



Principals' Training Center  
*PTCnet Survey*

**Topic** High School Course Descriptions: ½ credit versus 1 credit

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**Query** Does your high school:

- a. count the first semester of a high school course as 1/2 credit and the second semester of a the same course as 1/2 credit(meaning failing one semester requires re-taking that semester even if the student passes the 2nd semester)
- b. count both semesters of a high school course as 1 full credit that is indivisible (meaning a failing grade one semester could still enable 1.0 credit when averaged with a passing grade for the other semester)?

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**Query Submitted and collated by** Francesca Mulazzi, Principal, International School of Aruba

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**Total number of responses** 19

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**Individual responses**

School	Response
Escuela Bella Vista, Maracaibo, Venezuela	<b>A</b> We do a variation of a. If a student fails either semester (1/2 credit per in our case), they would need to make up that ½ credit through an approved on-line course.
The Alliance Academy International, Quito, Ecuador	<b>A</b>
International School of Curacao	<b>B</b>
Pan-American School of Bahia, Brazil	<b>B</b> Otherwise you are creating many problems you don't need.
Cairo American College, Egypt	<b>A</b>
Shanghai American School, China	<b>A</b>

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AIS-Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	<b>A</b> Each semester is half. There is no year-long grade/average. Summer school and online are the means to make up credits.
AIS-Bucharest, Romania	<b>B</b>
Peterson Schools, Mexico City, Mexico	The preparatoria (senior high school) Grades 10 – 12 consists of 6 semesters (each is considered separately and the rehab for courses is for the semester)
ISB-Beijing, China	<b>A</b>
International School of Prague, Czech Republic	<b>A, B</b> Some courses are A Most courses are B
Lincoln School, Nepal	<b>A</b> My answer is and should have been A with the addition that a student can have a fail in one semester and a pass in the other to gain a half credit for the course overall. Example: Chemistry: Sem 1 Cdt    Sem 2    Cdt C        0.5        F        0.0 For a half credit for Chemistry on the transcript. A year-end grade is not calculated though in the case above the student could feasibly have passed if such a grade were calculated.
American School Kinshasa, Congo	<b>B</b>
American School of Khartoum, Sudan	<b>B</b>
International School of Tanganyika, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	<b>A</b> but with the qualification that over 4 years of HS students need a total of 4 credits in English - ie must pass every semester. However other subjects only require a total of 3 credits over the four years - meaning one semester can be failed at one point in G9-12 - but only one. Students will need to repeat, complete a supplementary course or task - the requirement is tailored to the reason for the student's failure: academic difficulty, non-submission of work,



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	prolonged absence, diagnosed learning difficulty
Thai-Chinese International School, Bangkok, Thailand	<b>B</b> We only have one year courses because of your dilemma.....still we struggle with failure of a full year course and how to make it up
Shekou International School, China	<b>A</b> That has been the approach at previous schools as well. Particularly when it comes to meeting graduation requirements, it gives much more reasonable options that are learning oriented.
American School of Bombay, India	<b>A</b>
International School of Belgrade, Serbia	<b>A</b> We award credits by semester only, there is no full-year credit or grade. We do this for students that transfer in midyear especially. We require a failed course (by semester) to be re-done in an alternative manner. For example, we used the University of Missouri Independent Study courses at the parents' expense. It is by a case-by-case basis. We grant by credit by semester so a student can earn 0.5 credits for a year course that they failed one semester. We believe a student can graduate with a failed semester or course on their transcript, as long as they have reached the required number of credits over the 4-year high school career. It makes our lives easier, especially for seniors (grade 12) that fail a semester in a course in their final year. We have different requirements for remaining in "good academic standing" that a student failing a quarter or semester would then be placed on an intervention plan or academic probation.