



SOUTHEAST MISSOURI
STATE UNIVERSITY · 1873

GUIDE TO A BETTER G.P.A.

PROFESSIONAL
ADVISING TEAM



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INTRODUCTION

This guide was created in order to help you:

**MAINTAIN A
GOOD G.P.A.**

**INCREASE
YOUR G.P.A.**

**CALCULATE
YOUR G.P.A.**

Please review all the materials in this booklet. If you have any concerns about your G.P.A., ask your advisor for assistance.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Any time a student's cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) falls below 2.0, the student will be placed on academic probation and enrollment will be limited to a maximum of 12 hours per fall or spring semester (6 hours in the summer). The student will remain on academic probation and must earn a semester G.P.A. of 2.0 in each subsequent semester until the cumulative G.P.A. is at least 2.0. A student on academic probation who earns a semester G.P.A. of less than 2.0 will be subject to academic suspension or academic disqualification.

Students on academic probation must meet with an advisor each semester prior to registration. In addition, schedule changes should be discussed with an advisor.

A FEW NOTES:

- / Some degrees/majors require a G.P.A. higher than 2.0
- / Financial probation is not the same as academic probation. Any questions regarding financial probation should be addressed to Student Financial Services at 573-651-2253.

BEING ON ACADEMIC PROBATION CAN AFFECT:

- / Your opportunity to stay in school
- / Financial aid eligibility (grants, loans, etc.)
- / Athletic eligibility
- / Eligibility to live in the residence halls
- / Insurance coverage
- / International visa status
- / Vocational rehabilitation benefits
- / Veteran's benefits
- / Participation in student organizations

CALCULATING SEMESTER G.P.A.

1. List all courses and their letter grades.
2. Do not include developmental or lab courses that do not impact your G.P.A. These courses will have "0" as the first number of the course (i.e. EN099). Do not include courses with CR grades, as these are not counted in your G.P.A.
3. Convert all letter grades into numerical grades using the four-point scale.

A = 4
B = 3
C = 2
D = 1
F = 0
4. Multiply course grade by credit hours per course.
5. Total grade points for all credit courses.
6. Total all credit hours for the semester.
7. Divide total grade points by total credit hours.
8. This is your semester G.P.A.
9. Overall G.P.A. can be determined by dividing total grade points for all courses taken by total of all credit hours attempted.

EXAMPLE G.P.A. CALCULATION:

Course	Grade	Grade Points		Hours		Total
UI 100	B	3 pts.	x	3	=	9
SC 105	B	3 pts.	x	3	=	9
MA 134	C	2 pts.	x	3	=	6
AD 101	A	4 pts.	x	3	=	12
EN 100	C	2 pts.	x	3	=	6

TOTAL POINTS = 42
(divide by 15 total hours)
42/15 = 2.80 G.P.A.

FIGURE YOUR SEMESTER G.P.A.

Course	Grade	Grade Points		Hours		Total
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	

TOTAL POINTS = _____
(divide by total hours)
 ___ / ___ = _____

Don't want to calculate your G.P.A. by hand or want to see how repeating courses can affect your G.P.A.? Visit cstl-csm.semo.edu/ltansil/script/gpa/predict.htm to predict your cumulative G.P.A. You can also use the Semester G.P.A. Calculator to calculate your semester G.P.A. at cstl-csm.semo.edu/ltansil/script/gpa/calc.htm.

TIPS FOR INCREASING AND MAINTAINING YOUR G.P.A.

BE A GOOD STUDENT

- / Attend class consistently
- / Keep up with your points in class (do not rely solely on online grade books)
- / Take notes
- / Ask questions and participate in class

STUDY

- / Study outside the classroom in a quiet environment
- / Plan for study time - for every three-credit hour course (in a fall or spring semester), plan to spend an average of ten hours per week working on that course (“inside” and “outside” of class)
- / Break up your study time
- / Form a study group with classmates

USE RESOURCES

- / Request a tutor
- / Visit with faculty during office hours
- / Meet with your advisor to brainstorm strategies for improving your G.P.A.
- / Locate and use campus resources
- / Search for online resources

OTHER TIPS

- / Repeat courses in which you earned Ds or Fs. The new grade will replace the previous grade in your G.P.A. calculation, even if lower. (Note: original grades will remain on your permanent record.) Check with Student Financial Services for financial aid implications of repeating courses.
- / Use a daily planner and to-do lists
- / Manage your time wisely
- / Set goals for yourself

SOUTHEAST RESOURCES

LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

573.651.2273 / semo.edu/academic-support-centers

University Center, Room 206 / Kent Library, Room 412

Provides academic resources and assistance to students, including tutoring and study skills workshops (both in-person and online). With this office, you can develop an individualized College Success Plan (CSP).

DISABILITY SERVICES

573.651.5927 / semo.edu/ds

Provides both federally mandated services as well as proactive services for student with disabilities, by ensuring equal access.

MATHEMATICS LEARNING CENTER (CAPE GIRARDEAU CAMPUS)

573.651.2164 / semo.edu/math/learningcenter

Johnson Hall, Room 112 / Memorial Hall, Room 104

Provides free math tutoring. Also available to online and Regional Campus students.

CENTER FOR WRITING EXCELLENCE

573.651.2460 / semo.edu/writing

Memorial Hall, Room 103

Offers face-to-face and online assistance with writing assignments. Services are free of charge and are available during day, evening, and weekend hours.

KENT LIBRARY ONLINE CHAT

To contact a reference librarian during regular hours, visit library.semo.edu and click on “Ask Us.”

CAREER SERVICES

573.651.2583 / semo.edu/careers

Academic Hall, Room 057

Offers career decision-making assistance, resume and cover letter review, interviewing skills, and much more.

ONLINE RESOURCES

LEARNING EXPRESS LIBRARY

library.semo.edu

Click on Databases and search for “Learning Express Library.”

MATHEMATICS

math.com

purplemath.com

STUDY GUIDES AND STRATEGIES

studygs.net

VARC: A GUIDE TO LEARNING STYLES

vark-learn.com

KHAN ACADEMY

khanacademy.org

SUCCESS GUIDE FOR ONLINE COURSES

online.semo.edu/content/guidebook/success.pdf

**DON'T JUST TAKE
OUR WORD FOR
IT. SEARCH THE
INTERNET TO FIND
FREE RESOURCES
THAT WILL MEET
YOUR NEEDS!**

**WE HOPE THIS INFORMATION WILL HELP
YOU ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS!
IF YOU QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS,
CONTACT YOUR ADVISOR FOR
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.**