Attendance and Participation

Attendance is a critical component of the learning experience. We believe that by attending and actively participating in class you will enhance your learning experience throughout your IMBA program. It is mandatory to attend each and every class session or required activity organized by the program, unless it is otherwise indicated by the program Direction.

Please keep in mind that different professors might give a different weight to students attendance. Generally, an absence means a “zero” in your class participation for the day, which will affect the overall grade. As a general rule but subject to each professor, more than 20% of absences shall automatically result in a failing grade (C) for the entire course. Such C’s are outside of the curve and do not affect the 5% of C+ grades in the class. Also, once the classroom door is closed at the start of the class, students may not enter the class and will also be marked as absent for that session.

As the Management Team does not keep attendance, we usually do not distinguish excused and unexcused absences. For this reason it is important to inform your professors if you will not be attending a class due to an important reason. For extended absences, you must contact your professors and the IMBA Team.

Additionally, throughout your program various optional events and activities will be offered to create new networking opportunities, hear experiences from top business profiles and learn from other backgrounds (Careers, Professors, Clubs, etc.). Students are typically required to sign-up for these events ahead of time. It is important that students keep in mind the commitment of attending the event as other students were turned away due to capacity constraints and needlessly miss out on the opportunity. Moreover, the IE community at large can be damaged due to the appearance of a vacant room.

Evaluation System

All courses, including electives, core courses, change modules, and the Leadership Curriculum are subject to evaluation. Students will receive grades after each period, approximately one month after the last exam on the course content for that period. Once the grades are published, students will have 15 days to request grade breakdowns and any other type of quantitative, or qualitative, feedback from the professors.

Each professor determines the evaluation criteria for his or her course, as explained in the course syllabus.

IE Business School is using a “curved grading system” with a fixed distribution per letter grade for three reasons:

1. Imposing the same standard: Consistency and comparability of grades across courses and sections.
2. Ensuring fairness: To safeguard against potential grade inflation.
3. Eliminating bias: To assess relative (vs. absolute) performance among peers within each section.

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While professors determine individually how to weigh grade components such as reports, midterm exams, class participation, and final exams in each course, final term grades are assigned based on the following relative distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numeric Equivalent</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(4.00)</td>
<td>Top 5% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>(3.66)</td>
<td>Next 15% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(3.33)</td>
<td>Next 25% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(3.00)</td>
<td>Next 35% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>(2.66)</td>
<td>Next 15% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>(2.33)</td>
<td>Bottom 5% of the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(2.00)</td>
<td>F / ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT (Penalization for academic misconduct or dishonesty)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grade point average (GPA) for each period is calculated based on the numeric equivalent of each letter grade and is weighted according to the number of sessions each course carries. IE applies the four-point scale also frequently used at educational institutions in the United States and internationally for the calculation of the GPA.

Any student who receives a GPA of below 2.66 in more than one period (consecutive or non-consecutive) must leave the program and will not receive his or her MBA degree.

Any student with a GPA of below 2.85 in any given period will be subject to special observation by the Program Management Team and will be notified in writing that his or her performance is below the expected level.