**Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences**

**Proposed Change to Grading System**

**August 2019**

During the spring 2019 semester, the Dale Bumpers Faculty Council reviewed the plus/minus grading system currently in use and discussed its merits and drawbacks. On April 19, 2019, the Council unanimously recommended that the College convert to a straight A, B, C, D and F grading scale. Consistent with the College Faculty Bylaws, this recommendation was presented as an item of importance to be decided by a vote of the Bumpers College Faculty. The Council’s recommendation passed by a vote of 48 to 35. Ballots were cast by 60 percent of the voting faculty, which exceeds the 40 percent required by the bylaws to reach a decision. The changes being submitted are to put the decision of the faculty on this matter into force. The Bumpers College is requesting to convert to an A, B, C, D and F grading scale with no plus or minus grades effective at the beginning of the 2020/2021 academic year.

**Current Grading System:**

*(As policy reads in Undergraduate Catalog)*

The Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences utilizes a plus/minus grading system that assigns numerical values to 12 different grades. These values are used for courses when grade-point averages are calculated.

The 12-step grading system with assigned values is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Grade | Value |
| 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 |
| D- | 0.67 |
| F | 0.00 |

*(As policy reads in Graduate Catalog under “Objectives and Regulations – Grades and Marks”)*

Final grades for courses are “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” and “F” (except for courses taken in the Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life sciences or the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, which both use a plus/minus system). No credit is earned for courses in which a grade of “D” or “F” is recorded.

**Proposed Grading System & Changes to Undergraduate & Graduate Catalogs:**

The Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences will utilize the standard grading system where final grades for courses are “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” and “F” as described in the “Academic Regulations – Grades and Marks” section of the University of Arkansas’s Undergraduate Catalog which can be found at: <http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/academicregulations/#gradesandmarkstext>

and the Graduate Catalog which can be found at: <http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/objectivesandregulations/#gradesappealstext>

Proposed Changes to Undergraduate Catalog

Remove grading policy on the Bumpers College main page: <http://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog/collegesandschools/dalebumperscollegeofagriculturalfoodandlifesciences/>

Revise Grades and Marks page as follows:

Final grades for courses are “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” and “F” (except for courses taken in the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design ~~and the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences~~).

Proposed Changes to Graduate Catalog

Revise Grades and Marks page as follows:

Final grades for courses are “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” and “F” (except for courses taken in ~~the Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences or~~ the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, which ~~both~~ uses a plus/minus system). No credit is earned for courses in which a grade of “D” or “F” is recorded.