

Grade Distribution Guidelines

Below are the different Grade Distribution Guidelines for Ross graduate and undergraduate classes. This worksheet is designed to help faculty in complying with the grading requirements.

Graduate Grades ^A	Core ^B	Elective ^C
Excellent	≤ 25% = _____%	≤ 35% = _____%
Good	≤ 35% = _____%	EX+GD ≤ 75% = _____%
Pass	≤ 35% = _____%	≤ 25% = _____%
Low Pass & Fail	5% = _____%	≤ 25% = _____%

A: Use these distribution guidelines and Ross grades for **all** students – Ross and non-Ross. Do not assign letter grades for any graduate student; the system converts grades according to individual schools' policies.

B: Low Pass (LP): Performance that minimally meets the standard requirements of the course. Approximately 5% of the students in a core course will receive LP or F.

Fail (F): Performance that does not satisfy the minimal requirements of the course and is deficient on significant dimensions. No credit toward the degree will be granted for the grade of "Fail," but the grade will be used to evaluate academic standing.

Given this expectation for 5% LP or F grades in the core, the EX, GD, PS maximum percentages strictly apply. If less than 5% LP and F are given (which can occur due to natural break points in the grade distribution), then the percentages for GD and PS can move up proportionally.

C: The combined number of EXs & GDs assigned can be no greater than 75%, with a maximum of 35% EXs. For example, if you give 30% EX you may give up to 45% GD.

Undergraduate Grades	Core	Elective
A- or above	≤ 40% = _____%	≤ 60% = _____%
B or above	≤ 90% = _____%	≤ 90% = _____%
B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, or F	≥ 10% = _____%	≥ 10% = _____%

NOTES:

- For courses with multiple sections, instructors should use their judgment as to whether grade distributions are best applied within each section or overall for all their sections of a given course.
- Core course coordinators and core instructors will work together to achieve consistency in grading policies used by faculty teaching the same course.
- A+ grades are considered extraordinary and, if used at all, are reserved for the top 1-2% of students when those students truly outperform their peers.
- The entire range of grades should be utilized as appropriate, including grades at the lower end of the distribution.
- A reasonable distribution of grades within a given allowed range is also expected. For example, in the "A- or above" distribution range, there should be a relatively equal distribution across A and A- grades.
- All faculty are expected to conform to the grading distribution. The Associate Dean of the relevant program, the relevant Area Chair, and the Executive Committee will review adherence to these guidelines.