

How to use the GPA Calculator

Hello, welcome to the GPA calculator tutorial. Read this document to learn how to calculate your quarterly GPA and your cumulative GPA.

Quarterly GPA

First, let's take a look at a student's question. This student is asking, "I need to earn a quarterly GPA of at least a 2.0 this quarter. I am taking English 214 for 5 credits and expect to receive a C. I am also taking Economics 206 for 4 credits and expect to receive a C+. My last class is Political Science for 5 credits and I think I will earn a C-. Will I achieve my goal of at least a 2.0 quarterly GPA?"

This student will need to use our online GPA calculator to answer this question. To get to the GPA calculator online, first go to Western's homepage, click on Advising, then from our "Hot Topics" box, click on GPA calculator.

Once you are at the GPA calculator, enter the credits for each class in the "Credit Hours" boxes. So, you would enter 5 in one box, 4 in the next box down and then 5 in the box under that. Then you would enter in the grades earned or that you think you will earn in the "Expected Letter Grade" boxes. So, for this student's situation, enter in C in the first box, C+ in the next box down and then C- in the box under that.

Now, scroll down and click on the "Compute GPA" button. This will calculate the quarterly GPA. You will see that this student has earned a 1.97 quarterly GPA and has not met the goal of at least a 2.0 quarterly GPA.

Cumulative GPA

Now you are ready to learn how to calculate your cumulative GPA. First, you will need to have a copy of your Academic History in front of you. You can get a copy of your Academic History by going through Web4U and clicking on Student Records. Print this out so that you can refer to it.

You will need two numbers from your Academic History. The first one is called "Hours". This is the total credit hours you have earned at Western. You can find this number under the word Hours which is located towards the bottom of your Academic History under the word Western. You will also need your number of quality points which is abbreviated as Qpnts. This is the total value given to all of your grades earned at Western, weighed by how many credits each class was worth. You can find this information to the right of the number of "Hours."

Now, you will enter the number of hours in the box titled "Accumulated Credit Hours." Then, enter the number of Qpnts in the box titled "Grade Points."

Once you have entered these two numbers, you will have established your current GPA. You can find out what your new cumulative GPA will be with the addition to the grades you anticipate earning this quarter. Simply enter in the number of credits for each of your

current classes. Then, enter in your anticipated grades for this quarter. Scroll down and click on “Compute GPA.” This will tell you what your new cumulative GPA will be if you earn the grades that you anticipate.

If you have further questions about using the GPA calculator, you may contact the Academic Advising Office in Old Main 380. Our phone number is (360) 650-6850. Or, you can email us with your questions at: advising@wwu.edu