Pass/Fail Undergraduate Policy for Spring 2020
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Due to the circumstances that have arisen because of the coronavirus, particularly the significant disruptions in students’ learning environments, undergraduate students of the University of Dallas will be allowed to convert a letter grade to a pass/fail grade at the end of the semester after final grades have been submitted for each course taken in the Spring 2020 semester. This policy only applies to undergraduate students.

Candidates for May 2020 undergraduate graduation will have just 2 days to decide whether to convert one or more grades to pass/fail. All other undergraduates will have 7 days to decide whether to convert one or more classes to a pass/fail grade.

Pass/fail grades do not count toward one’s GPA. Some course prerequisites and standards for degree progression require a specific grade be achieved. For the Spring 2020 semester only, a “Pass” grade will satisfy this standard. This exception for degree progression applies only to undergraduate degrees, and not to a graduate degree a student might be pursuing in a 4+1 Masters program.

Please note that there is no guarantee that other institutions will recognize a “Pass” grade as satisfying a prerequisite, such as in the case of medical school prerequisites. Moreover, some licensures, such as in Education, may not recognize the “Pass” grade as satisfying the prerequisite.

Please note the following:

1. Faculty will submit grades at the end of the semester according to their rubrics and syllabi in the same way they would at the end of any semester.
2. Any course in which a student has received a C- or above is eligible to be converted to a grade of “Pass.”
3. In order to receive a C- or above, students will need to remain engaged with all elements of a course, as is the case with any semester and according to individual professors’ syllabi.
4. A course that is being repeated under the “repeat and cancel” policy that achieves a grade of “Pass” will count toward replacement of the prior grade. The effect of this is that the prior grade will be removed from GPA calculation.
5. Students who receive a grade of D+ or below will have the option to convert the grade to a “Fail.” In such a case, the student will not receive credit for the course, and the “Fail” will not affect the student’s GPA. If, however, the student chooses to retain a D+, D, or D-, he or she will receive credit for the course, and, as is always the case with letter grades, the grade will be calculated in the GPA. Students should note that there is no advantage to retaining an F grade, because there is no credit gained and one’s GPA will be negatively affected; however, student action is still required to convert an F to a “Fail.”
6. The decision to opt for a “Pass/Fail” over a letter grade is the student’s. This decision should be made only after consultation with the Financial Aid Office, the
Office of Student Success, and the student’s advisor and/or dean, especially in light of a student’s academic standing and plans for graduate and professional schools and licensures.

7. Students will only have one chance to convert a grade to “Pass” or “Fail,” and the choice will be irrevocable.

8. Graduating seniors will have between 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 14 and 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 16 to elect to change any grade to a “Pass” or “Fail.”

9. All other undergraduate students will have between 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27 to decide to convert any grade to a “Pass” or “Fail.”