

From: [AS00](#) on behalf of [Academic Senate](#)
To: ["AS00@uci.edu"](mailto:AS00@uci.edu)
Subject: Undergraduate Pass/Not Pass Grading Options for Spring Quarter 2020
Date: Thursday, March 26, 2020 8:50:40 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.txt](#)

Dear Colleagues:

In response to the unusual and challenging circumstances that instructors and students are facing during the COVID-19 crisis, we write to let you know that the Academic Senate has approved several changes to regulations on Pass/Not Pass grading options (see below). Please note that these are one-time adjustments for undergraduate courses and for spring quarter 2020 only.

These adjustments are made in keeping with recommendations from the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) and in consultation with the Chair of the Divisional Council on Educational Policy (CEP), the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, the University Registrar, the Interim Provost, and the Chancellor.

We thank all of you for your ongoing flexibility and concern for our students, both undergraduate and graduate, and will update you about any further changes and accommodations as we go.

Yours,

James Steintrager, Chair
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

Pass/Not Pass regulations (temporary):

1. All undergraduate courses will have a P/NP grading option. However, faculty may not require students to enroll in a course P/NP if the course currently has a letter-grade option. The choice is up to the student.
2. The Academic Senate grants deans and units the authority to temporarily count P/NP courses toward the fulfillment of specific School and major requirements (where fulfillment of a requirement currently can only be done with a letter grade). Furthermore, the Academic Senate positively encourages the relaxation of such requirements.
3. Students will be able to change from the letter-grade option to P/NP through the end of the 10th week.
4. P/NP courses taken during spring quarter 2020 will not count toward the 12-unit overall cap on these courses.
5. Students on academic probation may enroll in a course as P/NP during spring quarter 2020.

Important advising considerations:

In relation to these temporary changes to Pass/Not Pass regulations, units should advise students of the potential impacts of their decisions that are beyond the control of UCI. In particular: medical schools, graduate programs, and professional schools may not accept a grading option of P/NP for some courses. Although part of our standard advising, students should also be made aware of the impact of P/NP courses on GPA, as well as potential impacts on “satisfactory academic progress” and financial aid. The Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning is currently working on a webpage that will help inform students about their options and any ramifications.