade	Quality Points	
A+	4.33	(Grading standards are based upon a student's home academic program.)
A	4.00	
A-	3.67	
B+	3.33	
B	3.00	
B-	2.67	
C+	2.33	
C	2.00	
C-	1.67	
D+	1.33	
D	1.00	
R	0.00	Failure
X	0.00	Conditional Failure
S	Non-Factorable	Satisfactory
P	Non-Factorable	Passing
N	Non-Factorable	Not Passing
O	Non-Factorable	Audit
W	Non-Factorable	Withdrawal
I	Non-Factorable	Incomplete
AD	Non-Factorable	Credit granted for work completed at another institution or examination credit

Studio Grades

Studio is the heart of your professional training as a musician. The studio grade is based on your fulfillment of the requirements outlined by your studio teacher for the semester as demonstrated by the product of both your talent and effort. The following scale reflects what each grade means:

A - To receive an "A", you must be demonstrating the **highest** level of proficiency based on the standard expected at your particular level of studio training. You must have an **excellent** record in the following areas:

- performance in juries and/or recitals,
- progress during the semester,
- with **mastery** of required work

B - To receive a "B", you must be demonstrating an **above-average** level of proficiency based on the standard expected at your particular level of studio training. You must have a **good** record in the following areas:

- performance in juries and/or recitals,
- progress during the semester,
- with **effective** completion of required work

C - To receive a "C", you must be demonstrating an **average** level of proficiency based on the standard expected at your particular level of studio training. You must have a **satisfactory** record in the following areas:

- performance in juries and/or recitals,
- progress during the semester,
- with **minimum** completion of required work

Since "average" playing or composing may not be enough to sustain a career in music performance or composition, the faculty considers a "C" grade in the major studio area as an indication of either insufficient ability or undistinguished work as demonstrated during the semester.

Upon the recommendation of the studio teacher, a student may be placed on academic warning or receive a letter of concern whenever he/she receives a "C" in the studio area.

D - To receive a "D", you must be demonstrating a **poor** level of proficiency based on the standard expected at your particular level of studio training. You must have a **passing** record in the following areas:

- performance in juries and/or recitals,
- progress during the semester,
- with **partial and/or ineffective** completion of required work

A student will be placed on academic action whenever he/she receives a "D" in the studio area. The student may, at the discretion of the faculty, be dropped from the program.

R - To receive an "R", you must be demonstrating an **unacceptable** level of proficiency based on the standard expected at your particular level of studio training. You must have a **failing** record in the following areas:

- performance in juries and/or recitals,
- progress during the semester,
- with **failure** of required work

A student will be placed on academic action whenever he/she receives an "R" in the studio area. The student may, at the discretion of the faculty, be dropped from the program.