

## FAQs regarding the Pass/Fail option for Graduate Students for Spring 2020

- *Are graduate students permitted to opt for the Pass/Fail option?*  
Students registered for a graduate course in the Spring 2020 semester will be eligible to opt for the Pass/Fail Option in one or more of their courses, except for courses that concluded on or before March 15, 2020. It is recommended that you consult with your advisor before making this decision.
- *What is the deadline for making this choice?*  
Students have until **11:59 p.m. on April 10** to communicate their choice to their instructor by email. Requests to opt for the Pass/Fail option will not be approved after that date. Students not opting for the Pass/Fail option will receive a letter grade (A to C, or F).
- *Who do I communicate with regarding my choice?*  
You must notify the respective instructor for every graduate course you intend to make this choice, **on or before April 10 (11:59 p.m.)**.
- *Can I select the Pass/Fail option for one/some of my classes, and a regular letter grade for my other classes?*  
You may choose the Pass/Fail option for some of your classes, and a regular letter grade in other classes for the 2020 Spring semester.
- *How does the F grade in the Pass/Fail option affect my academic record at FDU?*  
A student receiving an F grade in a graduate course is required to repeat the course and earn a grade of B. The F grade remains part of the student's academic record, is used to compute the student's GPA for their degree program, and is not replaced by the new grade that the student earns after retaking the course. Both the F grade as well as the new grade will be used in computing the student's program GPA.
- *Will I still receive credit if I earn a P (Pass) grade in a course?*  
Yes, you will have satisfied the curricular requirement for earning a passing grade for that course. However, the P grade will not impact your GPA. Earning an F grade will however adversely impact your GPA, which can affect your ability to satisfy the graduation requirements of your degree program.
- *Would I be able to withdraw from a class if I opt for Pass/Fail?*  
Yes, provided you submit your withdrawal request on or before April 10.
- *Can I select the Pass/Fail option for courses that concluded on or before March 15, 2020?*  
No. Courses that concluded before March 15 are not eligible for this option.
- *Will the Pass/Fail option be offered in another semester?*  
This policy applies only to graduate courses offered during the Spring 2020 semester, and which did not conclude on or before March 15, 2020.
- *What will be the impact of choosing the Pass/Fail option on my academic record if I am under academic probation in Spring 2020?*

If you earn a Pass (P) grade in your course, it will not have any impact on your GPA and hence earning a passing grade in this course will not boost your GPA. You will therefore continue to be under academic probation. If you earn a Fail (F) grade in the course, it will adversely impact your GPA. Your GPA will therefore likely be even lower than it was at the start of the Spring 2020 semester, and you will continue to be under academic probation. You will have the following semester to raise your GPA and improve your academic record.

Students on academic probation should therefore seriously consider opting for a regular letter grade if they want to improve their GPA in order to get off probation. Please speak with an advisor if you have any questions.

- *Will choosing the Pass/Fail option affect my financial aid?*  
Provided you earn a Pass (P) grade in your class it will not impact your GPA, which is used to determine your financial aid). If you earn a Fail (F) grade, it will affect your GPA, which in turn may affect your financial aid.
- *Will choosing the Pass/Fail option affect my FDU scholarship?*  
Provided you earn a Pass (P) grade in your class it will not impact your GPA, which is used to determine your scholarship. If you earn a Fail (F) grade, it will affect your GPA, which in turn may affect your scholarship.
- *Will the Pass/Fail grade I earn in my courses be transferrable to another school?*  
Although we are unable to guarantee that another school will accept courses taken under the Pass/Fail option, we are hopeful that all U.S. Colleges and Universities will be understanding of the special challenges faced by college students during this time, and will be more willing to accept courses taken on a Pass/Fail basis.
- *I'm retaking a class this semester that I previously failed. Can I select the Pass/Fail option?*  
It is strongly recommended that you **not** select the Pass/Fail option if you are retaking the course in which you earned an F grade in the past. Students are required to earn a B or higher grade when they retake a course that they had previously failed. Consistent with the University's Repeat Course policy for graduate courses, all grades earned for a course will continue to appear on the transcript and used to compute your program GPA. While the F grade you earned the previous time you took the course adversely impacts your GPA, a P grade that you earn when you retake the course does not boost your GPA. You would therefore be advised to aim for a letter grade in the course.