

Pass/Fail Grading Options for Spring 2020:

You will need to make an informed choice in deciding on the grading method that is best for you. Please review the factors below that you should consider before making this decision. You can also find a GPA calculator [here](#) to help inform your decision. The deadline for choosing a Pass/Fail grade on a course-by-course basis has been extended to June 1, 2020.

Option A: Letter Grade		Option B: Pass/Fail		
Letter Grade		P	PP	F
A - C	C-, D+, D, F	A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C	C-, D+, D	F
Affects GPA	Affects GPA	Does NOT Affect GPA	Does NOT Affect GPA	Affects GPA
No Course Repeats	Course Repeats Allowed	No Course Repeats	Course Repeats Allowed	Course Repeats Allowed

Academic Considerations & Grading Notes:

- Each college or department is deciding whether P/F grades are appropriate for its major and career requirements. **Your academic advisor can guide you.**
 - Academic advisors are available by phone, email and Zoom to help with your decisions.
- P/F grading may be used for UCORE and Honors courses this semester.
- P grades may satisfy major requirements in many departments—check with the department.
 - Not all departments are allowing P/F grading in all courses
- The choice of a P/F grade is your decision, and you can choose which course or courses you want for this option, subject to your department's policies.
- A Pass (P) grade gives you course credit(s) but does not contribute to your GPA.
 - Electing P/PP for a course means getting a PP will not bring your GPA down but getting a P/PP will also not calculate into your GPA to bring it up either. However, if you take a combination of P/PP grade(s) with letter grades for your courses, the P/PP grade(s) could be more beneficial than the letter grade
 - For example: If a student earns four A grades and one C-, the C- can be converted to a PP which will not be part of the GPA calculation, therefore you would have earned a semester GPA of a 4.0. In this instance, the PP has a positive effect on the semester GPA.
 - This would also impact the cumulative GPA, which could help reach the minimum GPA needed to certify into a major or graduate.
 - This is important to note for May 2020 degree candidates who have a GPA below the needed minimum standard required for graduation. Earning P grades will not raise your GPA to the necessary graduation standard.
- If you get an F in a course, you will not earn credit(s) in the course and you will have to take the course again if you want/need the credit(s).
 - Not earning credit(s) in a course can have significant consequences that you will want to consider. Credit hours earned also impact future scheduling priorities, certain eligibility requirements, and can impact financial aid.
- P grades will count as the prerequisite for all future courses, even if a grade of C or B- or better is required. If you get a PP grade in a course and it is a prerequisite for another course you intend to take, you cannot move on to the next course until repeating the course and earning a C grade or higher (or a P grade) for the initial course.

- Because many students will want to keep their letter grades, faculty will continue to compute and report the regular grades you have earned. The grading method you select is what will be reflected on your transcript. Should you elect P/F grading, the letter grade that you earned will not appear on your transcript but be converted to either a P, PP, or F designation.

Financial Aid & Scholarship Considerations:

- It is very important that you weigh whether P/F options may affect your financial aid or scholarships.
 - Scholarships – the Pass/Fail option is available course by course. It would be best to consider your current GPA and determine the best combination of letter grades and P/PP grades to ensure continued scholarship eligibility.
 - Financial aid counselors can assist with financial aid questions. Schedule a virtual appointment.
<https://financialaid.wsu.edu/make-an-appointment/>

Medical & Professional School Considerations:

- Medical schools have been indicating that they will require standard letter grades and will not accept Pass/Fail grading options.
 - Many professional, law, veterinary, dental, and graduate schools have strict admission requirements related to the acceptance of P grades. Students seeking entry into one of these programs should research grading requirements for admission, as P grades may not be sufficient.

As a reminder, if you are trying to raise your GPA, the P/PP grade will not be used to calculate your GPA therefore, on its own, will not impact your GPA. Only letter grades (e.g., A, B, C) will be calculated and can cause your GPA to go up or down. Use the [GPA Calculator](#) to help you make an informed decision.

Pass/Fail Grading Scenarios:

- Are you struggling this semester and worried about a low term GPA, but you are still passing your classes? P/F may work for you.
- Are you doing well in most of your classes, but not well in one class, and want to retain a high GPA? P/F may be the right answer for that one class.
- Are you concerned about failing a class? Consider taking a W (withdraw); the deadline to withdraw from a course is May 1st.