Policy: UW vs. E for International Students

International students are required to take and complete a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester, and at least 9 of these credit hours must be face-to-face classes. International students are also required to attend face-to-face classes on a regular basis. A letter grade in student’s transcript indicates that the student attended the class on a regular basis regardless of pass or fail. A UW indicates that a student did not attend class on a regular basis or stopped attending the class at one point in the semester. As a result, if a student who is taking only 12 credit hours during a semester receives a UW in one or more of his/her class(es), that student will be considered out of status.

The International Student and Scholar Center has the obligation of reporting student attendance and progress to the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) each semester. To accurately report that a student is attending classes on a regular basis UWs, would not be counted towards the 12 minimum credit hours required by SEVIS.

Students and faculty are encouraged to carefully consider the differences between the UWs and letter grades (even the failing grades). Students should never have the expectation from the faculty to change their grades from UW to E if they did not attend the class regularly or stopped attending the class at one point or another. The ISSC advises students to carefully pay attention to the class syllabi in regards to attendance expectations and grading policies.

International students should not be treated differently than domestic students with regards to assigning UW grades even though the consequences of earning a UW grade may differ for domestic and international students. Consider the above information and if you still think the student grade should change from UW to a letter grade, please fill out the form below.

*****************************************************************************************************************************************
*****
Change of Grade form from UW to a letter Grade

Student Name________________________________________

Student W#______________________________

Course Number and Title______________________________

Change of Grade from UW to__________________________

Instructor’s Signature_________________________________

*****************************************************************************************************************************************