Southern Illinois University
School of Law

Rule for Limited S/U Grading at Instructor’s Option

[Excerpted from School of Law Rules for AY 2020–2021 as amended by special rules relating to COVID-19]

ARTICLE III - ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

1. Grades and Grading System

No grades converted to S/U pursuant to the emergency pandemic grading policy adopted for Spring Semester 2020 will be counted toward the 22-credit hour graduation limit. However, all classes and sections that were coded for S/U grading at the beginning of Spring Semester 2020 will count towards the 22-credit hour graduation limit. [adopted on 4/3/20]

…

(d) Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading. [amended 10/17/07; 5/11/10; 5/6/16]

Students may earn academic credit for a grade of “S” in courses graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (“S/U”) basis only in one or more of the following circumstances. A student who matriculates at the School of Law on or after August 1, 2016, may earn no more than a total of 22 hours of academic credit for courses described in subsections (d)(i)–(d)(v) and for “credit/no credit” courses transferred under Rule II(3)(c)(ii); a student matriculating before August 1, 2016, may earn no more than 30 hours of such academic credit. All credit awarded for courses graded on an S/U basis shall be excluded in calculating the student’s semester and cumulative GPAs.

…

(ii) Limited S/U Grading at Instructor’s Option. [amended 5/5/11] In non-required courses with the exception of Independent Research and Writing, an instructor may, but is not required to, allow a specified number of students, not to exceed five, to register for S/U grading, even though the remainder of the students in the course will be graded on the scale described in subsection (a). The instructor must inform the Registrar and Associate Dean of the instructor’s election of this option at least one week prior to the beginning of the registration period for the course. A student may not elect S/U grading under this subsection (d)(ii) if:

(A) the student is taking the course in partial satisfaction of the Academic Advising Menu (Substance) or the Academic Advising Menu (Skills); or
(B) the student has not successfully completed at least 32 hours of credit prior to the semester in which the course is offered.

A student may not receive more than six hours of credit for courses with S/U grading under this subsection (d)(ii). If an instructor allows students to register for a course under this subsection (d)(ii), the students taking the course for S/U grading shall not be identified in any examination or other assessment and are to be evaluated by the instructor according to the grading scale described in subsection (a). After the instructor has submitted final course grades calculated on the scale described in subsection (a), the Registrar shall convert the grades of students who have elected S/U grading under this subsection (d)(ii) according to the following scale:

2.1 or greater = Satisfactory
below 2.1 = Unsatisfactory

In determining whether the median grade for any such course complies with the requirements of subsection (b) and whether the distribution of grades conforms to the expectations of subsection (c), such determinations shall be made prior to the conversion of any grades on the scale described in subsection (a) to S/U grading and shall be made based on the grades of all law students enrolled in the course, including students taking it for S/U credit.