

## Department of Chemical Engineering Departmental Grading Guidelines (Undergraduate Classes)

Course grades are established by the individual faculty teaching the course consistent with student performance and published university guidelines.

The following summarizes the criteria published in the University Bulletin (parenthetical information provided for clarity):

- A: Superior
- B: Good (*not Superior*)
- C: Acceptable (*not Good*)
- D: Passing (*not Acceptable and not Failing*)
- F: Failing (*not Passing*)

The following characteristics of student performance are the general grade benchmarks used by the majority of the departmental faculty:

### Characteristics of Grade Benchmarks

**A** - Student clearly demonstrates an in-depth technical understanding of the concepts. Able to offer different technical viewpoints and solutions to a problem. Demonstrates the ability to apply the concepts creatively. Consistently carries problems to a final and justified solution. Demonstrates technical leadership in the subject.

**B** - Student demonstrates a technical understanding sufficient for solving the majority of problems. Able to propose at least one technical solution or viewpoint to a problem. Consistently carries problems to a satisfactory solution. Can explain and justify a conclusion or approach most of the time.

**C** - Student demonstrates a technical understanding sufficient for solving straightforward problems but may have trouble with more complex variations or situations. Carries problems through to an adequate solution most of the time. Able to explain and justify conclusions or approaches for many cases but with uncertainty.

**D** - Student's ability to apply the concepts even to straight-forward problems is marginal. Carries problems through to an adequate solution only sporadically. The ability to explain or justify conclusions is weak and sporadic. There would be a question with regard to the ability to work in the area in an industrial setting.

**F** - Student's ability to apply the concepts to problems is seriously in question. The ability to work in

the area in an industrial setting is undemonstrated.

Revision 12/9/2009