

## **Policy to Change the School of Law's Grading System to CR/NCR for the Spring 2020 Semester (dated 03/26/20)**

The Faculty of the School of Law recognizes that the Covid-19 pandemic has caused and will continue to cause hardship for School of Law students. The impacts of these challenges are unpredictable and are likely to be felt by different students in different ways. The move to all-online learning will further complicate these concerns. Without significant mitigation, the uncertainty and stress caused by these circumstances will undermine the ability of many of our students to engage in constructive learning.

The Faculty considered multiple options for addressing these concerns, soliciting input from students, faculty, and administrators and gathering information regarding policy changes by other law schools. In a special faculty meeting on March 26, 2020, the Law Faculty voted to adopt the following provisions effective for the spring 2020 semester only:

- All courses will be assigned a grading system of CR/NCR.
- The School of Law will not enforce GPA-related requirements for academic good standing and dismissals during the semester. Application of these requirements will be postponed to the next regular semester (fall 2020). E.g., a student otherwise required to achieve a 2.30 cumulative GPA at the end of this semester in order to remain in good standing will now be required to achieve this at the end of the fall 2020 semester.
- Because all courses will be graded on a CR/NCR basis, the spring 2020 semester will not count in the calculation of class rank.
- CR/NCR credits awarded during the current semester will not count toward the maximum number allowed for degree conferral purposes.
- These changes will not apply to the January 2020 intercession course, which has already been completed and graded.

In light of these changes, faculty will make special efforts to identify at-risk students and refer them to Student Affairs or the Academic Success Program, and to provide meaningful assessments and other feedback to students in lieu of final letter grades.