International Studies grading policy
What follows is meant to help students understand the departmental consensus regarding the grading of individual assignments. Each faculty member of the Department of International Studies will, however, have their own interpretation of this consensus.

It is the student’s responsibility to attend closely to the course syllabus, assignment descriptions, oral indications in class and written comments on graded assignments in order to gain a more precise understanding of the interpretation that guides a given course.

A+: Work of unusual distinction, only used when a student’s performance significantly exceeds all requirements and expectations for the assignment. Therefore, in the International Studies Department, this grade is rarely awarded.

A: Excellent grasp of the material, with precise and insightful analysis and arguments. Must be well executed and reasonably free of errors. Can signify strong performance across the board, or exceptional performance in one aspect of the assignment offsetting somewhat less strong performance in another.

B: Work that satisfies the main criteria of the assignment, and demonstrates good command of the material, but does not achieve the level of excellence that characterizes work of A quality.

C: Work that demonstrates a basic grasp of the material and satisfies at least some of the assigned criteria reasonably well.

D: Work that demonstrates a poor grasp of the material and/or is executed with little regard for college standards, but which exhibits some engagement with the material.

F: Work that is weak in every aspect, demonstrating a basic misunderstanding of the material and/or disregard for the assigned question or prompt.

Plus (+) is added to a grade when the student’s performance is at the upper end of the range for that grade. Minus (-) is added to a grade when the student’s performance is at the lower end of the range for that grade.

In addition, the following grades may also be given:

P (Pass): Satisfactory (C- or above for undergraduate work, B- or above for graduate work)

N (No Pass): Less than satisfactory, no credit awarded (D+ or lower for undergraduate work, C + or lower for graduate work)

I (Incomplete): Assigned when student cannot complete course for e.g., medical reasons; must be approved in advance, and must be made up within one year or automatically turns to ‘F’

W: Officially withdrawn without penalty

X: No grade reported by instructor (assigned by Registrar)

Y: No basis for grade (assigned by instructor when student has not submitted any assignment)