Grade Normalization Policy

1. Except as addressed in paragraphs 2 and 3, and absent both extraordinary circumstances and the express approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, all courses subject to the College of Law’s 4.0 scale will be graded based on an average (mean) between 2.90 and 3.10.

2. Absent both extraordinary circumstances and the express approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, the following elective courses, if subject to the College of Law’s 4.0 scale, will be graded based on an average (mean) grade between 2.90 and 3.35: (a) any course with a scheduled maximum enrollment of 20 or fewer students, (b) any course with 20 or fewer students at the end of the add/drop period, and (c) any course that satisfies a skills or advanced writing requirement.

3. In calculating the course averages (means) described in Paragraphs 1. and 2., any grades of 1.0 or below shall not be included in the calculation. In any required course, an instructor may not assign a failing grade (1.0 or 0.0) to more than 5% of the class without the express approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

4. Any grades submitted by an instructor that do not conform to this policy will be returned to the instructor with instructions to recalculate the grades. If the grades are not recalculated by the instructor in accordance with this policy before the grading deadline, then the original grades will be adjusted (i.e., re-curved) by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to conform to the policy.

Adopted by faculty effective Spring 2004; amended on October 15, 2008; May 1, 2018. This policy will take effect with grades given for courses in the Fall 2018 semester.