

How to Calculate Your Semester GPA

To determine your GPA and academic standing for any given semester, UMass Lowell uses a point system in which each letter grade has a numerical value. The letter grades and their numerical values are as follows.

A = 4.0	B + = 3.3	C+ = 2.3	D+ = 1.3
A- = 3.7	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0
	B- = 2.7	C- = 1.7	F = 0.0

Formula for calculating the GPA:

Your GPA is obtained by *dividing* the *total number of Quality Points* by the *total number of Quality Hours*. (For example: 45 Quality Points divided by 15 Quality Hours equals a grade point average of 3.0)

Quality Points:

Quality Points are determined by multiplying the number of course credits by the numerical value of the assigned grade. For example, a 3 credit course completed with a grade of B- would carry 8.1 Quality Points (3 credits multiplied by a 2.7 numerical grade equals 8.1 Quality Points for that course.)

Quality Hours:

Quality Hours are the number of credit hours that have been assigned a letter grade even if the grade is F. Courses where the "grade" is W do not count toward Quality Hours.

Examples:

Student 1's grade report:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>numerical value</u>	<u>x Credits</u>	<u>= Quality Pts.</u>
A-	(3.7)	3	11.1
C+	(2.3)	4	9.2
A	(4.0)	3	12
B	(3.0)	3	9
C	(2.0)	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
		14	43.3

GPA = Quality Points divided by Quality Hours, so 43.3 divided by 14 = **3.093**

Student 2's grade report:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>numerical value</u>	<u>x Credits</u>	<u>= Quality Pts.</u>
C-	(1.7)	3	5.1
C+	(2.3)	3	6.9
F	(0.0)	3	0.0
D+	(1.3)	3	3.9
C	(2.0)	3	6.0
C-	(1.7)	<u>1</u>	<u>1.7</u>
		16	23.6

GPA = Quality Points divided by Quality Hours, so 23.6 divided by 16 = **1.475**

To be in satisfactory academic standing you need to achieve a 2.0 or higher for each individual semester and also for your cumulative GPA. (This minimum is higher in certain majors.) If you do not achieve this minimum, you will fall under one of the academic "difficulty" categories as set forth by the University. For information about Academic Standing, go to www.uml.edu/catalog. Click on the link for Undergraduate, then for Academic Policies. Scroll down the links on the left until you reach Academic Standing. There you will find criteria for all categories of Academic Standing.

