

EAC update and reminders: Fall 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the potential for another outbreak in Fall of 2020, St. Olaf College is instituting the following changes to the fall semester: adjustments to the daily schedule, implementing mid-semester grading, information about incomplete grades, and a reminder about the exceptions for overall degree requirements for the graduating class of 2021.

UPDATE: Adjusting the Daily Schedule - time blocks

Every class period will shorten by 5 minutes in order to accommodate a 15-minute pass time between classes, which is a MN Dept of Health recommendation. Though this will not be noted in the course schedule, each class will end 5 minutes early.

Mid-semester Grades - reminder

Mid-semester grading will be implemented for Fall 2020. The mid point of the semester falls on Oct 1 & 2, and grades will be due on Oct 8. Mid-semester grades will be required for all full-semester courses. Instructions of how and where to enter these grades in SIS will be sent to all faculty in the fall. Mid-semester grades are there to give the student an idea of progress and also to provide a clear record for the faculty member in case either the course or a student's studies are disrupted. They will not be factored into the GPA nor will they be reflected on the academic transcript.

Incomplete Grades - reminder

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.

The Dean of Students Office and the Center for Advising and Academic Support will monitor the number of Incomplete grades per individual student, how many have been carried over from Spring 2020 or previous semesters, and assist in determining if additional Incompletes would be recommended for the success of each student.

Overall degree requirement exceptions - reminder

For the graduating Class of 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 to the Registrar no later than May 18, 2021 for the Class of 2021.

Overall degree requirements	St. Olaf 2021 graduation adjustments
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 from 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.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact any member of EAC
[Alison Feldt](#), [Ericka Peterson](#), [Marci Sortor](#), or [Bill Sonnega](#).