

PASS/FAIL POLICY for SPRING 2020

Undergraduate and Graduate Students: Effective immediately, all undergraduate and graduate students will be permitted to convert any of their courses to pass/fail grading for this semester only. All courses for which you receive passing (P) grades will count toward degree requirements, which overrides some departmental or college policies **unless** the department or college has evidence that their accrediting agency will not allow P/F grades. There is no limit on the number of courses you can convert to pass/fail grading this semester. You can make the decision on a course-by-course basis. At the undergraduate level, all grades of D- or better in a course for which you elect the pass/fail grade will convert to P. At the graduate level, the grade for which a P can be assigned if you elect to have your course be pass/fail is a C- or better.

You may request to move your courses to pass/fail as late as the last day of classes, April 21. (Please note: we are working on the process by which you will make this request through the registrar's office; we will let you know when we have the process completed).

Students should seek advice about the ramifications of switching to P/F if they anticipate applying to graduate/professional programs or if they must achieve a certain GPA to remain in good academic standing. **Pass grades do not impact your GPA, for better or worse. But F grades will lower your GPA. Thus, you must still do your work in order not to fail, but a D is as good as an A for a pass.**

The professional schools will make their own decisions, but are encouraged to grant students leniency within their accrediting and professional standards.

The university's accrediting body, SACSOC, has indicated that conferring pass/fail grades could be considered a reasonable exception, and there is nothing in their policies to prohibit this temporary policy. If a program with an external accrediting body believes that body will not allow P/F grades in a particular course, the program should check with the external accrediting body to see if there are exceptions being granted due to the extraordinary circumstance of the coronavirus this term; if no exceptions are being made by the accrediting body, departments should provide evidence to the dean of the unit and students in those particular classes should be notified that P/F is not an option. Otherwise, all undergraduate and graduate courses should be eligible for the P/F option.