Involuntary/Unofficial Withdrawal
A withdrawal occurs when a student ceases to attend (including online) courses without submitting written notification of intent to withdraw or when the student otherwise indicates that they plan to withdraw and fails to follow through with the written notification. Missouri Southern may discontinue the enrollment of any student for non-attendance.

Class Attendance
Faculty members are encouraged to keep records of attendance in all regularly scheduled courses at Missouri Southern. The primary objective of student and professor is the student’s attainment of course goals. It is recognized that students who achieve those objectives are normally those who attend class or participate online regularly. The professor, when giving a final semester grade, bases his/her evaluation on how well the student has achieved the course goals.

For financial aid purposes, if a student misses any class for ten (10) consecutive working days or does not participate in an online class, the faculty member will submit The Last Attend Date Form to the Office of the Registrar. Online forms are available on LioNet.

Students who miss a class do so at their own risk and must assume the responsibility for work missed because of class absences. Professors are willing to assist students whose absences are caused by valid illnesses, University approved activities and extenuating circumstances. The professor may require whatever evidence is needed to support the reason for absence.

The attendance record is significant to the total record and is useful in guidance and counseling. When absences are excessive, the professor will report the fact to Student Affairs and they will in turn counsel with the student. Any student earning a grade of “F” must have the Last Attend Date recorded on the Grade Roster. All students who stop attending class or participating online should also have the Last Attend Date recorded on the Grade Roster.

Students should be aware that absence from class invariably has a built-in penalty of lower academic achievement. Excessive absences usually result in failure to achieve the course goals.

Transcript Dispute Policy
Students with a dispute on their academic transcript shall be granted one year from the end of the term in which the notation appears, to submit a written appeal regarding the notation in question. Appeals may be submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Credit/No-Credit System of Grading
Students in some programs may register to take certain courses on a credit/no-credit basis. In such cases, “Credit” or “No-Credit” will be recorded rather than a letter grade and these courses will not be counted in GPAs. This program will permit a student to explore course work outside of the major without jeopardizing the GPA. The minimum performance level required to receive credit in a credit/no-credit course is a grade of “D.” Students may be eligible to enroll for certain courses on a credit/no-credit basis under the following conditions:

1. That such registration be approved by the adviser and the head of the department through which the course is offered.
2. That the student has attained sophomore rank or higher (30 or more hours).
3. That the student has achieved a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0.
4. That such enrollment be limited to one course per semester.
5. That the total enrollment on a credit/no-credit basis be limited to no more than three courses or 10 credit hours in any student's degree program.
6. That the courses involved are not part of the student's major or minor and are not specifically required as part of the student's degree program. (Hours beyond the minimum required for the major or minor may be taken on a credit/no-credit basis.)
7. That the courses involved are not part of the General Education Requirement Curriculum requirement.
8. Registration for credit/no-credit courses will be completed prior to the final date for changing registration by adding a course.
9. After a student has enrolled in a course under the credit/no-credit option, that individual may not subsequently change to a graded basis in that course.

This policy does not apply to those courses regularly designated as credit/no-credit courses such as Recital Attendance, Student Teaching and ISEP, Bilateral Exchange and the Missouri London/Greece programs and Life/Work experience.

Incomplete (IN): A grade of ‘IN’ may be reported if a student is unable to complete the work of the course within the semester for a valid reason such as illness, death in the family, an emergency, etc. It is not intended as a substitute for an ‘F’ and does not entitle a student to attend the class during a subsequent semester. An incomplete must be made up by the end of the next semester (excluding summers) or it will be converted to an ‘F’ automatically. Both credit and grade points for that course are suspended until the incomplete is converted to either a passing grade or an ‘F’. A student may not graduate with an incomplete grade.

In Progress (IP): A grade of ‘IP’ will be given in a situation in which a student is unable to complete the work of the course within the semester for a valid non-emergency reason, such as a research project or internship that overlaps two semesters. It is not intended as a substitute for an ‘F’ and does not entitle a student to attend the class during a subsequent semester. An ‘IP’ must be made up by the end of the next semester (excluding summers) or it
will be converted to an ‘F’ automatically. Both credit and grade points for that course are suspended until the ‘IP’ is converted to either a passing grade or an ‘F’. BSE majors will not be able to begin student teaching if an ‘IP’ grade is in force. A student may not graduate with an ‘IP’ grade.

Audit (AU): A student may audit a class for no grade and no credit. A Request to Audit must be filed in the Registrar’s Office by the end of the second week of class. Acceptable performance, attitude and attendance as determined by the professor are expected. Regular fees and enrollment procedures are required. A student may not change enrollment from audit to credit nor from credit to audit. An audit means only that a student registered for the course. It does not imply any level of proficiency or knowledge.

Change of Grade: A change is initiated by the faculty member by filing a Change of Grade form with the Registrar. No change of grade is to be made without good cause. Exceptional cases will be reviewed by the school dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Change forms must be submitted within one year.

Independent Study: Independent study courses are special courses which may be taken by outstanding students at the discretion of the faculty adviser and the appropriate college officials. Students may enroll in independent study courses for a total of three hours on the associate degree and a total of six hours on the baccalaureate degree providing they:

1. have completed:
   - 30 hours toward the Associate Degree
   - 90 hours toward the Baccalaureate Degree
2. have a minimum cumulative 3.00 GPA;
3. have permission of the adviser, department head and the school dean in the area of independent study.

Independent study is designed for the individual who desires to explore a topic more completely than can be done in a regular course offering. Substituting independent study for a regular course is seldom done.

Midterm Grades: Missouri Southern will post midterm grades during the eighth week of the term. These grades are viewable through LioNet and are informational only. Midterm grades do not appear on the academic transcript.

Posting of Grades: University legal counsel advises that the public posting of a student’s name and grade or student number and grade, without the student’s approval, is a violation of the Buckley Amendment (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974) which does not allow disclosure of recorded data or information without the individual’s written consent.

Official Transcript: An official transcript of the student’s academic record bears the Registrar’s signature and the University seal. Missouri Southern assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of a transcript after it leaves the Registrar’s Office.

Up to two weeks must be allowed after the close of a semester for the issuance of an up-to-date transcript reflecting the most recent semester. Four to six weeks is necessary for the posting of recently awarded degrees. The transcript request must be made in writing. No transcript will be issued unless all bills at Missouri Southern are paid or are current according to agreement with the Bursar’s Office.