

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. THE UNIVERSITY

The Hong Kong Baptist College, founded in 1956, was renamed Hong Kong Baptist University in November 1994. The University is a fully government-funded institution.

2. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The medium of instruction for formal classroom teaching is English, except for courses that are granted exemption. For students admitted from 2013 onwards, the media of instruction for courses taken are shown on academic transcripts. For a course of which the medium of instruction is not English, the medium of instruction is denoted by a single letter attached to the end of the course code. For example, 'C' stands for Cantonese and 'P' for Putonghua whereas 'N' denotes courses that do not involve formal classroom teaching. These letter denotations are not applicable to courses taught in English, courses exempted and those with units transferred. The letter denotations for all media of instruction can be found at the following website: <http://gs.hkbu.edu.hk/upload/students/post/moi-code.pdf>

3. UNIT AND STUDY LOAD

The number of units assigned to a course is indicative of the contact time with a teacher and/or the study time associated with that course on a weekly basis over a period of one semester/trimester/term. In general, a single unit represents attendance once a week throughout the semester/trimester/term at a lecture lasting 50 minutes. A study load on part-time basis normally ranges from 6 to 9 units per semester/trimester/term while the number of units is about double of that for full-time studies.

4. GRADING SYSTEM

4.1 Grading Scheme

Letter grades are used to indicate the results of assessment. The number of grade points gained by a student in a particular course corresponds to the letter grade.

Letter Grade	Academic Performance	Grade Point Per Unit ❶	Grade Point Per Unit ❷	Letter Grade	Academic Performance	Grade Point Per Unit
A	Excellent	4.00	4.00	I	Incomplete (temporary)	Not included in GPA calculation
A-		3.70	3.67	NR	Not Yet Reported (temporary)	Not included in GPA calculation
B+	Good	3.30	3.33	S	Satisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
B		3.00	3.00	U	Unsatisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
B-	Satisfactory	2.70	2.67	W	Withdrawn (w.e.f. 2000-2001)	Not included in GPA calculation
C+		2.30	2.33	WS	Withdrawn Satisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
C		2.00	2.00	WF	Withdrawn Failing	0.00
C-	Marginal Pass	1.70	1.67	YR	Year Grade (temporary)	Not included in GPA calculation
D		1.00	--		(applicable to the first semester/trimester/term component of a year course and to courses that span more than one academic year)	
F	Failure	0.00	0.00			

4.2 Course Remark Code

DTR	Wing Lung Bank International Institute for Business Development (IIBD) transfer course
EX	Course exempted
EXT	Course approved for extension to the following semester/trimester/term
FP	Course taken for points
IR1, IR2, etc.	Course to be repeated (or first enrolment of a course repeated) for fulfilment of specific course and/or programme requirements
IS1, IS2, etc.	Course repeated in relation to the one with the corresponding IR remark code (Only the higher grade of the "IR" and "IS" pair will be included in GPA calculation.)
NC	Not included in GPA calculation
RP	Course repeated
RR1, RR2, etc.	Course required to be repeated or replaced by taking another course
SS1, SS2, etc.	Course grade that supersedes the one with the corresponding RR remark code in GPA calculation
TR	Transferred units

4.3 Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA is obtained by adding all the grade points gained and then dividing the result by the total number of units gained. When calculated for a given semester/trimester/term, it is known as the *semester/trimester/term GPA*. When calculated cumulatively for all courses attempted, it is known as the *cumulative GPA (cGPA)*. Transferred units are not included in GPA calculation.

For graduation, students must pass all courses and at the same time attain the minimum cGPA as required by their programme of study. The minimum cGPA required for taught postgraduate programmes is 2.50 while that for professional doctorate programmes is 2.70❶ or 2.67❷. Courses with grades D or F must be repeated. The original grades or the grades for repeats, whichever are higher, will be included in GPA calculation.

5. CLASSIFICATIONS/DESIGNATIONS OF AWARD

The various classifications/designations of award are based on the cGPAs, generally as follows:

	Taught Postgraduate Programmes		Professional Doctorate Programmes	
	cGPA range ❶	cGPA range ❷	cGPA range ❶	cGPA range ❷
Distinction	3.70-4.00 (with no grades below B- and no repeats)	3.67-4.00 (with no grades below B- and no repeats)	3.70-4.00 (with no grades below B- and no repeats)	3.67-4.00 (with no grades below B- and no repeats)
Merit	3.40-3.69	3.40-3.66	3.40-3.69	3.40-3.66
Pass	2.50-3.39	2.50-3.39	2.70-3.39	2.67-3.39

Notes: ❶ *Applicable to students admitted before the academic year of 2012-2013.*
 ❷ *Applicable to students admitted in or after the academic year of 2012-2013*