



**Lesley**  
UNIVERSITY

**Dear Lesley Students,**

We recognize that the past days and weeks have been a stressful time for you and your families. The transition to online learning and social distancing has presented many disruptions and exceptional circumstances for our students as well as faculty and staff. While we hope that you are feeling well-supported and adjusting to online instruction as we work together to complete the academic year, **we are introducing revisions to our grading practices for this term to acknowledge the need for flexibility** in these unprecedented times. Please see below for details and FAQs.

**For Spring Semester and Spring 2 terms, all courses will be graded on a Pass/Fail format,** following our existing [Catalog Definition](#) for Pass Fail Grading which notes that passing grade for undergraduates is C- or higher, and for graduate students is a B- or higher.

We realize that some students may require a letter grade for the purposes of external funding requirements, employment, licensure requirements or other reasons, or simply may prefer a letter grade. Students may choose to stay with an A-F letter grade for any course; a student may choose to stay with A-F grading for a single course, or multiple courses. **Please remember that the default grading will be Pass/Fail, and that students will need to “opt in” to a letter grade by notifying their faculty member.** Students should notify their faculty member by email or through Blackboard messaging that they wish to stay with A-F grading **no later than April 8.**

#### FAQs:

**Do I need to do anything to switch to pass/fail grading?**

No, pass/fail grading will become the default grading for all Spring Semester and Spring 2 grades, unless a student opts out.

**I took a January Term course and/or a Spring 1 course. Will my grade be changing to P/F?**

No, January Term and Spring 1 course grades will remain unaffected by this decision. This includes incomplete grades.

**What if I decide after April 8 that I want a letter grade, or I requested a letter grade but change my mind after April 8?**

It is important to let faculty know as soon as possible if you would like to opt out of the pass/fail grading scheme and retain a letter grade option so that they can plan their grading accordingly. That said, we realize these are extraordinary times. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact your faculty member and they will review requests for late changes on a case-by-case basis.

**Will pass/fail grades impact my GPA?**

No, pass/fail grading does not affect a student's GPA.

**Will pass/fail grades satisfy requirements for my major?**

Yes, for Spring 2020 only, pass/fail grades will satisfy requirements for the major or graduate program.

**What will my transcript look like?**

We will make a notation on the Lesley transcript that explains that due to COVID-19, pass/fail grading was used as our default grading scheme for Spring 2020 only. Many universities around the country are following similar procedures, so employers and graduate schools should not penalize any applicants for such grades now or in the future.

**I am taking a class that is already limited to pass/fail grading. Does this mean that I can now choose a letter grade for this course?**

No, if you are taking a class that is already limited to pass/fail grading, this will remain unchanged for you and you do not need to take any action.

**I am on academic warning and need to improve my GPA by the end of this term. What should I do?**

We will work with students in this situation to allow them additional time to improve their

academic standing as needed. You can also consult with your advisor who can help you decide whether pass/fail or A-F grading is the best option for you this term.

**Will taking courses as pass/fail impact my eligibility for Dean's List?**

Yes, pass/fail grades may impact your eligibility for semester honors. Click on the [Dean's List](#) link for the policy.

**Am I still eligible for Latin Honors if I choose pass/fail?**

If you are currently eligible for Latin Honors you will still be eligible for Latin Honors if you choose Pass/Fail.

**I have additional questions or concerns.**

Please contact your [Advisor](#).

**Margaret Everett, PhD**

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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