

EAC updates: Academic Status, Incompletes, Degree Requirements

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Olaf College is instituting the following changes to academic status decisions, determination of honors, deadlines for incomplete grades, overall degree requirement exceptions, etc., for Spring 2020.

Academic Status: suspensions and probation

Your academic status coming into the Spring 2020 semester is what will apply at the end of the semester. Students will not be suspended or placed on academic probation as a result of their academic performance in Spring 2020. Those who meet the criteria for removal from academic probation status, however, will be removed. The temporary changes to the Academic Status policy for Spring 2020 are detailed below:

- No student will be suspended based on academic performance in Spring 2020.
- No student will be placed on probation status based on academic performance in Spring 2020.
- Students who currently have a probation status from Fall 2019 and meet the criteria to be removed from probation after Spring 2020, as outlined in the St. Olaf College [catalog](#), will be removed from probation status.
- Similarly, students who have a probation status from Fall 2019 and do not meet the criteria to be removed from probation after Spring 2020, as outlined in the St. Olaf College [catalog](#), will continue on academic probation.
- As always, we monitor student progress and provide academic support to those students who would have been placed on probation or suspended during a typical semester. These students may be required or invited to receive support during Fall 2020 from a St. Olaf College success coach, their academic advisor and/or a class dean. This support will not appear on the transcript or in DegreePath and is intended solely to support student success.

Determination of [Academic Honors](#), Dean's List, Distinction

Dean's List: Due to the optional S/U grading for spring 2020, students who achieve a GPA of 3.75 or higher for the semester, regardless of the number of credits completed, will be named to the Dean's List.

Honors Day and Honors Conferred at Commencement: There are no changes in how these honors are calculated.

Students will need to check with their major or concentration department or program for guidelines or exceptions for any of the following:

- Honor societies
- Distinction
- DegreePath exceptions

Grading Deadline

In order to award degrees and get diplomas and transcripts out to new graduates in a timely fashion, all senior grades are due 24 hours after the final exam period.

Incomplete grades

The deadlines for Incomplete grades from Fall 2019, Interim 2020, and Spring 2020 have been extended until Fall 2020, Interim 2021, and Spring 2021 respectively. Please connect with your instructor regarding your plan for completion.

Overall degree requirement exceptions

For the graduating classes of 2020 and 2021, the Registrar has the authority, while adhering to the minimum Minnesota State standards, to make adjustments to overall degree requirements including credit limits, General Education requirements, and Major/Concentration requirements. The Registrar will use the following table to evaluate petitions to waive the college's published requirements for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees. Students seeking a waiver must submit with their request a brief explanation of the reasons why the circumstances of Spring 2020 impeded their timely progress toward the degree. This petition must be turned in the Registrar no later than May 13, 2020, for this year's class and May 18, 2021 for the class of 2021.

Overall degree requirements	<u>St. Olaf 2020/2021 graduation adjustments</u>
1 major is required	1
2.0 minimum cumulative GPA	2.0 cum GPA and in major
6 credits graded "C" or above in the major	C- and above/S
35 minimum total credits	33
18 upper-level credits (200-level or above)	16
24 graded credits (those cannot be Pass/No Pass or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory)	waive
6 credits maximum can be taken Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	waive
3 Interims/1 must be taken as a first-year student	2
BA/BM General Education	Based on petition

The Registrar will consult with department chairs and/or program directors before waiving any major/concentration requirement apart from the limits on S/U grades for spring 2020.

Transfer of Credit

The Registrar has the authority to make exceptions to transfer policy in light of COVID-19 and its effects on transfer of credit in regards to incoming students, study away credit and completion of students' St. Olaf degrees.

Further Questions? Contact Registrar [Ericka Peterson](#).