



Measures of Academic Achievement Procedure

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In developing this procedure the University had regard to the provisions of section 40B(1)(b) of the Human Rights Act 2004 (ACT).

1. PURPOSE:

1.1. This document sets out the University's procedures to measure academic achievement, the Grade Point Average (GPA) and the Weighted Average Mark (WAM).

2. SCOPE:

2.1. Information on the automatically calculated GPA and WAM which appears for each course of study on a student's record, and other GPAs and WAMs which may be manually calculated is included.

2.2. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) calculations are displayed for every course of study.

2.3. Cumulative Weighted Average Mark (WAM) calculations are displayed on every course of study commenced from Semester 2, 2012 onwards.

3. PROCEDURE:

Calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA)

3.1. A calculated GPA results in a number between 0 and 7, and is usually taken to three decimal places.

3.2. Formal grades are converted into grade scores using the following table:

Grade	Grade Score
HD	7
DI	6
CR	5

P	4
PX (or P*)	3
NW, NX, NC, NS, NN	0

3.3. Using grade scores, a GPA is calculated using the following formula:

$$GPA = \frac{\sum(\text{Grade Score} \times \text{Credit Points})}{\sum(\text{Credit Points})}$$

3.4. Only performance in units for which a formal grade is recorded on the University's student records system should be used in a GPA calculation.

Calculation of Weighted Average Mark (WAM)

3.5. A calculated WAM results in a number between 0 and 100, and is usually taken to one decimal place.

3.6. Using formal marks, a WAM is calculated using the following formula:

$$WAM = \frac{\sum(\text{Mark} \times \text{Credit Points})}{\sum(\text{Credit Points})}$$

3.7. Only performance in units for which a formal mark is recorded on the University's student records system should be used in a WAM calculation.

4. GOVERNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION:

Policy

- Measures of Academic Achievement Policy

Governing framework

- Courses at the University of Canberra will comply with the [Higher Education Standards Framework](#) and the [Australian Qualifications Framework \(AQF\)](#).

5. DEFINITIONS:

Terms	Definitions
Advanced Standing (external credit)	Credit awarded to a course of study which reduces the overall length of that course, on the basis of study undertaken at another institution.

Advanced Standing (internal credit)	Credit awarded to a course of study which reduces the overall length of that course, on the basis of study undertaken within the University in a different course of study.
Course of study	An academic qualification undertaken by a student, which may or may not be conferred (elsewhere may be known as a degree).
Credit points	Each unit is assigned a number of credit points that indicates the size of the unit, its workload and its contribution to meeting the requirements of a course. Credit points are used for weighting of GPA and WAM calculations.
Cumulative GPA	A GPA which is automatically calculated for a course of study at the end of each teaching period.
Cumulative WAM	A WAM which is automatically calculated for a course of study at the end of each teaching period. Only calculated for courses of study which commenced from Semester 2, 2014 onwards.
GPA	A Grade Point Average, expressed as a number between 0 and 7 and calculated using formal grades, which gives an indicator of academic achievement within a course of study.
Formal Grade	The letter grade awarded to a student on the completion of a unit of study.
Formal Mark	The mark out of 100 awarded to a student on the completion of a unit of study. Recording of formal marks became compulsory for all units in Semester 2, 2012.
Unit	A unit is the basic module for teaching and assessment in the University (elsewhere may be known as a subject)
WAM	A Weighted Average Mark, expressed as a number between 0 and 100 and calculated using formal marks, which gives an indicator of academic achievement within a course of study.