

Calculating the Grade Point Average

At Smith College, grade point averages (GPAs) are used to determine academic standing and eligibility for college academic and co-curricular programs, as well as awards. GPAs are not included on official college transcripts.

Letter grades are converted to the following numerical values:

Letter Grade	Numerical Value
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
E	0.0

The College calculates a student's grade point average after each semester, as well as a cumulative grade point average for all Smith courses* taken for a letter grade. The grade point average is a weighted average, calculated by the value of the grade and the number of credits the course is worth.

For example, an A, a B+, a B in three four-credit courses, a B- in a five-credit course and an A- in a one-credit course would be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}4.0 \times 4 &= 16.0 \\3.3 \times 4 &= 13.2 \\3.0 \times 4 &= 12.0 \\2.7 \times 5 &= 13.5 \\3.7 \times 1 &= 03.7\end{aligned}$$

$$58.4 \div 18 \text{ (credits)} = 3.2444 \text{ GPA}$$

* Only letter grades in courses taken at Smith College, on the Five College Exchange during the academic year, the Picker and Smithsonian Programs in Washington, DC and on the Smith Junior Year Abroad programs in Florence, Geneva, Hamburg and Paris count toward the student's GPA.

[Guidelines for the Departmental Honors Program](#)