Transcript Explanation

**Accreditation:** In 1933, the United States Congress authorized the Naval Academy to award Bachelor of Science degrees, and was granted accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in 1947. Specific program accreditation by other agencies and associations include the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET - www.abet.org) and the American Chemical Society (ACS - www.acs.org).

**Calendar:** The academic year at the Naval Academy includes a summer semester with three 4 week blocks, and fall and spring semesters each with approximately sixteen weeks of instruction and one week of final examinations.

**Transcripts:** Transcripts are maintained by the Academy Registrar in accordance with the policies of the United States Naval Academy and the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). Transcripts are only sent upon request or consent of the student and should not be released or transferred to any other person, agency, or party. The Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 prohibits release of this information without the student’s written consent.

**Academic Credit:** The unit of credit is the semester hour. Each semester hour equals one 50 minute period of recitation (or two periods, 110 minutes, of laboratory work) per week for a semester. One hour of recitation normally requires two hours of out of class preparation time.

**Grading System:** Prior to Academic Year 1963-1964, the Naval Academy used a numeric marking scale based on a maximum grade of 4.00. To convert to letter grades, for purposes of comparison, the Registrar recommends using the following scale:

- 4.00 to 3.40 = A;
- 3.39 to 3.00 = B;
- 2.99 to 2.60 = C;
- 2.59 to 2.40 = D;
- 2.39 and less = F.

Beginning with Academic Year 1963-1964, the Naval Academy adopted the 4-point (A, B, C, D, F) system. The +/- system was added in the fall semester of Academic Year 2021-2022. Note: QP = Quality Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>QP</th>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>QP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Other grades that may appear on a transcript include I (Incomplete), W (Withdraw), and IP (In Progress) and carry no quality points and do not impact the GPA. Grades preceded with R (Repeated) indicate the course was repeated for grade forgiveness and the repeated course grade is not calculated in the cumulative GPA. Grades of V (Validation) indicate credit awarded by the Naval Academy based on coursework completed at other institutions or scores on Advanced Placement (AP) exams, International Baccalaureate (IB), or departmental placement exams.

**Quality Point Rating (QPR):** The QPR is equivalent to the grade point average (GPA) and is computed as follows: (1) multiply the Quality Point value of the letter grade in each course by the semester hours of credit for each course, (2) find the sum of those products for all the courses included in the applicable period, (3) divide that sum by the total semester hour value of the courses included.

**Class Standing:** Standings prior to the Class of 1967 included At-Sea Training and several other non-academic factors. Academic standing, used since 1967, is based solely on the Cumulative QPR.

**Degree:** Prior to June 1969, all Naval Academy graduates were awarded a Bachelor of Science degree with no speciality or major designation. For the Classes of 1969-1990, a graduate who completed the appropriate major was awarded the B.S. degree in the following engineering fields: Aerospace Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Marine Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Naval Architecture, Ocean Engineering, and Systems Engineering. Majors in other disciplines received the undesignated B.S. degree. Beginning with the Class of 1991, all graduates are awarded a Bachelor of Science degree and those who successfully completed requirements for a major also receive the major designation. Starting with the Class of 2005, midshipmen who complete all graduation requirements, but do not earn a minimum 2.00 QPR in their major courses receive a Bachelor of Science degree with no major designation.

**Major:** Prior to Academic Year 1959-1960, all midshipmen followed the same course of instruction. In Academic Year 1959-1960, an elective course program was instituted which permitted qualified midshipmen to achieve a major. In Academic Year 1969-1970, all midshipmen could complete a major within the required program.

**Minor:** The Classes of 1968-1970 were required to take six elective courses in a field of special study designated as a “minor.” In 1987, a voluntary foreign language minor program was implemented.

**Graduation Requirements:** Detailed graduation and degree requirements are published in a USNA Instruction. In general, midshipmen must complete a minimum of 137 semester hours, including 90 semester hours of core program requirements and attain a minimum cumulative QPR of 2.00. Midshipmen must also achieve the required standards of performance in the prescribed summer training program, military performance, honor, conduct, physical education, and accept a commission in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps if it is proffered.

**Graduation Honors:** The Naval Academy ranks midshipmen based on an Overall Order of Merit (OOM). Midshipmen who are in the top 10% of their class based on OOM rankings at the end of their final spring semester graduate “with distinction” and those who earn at least 75% of the total possible points used to determine OOM graduate “with merit.”

Source: Registrar, December 2021