Allard Law Grading Rules

What are grades good for?

○ **Should Allard law adopt a different grading system? Why?**

University of British Columbia (101)

Numerical		
0	–	100%

University of Saskatchewan (13)

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

Thompson Rivers University (12)

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F

University of Victoria (10)

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F

University of Toronto (5)

HH	H	PWM	LP	F

Mandatory averages large/exam/first year classes

University of British Columbia	70-75% (mean)*
University of Ottawa	70-74% (mean)
Western University	74-76% (mean)
Dalhousie University	70-72% (median)
Thompson Rivers University	B (median)

*UBC allows the mean to vary depending on the size of the class;
i.e. under 21 students: 70-79%; 21-39 students: 70-76%; 40-49 students: 70-75%

Grade distribution

University of Manitoba	required
A to A+	10-20%
B to B+	40-55%
C+, C, D, F	25-40%

University of Toronto	guidelines
High Honours	~ 15%
Honours	~ 30%
Pass with Merit	~ 55%
Low Pass	< 5%
Fail	Extremely rare

Dalhousie	required
A	10-20%
B	40-60%
C	15-25%
D	0-15%
F	0-5%

Grade Distribution

- University of Victoria ,University of Toronto and McGill reject mandatory grade distributions

Grade distribution at UBC: what we say and what we actually do

University of British Columbia	Guidelines	Actual 1L 2015-16	Actual 2L 2015-16	Actual 3L 2015-16
A+, A, A-	10-15%	3%	6%	8%
B+, B, B-	50-60%	88%	90%	87%
C+, C, C-	20-30%	8%	4%	4%
D*	5-10%	1%	0%	0%
F	1-5 / 0-3	1%	1%	1%

*although not mandatory, these distributional guidelines are much more severe than those at any other Canadian law school, requiring a stipulated % of D's(and Fs in 1st year and a large number of grades below B-(25-40) than any law school except University of Manitoba.

What positions should the ALSS advocate for?

1. Should the Allard School of Law consider changing its numerical grades with a different grading system?

2. What GPA calculation system should be adopted in an alternate system

3. Should the allowable Grade ranges for classes with different enrolments be changed?

4. Should the faculty continue to have grade distribution guidelines?