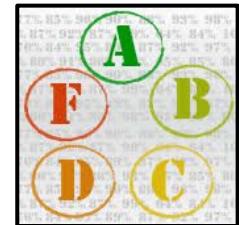


Intro to Flexible Grading

Josephinum Academy's New Grading System During Digital Learning - Spring 2020





Flexible Grading Details:

- Starting 4/14 we will start a flexible grading system. Students should have completed all missing work (or complete it ASAP.)
- On Friday, 4/17 we will print a batch of grades for everyone and those grades will be the “base grade” in each class. It is very important your “base grade” is at or close to what you want it to be for your transcripts by this Friday 4/17
- You will receive whatever your base grade is at the end of the semester with a few exceptions (see next slide)

The Ways Your “Base Grade” May Change:

- Students can continue improving their grade by turning in missing work and completing new assignments. **ALL LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANY TIME UP UNTIL THURSDAY, JUNE 4th (9th-11th grade) or Saturday, May 23rd for seniors.** There will only be a maximum of 10% late work penalty on each late assignment turned in, in every class. If your “base grade” improves by June 4th, you will receive the better grade on your final transcript
- **Students’ grades may also drop to an F if you don’t complete work. If this happens, the F will go on their transcript and you will have to make up the semester if it is a graduation requirement.**
- **Students’ grades may drop from the “base grade” but as long as it does not fall below passing, the base grade will remain!**

Example Student Scenario:

Example: A student has a C (78%) before Spring Break in History. Due to their hard work catching up over Spring Break, they turn all of their missing assignments and their grade increases to a B (90%) which will be locked in as their “base grade” on 4/17. **Here are some examples of what may happen to their grade by the end of the semester:**

- They continue turning in all of their assignments on time and stay engaged with the class and their grade moves up to an A (94%) by the end of the semester. **Their transcript will then show an ‘A’ as their semester grade in History**
- They try to stay engaged over the next quarter but miss a couple of assignments. Their grade slips back down to a C (76%) by the end of the semester. **Their transcript will then still show a ‘B’ (90%) since that was their “base grade” and they are still passing the class.**
- They decide not to engage in History class the entire 4th quarter so their grade slips to an F (65%). **Their transcript will then show an F as their semester grade in History and they will need to make up the semester in Summer School before they graduate.**

FAQs

- **When will teachers update my missing work that I turned in over Spring Break?** Although we gave students the opportunity to turn in late work over break, teachers were not required to update gradebooks over break. However, grades will be updated by teachers by Thursday evening, 4/16. “Base grades” will be saved Friday morning, 4/17 at 8am. Teachers may assign new work Tuesday-Friday (4/14-4/17) in your classes, but those assignments will NOT be entered until after Friday 4/17 after 8am, which is when base grades will be recorded. Any late work turned in after 4/14 may also not be updated until after 4/17.
- **Why are we doing this?** There is a lot of uncertainty in the next couple of months. We don’t know how anyone will be impacted, so this gives students the flexibility and the accountability to stay engaged in their learning while adapting to these unforeseen circumstances

FAQs

- **What happens if we come back to school in May?** Again, because of these unforeseen circumstances, we will still maintain flexible grading if we come back into the building for the remainder of the semester. In other words, this will remain for the rest of the school year regardless if we come back in person or not.
- **What if my family or I get sick and my grade falls to an F for circumstances I can't control?** We are still going to be very flexible with you in these circumstances just as we have been. As long as we are informed, we will work with students and families on a case-by-case basis to ensure you are as successful as you can be in your situation

FAQs

- **Do I still need to complete my work 4th quarter?** Yes - grading categories and point systems in classes will not change. You will fail your classes if you do no work and you will have to recover all of those credits.
- **Can I still turn in late work?** Yes, we are getting rid of any late work deadlines for the remainder of the semester. Students can turn in any missing work they have completed up until Thursday, June 4th (9th-11th) or Saturday, May 23rd for seniors. Teachers may deduct up to 10% per late assignment, however (although no more than that).
- **What if my teacher isn't updating my grades?** Please give your teachers up to 2 weeks time to update work that you turn in at any time. If grades have not been updated longer than 2 weeks, please reach out to your teacher. If there are any issues after this point, you may reach out to one of the Admin. Team.

FAQs

- **What happens if I don't do any work for a week or longer?** We will still be diligent in contacting parents and following up. If you are missing for a week or longer your teachers and the Admin team will be reaching out to both you and your parents.
- **What is the likelihood that we will come back to school before the end of the school year?** At this point, there is no way for anyone to make any concrete assumptions on a return date, if we return at all. We will continue reaching out and updating everyone as soon as anything changes or we have more clarity.
- **What about graduation, prom, and other end of the year events?** At this point, we still do not have an idea of when these events will be rescheduled. We will not know until we receive more updates and guidance from the Federal and local government.

FAQs

- **How will I know what my grade is at any time?** You will still be utilizing Schoology to see your current grade. In addition, Schoology will still be utilized to see what assignment you are missing and for all of the directions and classwork (which can be seen by students AND parents)
- **Will I see my base grade in Schoology?** After Friday, 4/17 base grades will no longer be visible in Schoology as grades will continue to change as new work is assigned and completed. However, every member of the Admin team will have a copy of each student's base grade report, and we will be able to share that info with you or your parents at any time.

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?

Please feel free to reach out to any member of the Admin. Team at any time:

- Colleen Schrantz, Principal, colleen.schrantz@josephinum.org
- Renee Vai, Director of Curriculum and Programs, renee.vai@josephinum.org
- Gerald Raines, Dean of Students, gerald.raines@josephinum.org
- Yaritza DeJesus, Director of Student Services,
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