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Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate  
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1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

December 16, 2020

## ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS

### Re: Grading Options for ELWR in winter and spring 2021

Dear Colleagues:

In July and September 2020, the Academic Council endorsed recommendations from the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) to temporarily modify the passing requirement for the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) in Senate Regulation 636.C.1. At its December 2020 meeting, the Council endorsed the enclosed recommendation from UCOPE to extend that temporary modification to 2021 winter and spring terms.

In short, SR 636.C normally requires the ELWR to be satisfied with a C or better. The modification allows each Division the flexibility, if they need it, to determine whether a grade of Pass (P) can satisfy the ELWR, even if a C- is the minimum passing grade on the campus.

I ask Senate Division chairs to forward the UCOPE document to your respective Committees on Education Policy and Undergraduate Councils. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Gauvain".

Mary Gauvain, Chair  
Academic Council

Cc: UCOPE Chair Gagnon  
Senate Directors  
Hilary Baxter, Executive Director, Academic Senate

Encl.



*Jeffrey Gagnon, Chair*  
*University Committee on Preparatory Education*  
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December 2, 2020

**MARY GAUVAIN, CHAIR**  
**ACADEMIC SENATE**

**RE: LETTER GRADE AND P/NP OPTIONS FOR ELWR DURING WINTER AND SPRING 2021**

Dear Mary,

Senate Regulation 636.C.1 stipulates that the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) must be satisfied with a grade of C or better or its equivalent, not a C-. In September, the Academic Council endorsed a [recommendation from UCOPE](#) to temporarily modify the passing requirement in Senate Regulation 636.C.1 to allow a C- grade or above to satisfy the ELWR in Fall 2020.

For all sessions in Winter and Spring quarter/semester 2021, UCOPE recommends that each Division be allowed to determine whether a grade of C- or better or its equivalent, or a grade of Pass (and Satisfactory) can satisfy the ELWR, even if a C- is the minimum passing grade on their campus.

On campuses where a grade of C- qualifies as a passing grade, a course taken for a letter grade would also satisfy the ELWR if a C- or better was earned.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Gagnon".

Jeff Gagnon,  
Chair, University Committee on Preparatory Education