California State University Maritime Academy

Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

Resolution

Spring 2020 Grade Policy Changes in Response to the Coronavirus / COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS: On March 16, 2020, in response to the Coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic, all face-to-face courses at the California State University Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) were converted, at short notice, to alternate modalities, such as online instruction, or delayed until circumstances allow for safe in-person course completion; and

WHEREAS: These changes will likely have negative and disparate impacts on students’ performance in these courses, through no fault of their own; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Executive Committee of Academic Senate of the California State University Maritime Academy urge that the university’s grading policy be amended for Spring 2020 undergraduate courses to minimize the foreseen negative impacts; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Executive Committee, in consultation with academic departments, recommend that the grading policy amendments consist of the following provisions:

• For undergraduate courses, all grades of F will be replaced, by the Registrar, with a grade of No Credit (NC), except for F grades that are the result of Academic Integrity Violations.

• Students may request to switch letter grades in the A, B, and C range to Credit (CR), and D range grades to NC. Students are encouraged to seek guidance from a University Advisor regarding how CR/NC grades can affect their academics. Requests for a grade change must be submitted within four weeks of the day that the final grade is posted. Details regarding the process to request a grade change will be communicated by the Registrar’s Office.

• In cases where students are awarded a Report in Progress (RP) or an Incomplete (I), the option for CR/NC will be extended to within four weeks of the final grade being assigned.

• As in any other semester, if a student thinks the assigned grade is in error, the student may follow the procedures for a student-initiated grade change by following the procedures in the relevant policy.

• A transcript notation for all Spring 2020 grades will read: “Courses taken during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

• CR grades assigned during Spring 2020 semester will satisfy major and graduation requirements.
• Courses taken CR/NC this semester will not count towards the maximum number of units a student may take CR/NC.

• No student will be academically disqualified unless that decision is the result of an academic integrity violation. Students may be continued on academic probation if they do not meet their academic standing requirements.

• For Spring 2020, students must take at least 9 graded units (instead of 12), *excluding* CR grades, to qualify for the Dean’s List and President’s List.

Passed unanimously by the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate 15 April 2020.
Approved by President Cropper 20 April 2020.