

**Modified One-Time Pass/No Credit Policy for Students
In Response to the Continuing Global Public Health Pandemic**
November 16, 2020 Revised

1/15/2021 Update: To enable students who for some reason did not request a Pass (P) or No Credit (NC) for up to two 3,000 level courses Fall 2020 in which they received a grade of D+, D, or F, a one-time and last window has been reopened to do so: January 20, 2021 at 12:00AM to January 31, 2021 at 11:59PM. Access to make the request using the Pass/No Credit Form is through the portal on the Registrar's Website: <https://www.wpunj.edu/registrar/>.

During the Spring 2020 semester, faculty and students were confronted with the immediate challenge of shifting fully to online teaching and learning. Like many colleges and universities, William Patterson recognized its disruptive impact on students and enacted a one-time Pass/No Credit policy. This Fall, faculty were able to be more planful for their courses and had opportunities for skill development over the summer for online, hybrid, and hyflex instruction. Students did confront near start of term modality adjustments, however, that did not always enable their selection of preferred courses to the extent possible. Hence, while the disruptive impact may have been less acute than this past Spring, it was still real for some, and especially for underclassmen, particularly freshmen whose skills for navigating college are less well developed.

Recognizing the unique circumstance of the Fall 2020 semester, while also exercising care in the deployment of a policy for a second time with potential downstream impact on course taking, degree pathways, employment, and graduate school admissions, as well as limited or non-use at other colleges and universities this Fall, the following one-time Pass/No Credit policy is enacted.

PASS / NO CREDIT POLICY FOR FALL 2020 ONLY

- Students awarded a D grade in 1000-level and 2000-level courses will have a P (Pass) grade entered on the transcript.
- Students awarded an F grade in 1000-level and 2000-level courses will have an NC (No Credit) grade entered on their transcript.
- Students may choose this P/NC option for no more than two 3000-level courses. For these two courses, a P (Pass) grade will be entered on the transcript if a D grade is earned in these courses and an NC grade will be entered on the transcript if an F grade is awarded.
- All other grades (A, B, C) will be entered on the transcript as awarded.
- P (Pass) grades will count toward major, minor, and UCC requirements but will not be factored into GPAs.
- NC (No Credit) grades are similar to F grades and therefore will not count towards graduation requirements or Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). However, unlike an F, the No Credit grade will not be factored into the GPA.

This Pass / No Credit Policy does not apply to 4000-level or graduate level courses.

FN grades will not be converted to NC grades. The FN grade is entered when a student stops attending class after the 60% in the semester but has not withdrawn.

Students do not need to choose this option for 1000-level and 2000-level courses; the adjustment will be made automatically for all such students. Students choosing this option for up to two 3000-level courses must complete a request using the online form on the Registrar's website (available starting Tuesday, December 8 following grade posting, and closes December 22).

Faculty will still submit grades for all students for the Fall 2020 semester. Therefore, students will be expected to fully participate in the course despite the implementation of this temporary policy.

Students already enrolled in a Pass/Fail course will receive a No Credit grade if they earn an F in the course.

Probation and dismissal policies will be in effect for Fall 2020, however, the conversion of D and F grades to P and NC will allow some students to continue when they otherwise might be dismissed due to a low GPA.

Programs for which GPA or external exam pass rates are considered for accreditation purposes (for example, education, nursing, athletic training, etc.) may use original grades for determination of course repeat, progression, probation and dismissal actions.

This temporary policy does not change merit scholarship requirements.

This temporary policy does not change minimum grade requirements in place for course progression (for example, when a minimum grade is required in one course before taking another).

Students need to be aware that some financial aid and scholarship rules may require that actual letter grades be used. In addition, changing a course grade to No Credit does not prevent a student from losing financial aid due to lack of academic progress.