COLGATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Registrar

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Option

This option is designed to encourage students to explore new areas outside their major/minor in the true spirit of a liberal education.

Students with junior and senior standing, who have been accepted in a major/minor, may elect to take up to four courses (1 per semester) which are evaluated "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory" instead of by the usual letter grades. The following conditions apply to this option:

- 1. Students with junior and senior standing, who have been accepted in a major/minor, may elect to take one 1.00-credit course (plus any required fractional credit add-on components) or two .5-credit courses per semester, which are evaluated "satisfactory" (S) or "unsatisfactory" (U) instead of by the conventional letter grades.
- It is expected that students will take a course and any required fractional add-on component with the same grade option (conventional grade or S/U). In these cases, the total credit value of S/U courses may exceed the usual 1.00 credit limit per semester.
- 3. In certain instances, faculty members may require that a stand-alone course or add-on fractional credit course be offered only on a graded or S/U basis. These courses will not count against the 1.00-credit-per-semester limit.
- 4. Except in item #3 above, the decision to choose the S/U option rests solely with the student.
- 5. A student on academic warning may not take a course S/Ū.
- 6. Courses taken to fulfill the Common Core, Global Engagements, areas of inquiry, language, writing and major or minor requirements may not be taken S/U.
- 7. The choice to take a particular course with the S/U option must be made prior to the end of the course withdrawal period as published on the academic calendar.
- 8. No course will be officially recorded as using the S/U grading option unless the student has submitted the completed Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Option form to the registrar's office by the appropriate deadline.
- 9. After the end of the withdrawal period, no changes in the grading mode (conventional grade to S/U, or S/U to conventional grade) may be made.
- 10. In the event of a course's limited enrollment, a student's desire to take the course on the S/U basis shall not be a criterion in determining his or her eligibility for the course or course section.
- 11. To achieve the grade of S, the student must perform at a level that would warrant a grade of C- or better.
- 12. Satisfactory completion of a course is entered on the student's permanent transcript as S, but does not enter into the computation of the GPA. The unsatisfactory completion of a course is entered on the student's transcript as U, but does not enter into the computation of the GPA. No course credit is awarded for a grade of U.
- 13. Seniors, during their final semester, are discouraged from taking a course using the S/U option unless they will have a total of 32 course credits without the S/U course.

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