

Advising Equations

Grade Point Average (GPA): How to Calculate

1. Calculate the equation below for *each course*:

credit hours × grade points earned (see below) = total grade points for that course

2. After you do the above for each of your courses, the next step is:

sum of total grade points for all courses

_____ = Grade Point Average

sum of all hours taken toward GPA

Grade Points:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| A+ = 4.33 | B+ = 3.33 | C+ = 2.33 | D+ = 1.33 | F = 0.00 |
| A = 4.00 | B = 3.00 | C = 2.00 | D = 1.00 | |
| A- = 3.67 | B- = 2.67 | C- = 1.67 | D- = .67 | |

[NC State Online GPA Calculator](#)

Grade Exclusion: Calculating New CUM GPA

total grade points – total grade points earned, if any, of desired grade excluded course(s)

_____ = New CUM GPA

total hours taken toward GPA – hours earned, if any, of desired grade excluded course(s)

Example:

Student: James McDonald

Class to grade exclude: MA 241, D-

Total grade points earned for MA 241: 2.668

Hours earned for MA 241: 4

*Total grade points = 70.331

*Total hours taken toward GPA = 33

**Recommend retrieving these numbers from the Total Units section of the Degree Audit.*

70.331 – 2.668

_____ = 2.333; therefore, James' new CUM GPA will be 2.333 if he grade excludes MA 241

33 – 4

Retroactive Withdrawal: Calculating New CUM GPA

total grade points – total grade points earned, if any, during semester to be withdrawn

total hours taken toward GPA – total hours taken toward GPA of semester to be withdrawn

Example:

Student: Esther Walker

*Total grade points = 103.001

*Total hours taken toward GPA = 53

Current CUM GPA = 1.943

**Recommend retrieving these numbers from the Total Units section of the Degree Audit.*

Semester to be withdrawn: Spring 2016

Total grade points earned in Spring 2016: 18.999

Total hours *taken toward GPA* in Spring 2016: 15

$$\frac{103.001 - 18.999}{53 - 15} = 2.21; \text{ Esther's New CUM GPA if she does a retroactive withdrawal for Spring 2016}$$

Grade Point Deficit: How to Calculate

total hours taken toward GPA \times 2.0 = **z**

z – total grade points earned = Grade Point Deficit

Example:

Student: Adelyn Cook

*Total grade points = 41.997

*Total hours taken toward GPA = 29

1. $29 \times 2 = 58$
2. $58 - 41.997 = 16.003$; therefore, Adelyn's Grade Point Deficit is 16.003

Desired Cumulative GPA: How to Calculate Semester GPA Needed

$$\frac{\text{total grade points} + y}{\text{total hours taken toward GPA} + \text{total hours toward GPA during current term}} = \text{desired CUM GPA}$$

y = total grade points needed during current term

Solve for y .

Therefore, next step:

$$\frac{y}{\text{total hours toward GPA during current term}} = \text{Semester GPA needed to earn desired CUM GPA}$$

Example:

Student: Sally Fields

Desired CUM GPA = 2.0

*Total grade points = 89.671

*Total hours taken toward GPA = 51

Total hours toward GPA during *current* term = 12

**Recommend retrieving these numbers from the Total Units section of the Degree Audit.*

$$\frac{89.671 + y}{51 + 12} = 2.0$$

$$(2.0 \times 63) - 89.671 = 36.329$$

$y = 36.329$, therefore, Sally needs 36.329 total grade points this term to earn a 2.0 CUM GPA

$$\frac{36.329}{12} = 3.027; \text{ therefore, Sally needs to earn a Semester GPA of 3.027 to earn a 2.0 CUM GPA}$$

[Click here for an online calculation tool.](#)