Remote Grading Information

As part of our emergency response efforts to COVID-19, Otero Junior College is temporarily allowing students the option of choosing to receive Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory grades in lieu of letter grades for the Spring of 2020 semester. Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory grading is an alternate grading scheme where an ‘S’ counts as a ‘C’ or better, and a ‘U’ counts as a ‘D’ or lower, rather than a letter traditional grade. The S/U grades will not change your term or cumulative GPA. However, they will be used in the course completion rate calculation for financial aid, and they may affect athletic eligibility, your standing in a program, and your ability to transfer courses to a college or university out-of-state.

Who might want to consider an S/U grade?

- A student with a high GPA may want to choose an S so it doesn’t lower their GPA affecting transfer or scholarship options.
- A student with no possibility of receiving any grade but an “F” may want to choose a U.

Are there situations in which taking an S or U may not be the best option?

Yes! Taking an S or U may not be the best option if:

- You’re completing a program that requires a GPA (e.g. nursing or allied health).
- You’re transferring to a college or university out of state.
- You’re a college athlete.
- You’re concerned about academic progress for financial aid.

Process for Requesting an S or U

1. Talk to your advisor by scheduling a phone appointment through Navigate.
2. If you’re an athlete, talk to your coach.
3. If you’re receiving financial aid and you’re thinking about taking a U, talk to the financial aid office by scheduling a phone appointment through Navigate.
4. Complete the Request for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading. You have up to 10 days after the semester ends to submit your request.
5. An S or U will be assigned after final grades are submitted.

Important Things to Consider

- D grades may be counted as electives.
- D grades are considered passing for financial aid.
- S grades will complete pre-requisites.
- U grades keep from lowering your GPA further.
- U grades will count against financial aid completion.

In closing, please reach out to your advisor, athletic coach, and/or the Financial Aid Office if you’d like to request an S or U grade.