

March 19, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

After a fairly hectic early week, things seem to be settling down. I believe this is mostly thanks to all of you and our exceptional staff in preparing and executing a smooth transition to online instruction. I know for certain, based on the chatter of CAO colleagues elsewhere, that we are very fortunate for the cooperation and hard work that led to this success. Again, I can't thank you all enough.

The only update we have today regards the Pass/No Pass matter. Thank you to those who offered input here. We appreciate it. The process began when we asked FXC to weigh in on the idea. The majority of FXC supported it, and input gathered by division heads demonstrated that two of three divisions weighed in as supportive. So we will permit undergraduate students to decide if they would prefer to have grades for Spring semester, 2020, be recorded as a traditional letter grade or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) for each of their courses. Please note that for faculty, you still submit a letter grade. Student Records will convert the grade to P/NP according to the indication of the student. Here are some of the current parameters, though they might be refined somewhat as we move forward. Please note that we will share with you the guidelines being composed for students. We hope to distribute these guidelines tomorrow, and they will take into account the questions and input we have received from you (e.g., graduate school applications, eligibility, etc.).

- If students opt for P/NP their grades will be as follows: F = NP, I (Incomplete) remains I, W remains W, and all other letter grades = P;
- Students can choose how they would like to be graded for each individual course. They can choose traditional grades for all courses, a mix of P/NP and traditional grades for their courses, or all P/NP;
- Although they are urged to seek the guidance of their academic advisors, instructors, and/or other student support services, the decision is their own;
- Students will be awarded the same number of credits for courses for which they earn a P as they would for a passing letter grade;
- P/NP graded courses will not affect students' grade point average;
- P/NP graded courses for which students earn a P will satisfy graduation requirements;
- P/NP graded courses for which students earn a P will satisfy prerequisite requirements.

Thank you for all you do, and stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Steve