Facebook Responses to Drake Student Senate’s Page:

Drake Student Senate: How do you feel about Drake University adopting a plus/minus grading scale? Faculty Senate is discussing this possibility. Comment here to share your thoughts.

Male Student A: No way, that is stupid, i will transfer if they do.

Female Student A: sounds like a terrible idea

Female Student B: either you earn the grade or you don't

Female Student C: no. this is not a good idea at all. what are the benefits of switching to this system??

Female Student D: hard enough for us to maintain our GPAs, especially pharmacy majors, - and + signs would muddle everything up and destroy EVERYONE'S GPA. I don't understand how this could possibly be a good thing. As if we aren't stressed out enough. Just...no.

Male Student B: I am also not supportive of this idea. I think at this level it isn't important to indicate levels of understanding in such a minute way. If I receive a 90% in a course or a 99% I would probably say I have learned about the same amount of material that will aid me in the future. Recognizing such small ordinal criterion isn't very helpful at this stage in our learning.

Female Student E: Definitely students should be recognized for grades that differ in +/- percentage points. There have been so many times that I have been so close to getting an A and my grade still counted for just a B toward my gpa.

Male Student C: If you deserve the grade you will get it. Seems pretty simple to me. Why create more complications? Let's not resort to ridiculous high school grading systems.

Female Student F: The lack of a +/- system was one of my major negatives when looking at Drake. As someone looking into Law School after graduation, a +/- scale would have been really helpful based on how the Law School Admissions Board looks at and recalcualtes an applicant's GPA. In general though, I think people should be rewarded for putting in the extra effort - If I got a 98% in a class I don't want the same grade as someone who had an 89.5% that was rounded up.

Female Student G: +/- is for high school... Not college. Why do you all care about an 8% difference? It just seems kinda selfish to me to not be happy for someone else for getting an A...

Female Student H: I personally think that a plus-minus system will not benefit the student body. It is difficult enough to maintain a 4.0 with A-s counting. Complicating the system to add in minuses undermines the student ability to maintain good grades. ...As long as everyone is aware of how the system works (a B is a B), it is fair. Adding pluses and minuses adds extra pressure to students and shifts the focus from writing an A paper to making sure they get x amount of points. I don't feel that nitpicking about points (I'm .1 away from an A+ what happens) will help anyone. I understand that this nitpicking happens already, but you will triple the likelihood of it happening by adding in pluses and minuses. I would like to see the system stay the same. Thank you!
**Male Student D:** I think this is just another piece of legislation that seems completely unnecessary. I don't know many students who are unhappy with the scale we have. You either receive an A or a B. There is no need for the hassle and worry of a +/- system. There are plenty of other issues that concern students more than if they got a C- in Philosophy or a C. You receive what you earn and that is shown by the most accurate tool, a percentage. If that percentage falls in the 90%+ category it is an A. No need to get fancy. Let's work on getting better access to academic buildings, updating them and the technology within them, working with facilities for a better drainage system on campus, and continue work that really matters to students. [Drake University Student Senate](https://www.drake.edu/student-life/student-senate/) and Faculty Senate have done a great job with J-Term--That is something that students really desired and something that will affect students now and in the future. Don't change something that isn't broken. (Three likes)

**Twitter Responses to @DrakeStuSenate**

**Female Student I:** I like the way Drake does it and over complicating it has no purpose. It'd be making a change just to make a change, not to make something better. (1 Like)

**Female Student J:** I say no to a plus minus grading system. Keep it the way is.

**Female Student K:** I think a plus/minus grading scale is silly. Earn the grade you want, and the symbols won't matter.

**Female Student L:** I hate the idea of a plus/minus grading system. I like the system the way it is.

**Male Student E:** How would this affect grades already on current transcripts? It could work, but could really throw off current GPAs.

**Male Student E (again):** The only way I'd support it is if it only affected new students.