

Spring 2020 Change in Undergraduate Grading Policy

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, these proposed changes to grading policies are to be available during spring 2020 only. A student who chooses the new grading option is expected to continue work in the class. Faculty members should continue to expect work and engagement from all students in order to maintain the definition of the credit hour and the academic integrity of coursework. For a student who chooses this option, the faculty member will essentially have a consolidated set of grading options: PV (C- or better), DV (D+, D, D-), FV (failing work).

- 1) Extension of Withdrawal deadline for classes through Friday, April 24.
- 2) New grades of PV, DV, and FV. The PV grade will denote work equivalent to grades of C- or better. The DV grade will denote work equivalent to grades of D+, D, or D-. The FV grade will denote failing work. None of these grades will count toward a student's GPA. The PV and DV grades will denote course completion. The PV grade will fulfill general education, Civitae, and requirements of a major or minor. The DV grade will fulfill general education, Civitae, or requirements of a major or minor that require only course completion; it will not satisfy requirements of "C- or better." This will be termed the PV/DV/FV grading option for the remainder of this document.
- 3) The PV/DV/FV grading option is available for undergraduate students to choose through Friday, April 24 for undergraduate classes that were not originally offered online at the beginning of the spring 2020 semester. The PV/DV/FV grading option is **not** available for graduate or professional studies courses. The PV/DV/FV grading option is **not** available for courses that were originally online.
- 4) The PV/DV/FV grading option is available to any undergraduate, regardless of the number of credit hours completed.

Note that the PV/DV/FV grading option is not an instructor's decision. Such a change also does not lessen the responsibilities of the instructor from offering an amount of course material and student engagement opportunity consistent with the number of credits of the course.

Either opting to withdraw from one or more courses, or opting to change one or more courses to the PV/DV/FV grading option is an individual student's decision, just as the Pass/Fail option is in current policy. This decision should not be made lightly, and a student should gain knowledge of potential consequences.

- Students should consult with their academic advisor about the decision to withdraw from one or more courses or about shifting one or more courses to the PV/DV/FV grading option.
- Student athletes should consult with athletic academic services staff about effects on eligibility prior to making a decision to withdraw from one or more courses or to choose the PV/DV/FV grading option.

- Students receiving financial aid who are considering withdrawing from one or more courses should consult the Financial Aid Office to determine if this could have an impact on their future financial aid eligibility.
- Students receiving financial aid who are considering withdrawing from the university for the spring term (ceasing all academic activity) should consult the Financial Aid Office to determine if there will be any impact on spring financial aid, and possibly future financial aid eligibility.
- Students receiving financial aid who are considering the PV/DV/FV grading option should be aware that the choice would not affect aid eligibility any differently than a regular grade would.

Students interested in withdrawing from a course or the PV/DV/FV grading option should fill out a form on the registrar's website. The student will verify that if they are receiving financial aid that they have checked with the financial aid office. The student will also note whether they are a student athlete.

Students who took intersession courses under the A-F grading scale will see those grades reflected in the spring semester GPA.

Calculations for president's list and dean's list will remain the same. To be on the president's list, a student must have completed 12 semester hours and earned a 4.0 for the semester GPA. To be on the dean's list, a student must have completed 12 semester hours, earned between a 3.5 and 3.999 semester GPA, and have no grades below C- (including no DV or FV grades). Because the PV/DV/FV grading option do not count in the semester GPA, students who change one or more courses to this option should be aware of the possibility of not being eligible for either list.

Probation and suspension may still occur during the spring semester and will follow the same definitions. Students in good standing who decide to change all courses to the PV/DV/FV grading option and who receive all FV's will be placed on probation in the subsequent semester. Students currently on probation or who have been readmitted after suspension and who convert all courses to the PV/DV/FV grading option must earn no more than one grade of DV or FV to be in good standing for the semester.