

# OPSC

OFFICE OF PRIVATE SECTOR CAREERS

 Columbia Law School

From: Danielle Schweiloch  
Subject: Columbia Law's Spring 2024 Grading Updates

As you may be aware, due to the climate on and around Columbia's campus, and the negative effects felt by many of our students, the Law School faculty decided to make a one-time change to our grading protocols. This change, which is outlined below, is applicable only for the Spring 2024 semester.

**All students, including 1Ls and LLMs, were offered the opportunity to elect to have any of their spring semester letter-graded courses instead graded on a Credit/Fail (Cr/F) basis.** In other words, students may elect to have zero, one, two, three, or any number of spring semester courses assessed on a Cr/F basis, subject to the following considerations:

- Students may only elect Cr/F prior to the start of exams or final assessments. Grades already submitted, and courses in which final exams or papers were already in progress at the time of the announcement were not eligible to be converted to Cr/F.
- **Grading System for Courses Not Elected as Cr/F:**  
For courses not elected for Cr/F, the format of Columbia's grades will remain the same - a letter grade using a system of eight categories: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C, and F.
- **Academic Honors**  
The Law School will continue to deploy its system of academic honors as follows:
  - **Highest Honors**, awarded to students whose GPA is in the top 1% to 2% of their class;
  - **High Honors**, awarded to students whose GPA is in the top 3% to 10% of their class; and
  - **Honors**, awarded to students whose GPA is in the top 11% to 40% of their class.

### **What do these changes mean for employers?**

We have no reason to believe that the superlative quality and preparedness you have come to expect from Columbia Law students and graduates will be affected by these changes. Our objective is simply to make you aware of these changes as part of your holistic review of each candidate—their experiences, competencies, and narrative—in determining their qualifications and employment potential. Students were encouraged to put their safety, health, and well-being first during this tumultuous time and there should be no negative inference made because a student opted to take one or more courses as Cr/F this semester.

**Questions?**

You should also feel free to contact [me](#) or the deans of the [Office of Judicial Careers](#) or the [Office of Public Interest/Public Service Law and Careers](#) if you have any questions.

Every year, Columbia Law School students and graduates have the privilege of learning from, and working with, you and your colleagues. Your continued hiring of, and investment in, our law students and recent graduates is a key contributor to the value of a Columbia Law School degree. Thank you for entrusting Columbia Law School to provide you with the highest caliber of legal talent, and for providing our students and graduates with unparalleled opportunities to learn or practice law at its highest levels.

Best regards,  
*Danielle Schweiloch*

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