



MIM: Grading & Graduation Requirements

Grades

All courses are evaluated. Grades will be published by the Program Management Team approximately one month after the completion of the last exams of the period. Students are asked to contact professors directly if they would like further details on the grade or any type of feedback (quantitative or qualitative).

In accordance with Program Management's guidelines, individual professors determine the specific evaluation parameters for their course as well as the weighting of each constituent element in a grade (reports, exams, class participation and attendance). Before starting the course, professors are to inform students of this authorization, which is to appear in the syllabus.

The Program Management team will monitor students' evolution on an ongoing basis during the course. The GPA for a period is calculated according to the points assigned to each alphanumeric grade and weighted on the basis of the number of credits assigned to each course. IE uses a four-point scale that is also widely used in the United States. The table below indicates grade conversion.

Gauss Curve

IE Business School uses the **Gauss or Gaussian Curve** for grading. The Gauss Curve, or normal distribution curve, is used by many top business schools around the world and caps the number of A's and C's that can be received by a student. The curve promotes a healthy degree of competitiveness among students, but also provides several benefits to students.

- Professors cannot be "easy graders" or "tough graders" since students are graded relative to their colleagues in their class and students can be fairly compared across sections, regardless of which professors they had.
- The curve reduces grade inflation. This means that the grade you receive is a truer measure of your performance. You will also be able to measure your abilities against those of your peers.
- The curve limits how many individuals receive C+.

Grades are curved only among students in a section, not across the entire program.

The final grade assigned will be determined by the criteria shown in the following table:

| | | | |
|---------------|----|------|---|
| Excellent | A | 4.00 | Top 5% of class |
| Very good | A- | 3.66 | Next 15% of class |
| Good | B+ | 3.33 | Following 25% of class |
| Sufficient | B | 3.00 | Middle 35% of the class |
| Average | B- | 2.66 | Next 15% from the bottom of class |
| Below average | C+ | 2.33 | Bottom 5% of class |
| Poor | C | 2.00 | Penalization for failure in academic performance, for repeated poor attendance, or for infractions to the Ethics Code |
| Fail | F | 0.00 | Penalization for significant academic failure or flagrant violation of the Ethics Code |



Admissions Department

María de Molina, 13

28006 Madrid, España

Tel. +34 91 568 96 10

Fax. +34 91 568 97 10

admissions@ie.edu

www.ie.edu

Therefore:

- If a student stands out as performing better than the majority of his or her classmates, the grade will be B+, A- or A.
- Students whose level of performance in the course is similar to that of the majority of his or her classmates will receive a B.
- Conversely, if a student's performance is comparatively worse than the average for the class, the grade will be B- or C+.
- Only in exceptional cases, such as an excessive number of absences or late submission of papers, will students receive a C grade.
- Students incurring in significant academic failure (i.e. copying, plagiarism, etc.) may receive an "F" grade, which means that they have been penalized for inappropriate academic behavior. The rules and regulations defining inappropriate behaviour are included in the Ethics Code of IE Business School.

How to calculate your GPA

Student GPAs are calculated at the end of every period. Professors will assign each student a letter grade, which will be translated to a numeric grade based on the American 4.0 scale as outlined above. The GPA will then be determined using a weighted average, which takes into account the number of credits that every credit-bearing class has.

For example:

| Course Title | Alpha Grade | Numeric Grade | Credits | Weighted Value |
|--|-------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Financial Accounting | B+ | 3.33 | 3 | 9.99 |
| Marketing Fundamentals | B | 3.00 | 3 | 9 |
| Organizational Behavior | A- | 3.66 | 3 | 10.98 |
| Quantitative Methods and Spreadsheet Modeling | B | 3.00 | 3 | 9 |
| Financial Management | B+ | 3.33 | 3 | 9.99 |
| Economic Concepts I | A | 4.00 | 1.5 | 6 |
| Creative Management Thinking | B+ | 3.33 | 1.5 | 5 |
| Career Strategy I | P | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| | | | Total: 18 | Total: 59,96 |

The GPA is the sum total weighted value divided by the number of sessions. In this case, it would be: 59.96 (sum of weighted values) ÷ 18 (number of credits) = 3.33.

Note that classes designated "Pass/Fail" do not affect a student's GPA. However, the grade P or F is recorded on the official transcript.

The GPA is not plotted against the Gaussian curve.

For a complete list of all your courses and their respective number of credits, click [here](#).

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate, students must maintain a **GPA of over 2.66 for at least two periods**, and must have a **GPA of over 2.5 in every period**.

Any student obtaining a **GPA of less than 2.5 in any period** will not be allowed to continue in the program. Any student who obtains a **GPA of less than 2.66 in any two periods** will likewise not be allowed to continue in the program and will not graduate.

In such cases, the student must leave the course upon receiving his or her grades and will not be able to obtain the Master's degree.

