

## COVID-19 Academic Calendar Revisions

### Withdraw deadline

The Withdraw deadline will be delayed by one week from the initial date of Monday, March 23rd to Monday, March 30th.

### Registration

**Registration will begin as scheduled on April 6. However, students will not be required to receive and use PINs to register.** Not requiring PINs allows for more flexibility for students and their advisors since it may be difficult for all students to have advising appointments in advance of registration. All advisers should communicate with their advisees before registration; if unforeseen circumstances prevent such a meeting, all advisers should at a minimum communicate with their advisees before the end of the term to review their fall registrations.

*All students should communicate with their advisers prior to registration to plan their fall schedule or have an appointment scheduled with their adviser before the end of the term to review their fall registrations. Communicating with your adviser is the best way to ensure that your course selections and academic plans are optimizing your progress towards your degree.*

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## COVID-19 Academic Policy Revisions

Drew University has made the following revisions to its academic policy in Spring 2020 (1) to maintain equity among students in their ability to continue to make progress in their degree programs and minimize consequences to students facing unprecedented challenges, and (2) to promote additional flexibility in course design and implementation as instructors move to online instruction during this time of great stress and upheaval.

### Optional Pass/Low Pass/Unsatisfactory Grading for Undergraduate Students

Effective immediately, students may elect to switch *some* or *all* of their spring 2020 courses to P/LP/U. **The deadline to switch spring 2020 courses to P/LP/U is Monday, April 27.**

Drew University understands the many challenges students face with the wide spread disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including Drew's rapid transition to online instruction. To provide more flexibility to students and to reduce stress during these challenging times, the University will provide College of Liberal Arts students with access to a **Pass/Low Pass/Unsatisfactory (P/LP/U) grading option** for the spring 2020 semester. While students may decide not to change their grade mode (whether a letter

grade [A-F] or a traditional P/F) in their spring 2020 classes, the P/LP/U grade mode may be a sensible option, depending on individual circumstances. Students are encouraged to consult with their adviser(s) and instructors prior to electing P/LP/U and to **READ THE IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER SECTION BELOW BEFORE MAKING THE GRADE CHANGE.**

#### **Pass/Low Pass/Unsatisfactory (P/LP/U) grades:**

- Students earning the equivalent of a “C-” or better will be awarded a grade of “P” (pass); students earning the equivalent of a “D-/D/D+” will be awarded a grade of “LP” (low pass); both P/LP will result in students earning credits for those courses.
- Students failing a course will receive a grade of “U” (unsatisfactory) and will earn no credits.
- Courses completed with P/LP/U are not included in any grade point average (GPA) calculations. (This is different from a traditional Pass/Fail grade option where a F grade is included in GPA calculations).
- For the spring 2020 semester, credits earned with a “P” or “LP” grade will count toward:
  - 128 total credits required for graduation;
  - intermediate and upper-level credit requirements;
  - major requirements (except for cases when a “C- or better grade” is required for the major, then only courses completed with a grade of “P” will count toward the major);
  - general education requirements.
  - A grade of “LP” differs from “P” in that it signifies that a student has not met a minimum C-proficiency, which is sometimes needed for progression through a sequence of courses in particular majors.

#### **Spring 2020 Exceptions to Academic Policy**

The University has approved exceptions to several academic policies and procedures, including:

1. There is no limit on the numbers of spring 2020 courses/credits allowed to be taken P/LP/U, and these courses do not contribute to the 20 credit limit for P/F courses.
2. Courses applied to the major or minor and courses used to meet general education requirements may (in spring 2020) be taken on a P/LP/U basis (see recommended exceptions below).
3. Students may convert a course to P/LP/U even if they have previously taken the same course for a regular grade, including under Drew’s Grade Forgiveness policy.

#### **Important Considerations for P/LP/U:**

- **Students may elect to switch to P/LP/U up until the last day of classes (4/27/2020). Please consult with your adviser prior to making this decision.**
- **ELECTING TO SWITCH A COURSE TO P/LP/U MAY NOT BE ADVISABLE IF:**
  - You need to raise your GPA for academic warning or probationary requirements, INTO pathway GPA requirements, or to raise your GPA above the 2.0 threshold for graduation;

- A course is required for a post-graduate professional program (e.g., medical school), as it is unclear how these programs will view this grading scheme for Spring 2020. Currently, P/F grades are frequently not allowed for admission to many professional programs;
- A course is required for transfer to Drew’s MAT program since these courses require a grade of B or better;
- A course is required for a combined degree program (e.g., 3+2 engineering).
- The University has approved the addition of a semester-level comment to the official Drew University academic transcript stating, “Spring grading allowed this term to adjust for university-wide emergency distance learning. P - Pass, LP - Low Pass, U - Unsatisfactory.” (See image below for mockup.)
- There are no expected immigration-related impacts on international students who elect to switch their courses to P/LP/U.

Students should use the following link ([P/LP/U Grading Opt In Form](#)) to submit an online form for requesting to switch course(s) to P/LP/U grading option. All requests will be automatically approved. Please consult with your adviser and instructor, and remember that you have until the last day of classes to submit this form.

This figure illustrates how the Spring 2020 student transcript will appear:

**Term: Spring 2020**  
**Term Comments:** Special grading allowed this term to adjust for university-wide emergency distance learning.  
 P - Pass, LP - Low Pass, U - Unsatisfactory

Subject	Course	Level	Title	Grade	Credit Hours	Quality Points	R		
ANTH	104	UG	Cultural Diversity: Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics	P	4.000	0.000			
BIOL	220	UG	Nutrition	B-	4.000	10.680			
MATH	117	UG	Introductory Statistics	LP	4.000	0.000			
<b>Term Totals (Undergraduate)</b>									
				<b>Attempt Hours</b>	<b>Passed Hours</b>	<b>Earned Hours</b>	<b>GPA Hours</b>	<b>Quality Points</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>Current Term:</b>				12.000	12.000	12.000	4.000	10.680	2.670
<b>Cumulative:</b>				44.000	32.000	32.000	28.000	69.360	2.477

Here is some additional advising information that will be shared with students:

**Reasons to stay with the letter grade option:**

- You are doing well in the course and expect to continue to do well.
- Your expected course grade will raise your GPA or be consistent with your current GPA.
- You need to raise your GPA for academic warning or probationary requirements.
- You are an INTO pathway student and need to meet GPA requirements, or to raise your GPA above the 2.0 threshold for graduation.
- A course is required for a post-graduate professional program (e.g., medical school) as it is unclear how these programs will view this grading scheme for Spring 2020. Currently, a grade of P is frequently not allowed for many professional programs.
- A course is required for a combined degree program (e.g., 3+2 engineering).

### Reasons to switch to the P/LP/U grade option:

- The shift to remote teaching and learning causes you to fear you would not perform as well as you would have in the regular format.
  - The shift to remote teaching and learning has resulted in you needing to focus on some classes more than others (elect the P/LP/U in the class for which you must have a diminished focus).
  - You feel you are underperforming and are concerned about lowering your GPA.
  - To help provide relief from a course load for an elective.
  - International students facing time in quarantine when they return home.
  - You have impediments to remote learning, such as inconsistent access to the internet.
  - An alternative to taking a Withdraw by March 30.
  - It is ok to maintain your current GPA (it is not necessary for you to raise it).
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### CLA Transfer Credit Policy Exception

Many colleges and universities, including Drew University, are making some variation of pass/fail grades available to students in response to the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Given this situation, Drew University has approved an exception to our transfer credit policy and will allow for the transfer of pass/fail courses taken during spring 2020.

- Exception: Pass/fail courses taken during spring 2020 with a grade of P, or the equivalent, will be accepted for transfer credits and can be used to satisfy general education and major requirements.
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### Optional Pass/Unsatisfactory Grading for Graduate Students

Effective immediately, most\* graduate students may elect to switch *some* or *all* of their spring 2020 courses to P/U. **The deadline to switch spring 2020 courses to P/U is Monday, April 27.**

Drew University understands the many challenges students face with the wide spread disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including Drew's rapid transition to online/remote instruction. To provide more flexibility to students and to reduce stress during these challenging times, the University has determined to provide most\* graduate students in the Caspersen and Theological Schools access to a **Pass/Unsatisfactory (P/U) grading option** for the spring 2020 semester. While students may decide not to change their grade mode (whether a letter grade or a traditional P/F) in their spring 2020 classes, the P/U grade mode may be a sensible option, depending on individual circumstances. Students are encouraged to consult with their adviser(s) prior to electing P/U.

\*Exceptions: For reasons of licensure, this policy does not apply to Doctor of Ministry students or Master of Arts in Teaching students. DMin students with concerns, should contact Meredith Hoxie Schol, [mhoxieschol@drew.edu](mailto:mhoxieschol@drew.edu). MAT students with concerns, should contact Kristen Turner, [ktturner3@drew.edu](mailto:ktturner3@drew.edu).

## **Pass/Unsatisfactory (P/U) grades**

- Students earning the equivalent of a “C-” or better will be awarded a grade of “P” (pass); students earning below C- for a course will receive a grade of “U” (unsatisfactory) and will earn no credits.
- Courses completed with this grading mode are not included in any grade point average (GPA) calculations.
- For the spring 2020 semester, credits earned with a “P” grade will count toward:
  - Total program credits required for graduation
  - Course requirements
  - Elective courses
- Courses receiving a U grade will not count toward the degree and will not adversely affect the GPA.

## **Spring 2020 Exceptions to Academic Policy**

The University has approved exceptions to several graduate academic policies and procedures, including:

1. There is no limit on the numbers of spring 2020 courses/credits allowed to be taken P/U.
2. Courses graded P/U may satisfy requirements.
3. Students on Academic Warning or Probation may elect to take their courses P/U.

## **Important Considerations for P/U:**

- **Students may elect to switch to P/U up until the last day of classes (4/27/2020). Please consult with your adviser prior to making this decision.**
- ***Electing to switch a course to P/U MAY NOT be advisable if:***
  - The student needs to raise the GPA for academic warning or probationary requirements or to raise the GPA above a certain threshold for graduation or moving forward in a degree;
  - Transcripts or courses with letter grades are required for a post-graduate professional program or certification (e.g., doctoral applications; professional certifications; ordination requirements)
- The University has approved the addition of a semester-level comment to the official Drew University academic transcript stating “Spring grading allowed this term to adjust for university-wide emergency distance learning. P - Pass, U - Unsatisfactory.”
- There are no expected immigration-related impacts on international students who elect to switch their courses to P/U.

Students should use the following link to submit an online form for requesting to switch course(s) to P/U grading option. All requests will be automatically approved. Please consult with your adviser and instructor, and remember that you have until the last day of classes to submit this form.

[\*\*P/U Grading Opt In Form\*\*](#)

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## Library Services Update

Like many other academic libraries, the Library and Methodist Archives buildings are closed for the duration of DVT in order to reinforce social distancing and minimize risk of COVID-19 transmission. Although the buildings are closed, your library and instructional technology colleagues are continuing to provide a range of services to enable and enhance remote teaching and learning. **Please refer to the [Library's coronavirus information page](#) for regular updates.** Recent highlights include:

- [DVT and COVID-19 Resources \(LibGuide\)](#): This guide compiles newly available resources, either by trial or offered by vendors to aid in remote and online teaching and learning. Contact [kjuliano@drew.edu](mailto:kjuliano@drew.edu) or your subject librarian for further information
- [Primary Sources Guide \(PDF\)](#): Drew University has access to a variety of primary source databases that can be accessed online. These are accessible through the links in this document or through the [alphabetical list of resources](#) available on the Drew library website. (Licensed resources require a Drew University log-in).
- Expanded Chat Hours: 9 am - 9 pm Mon-Thurs, 9-5 Friday, and 7-9 pm Sunday
- Subject Librarian Consultations and Office Hours: contact your subject librarian for Zoom appointments and open office hour schedules.
- Scanning: We have a small team onsite to digitize print materials, with priority given to course reserves. Use [this form](#) to request scans.

**Materials on Loan:** We need as many borrowers as possible to hang onto items on loan. Take materials with you, or keep them in storage until the library reopens. Due dates will be extended and no fines will be assessed. For individuals who are unable to travel with your books, will not be storing other possessions, or are graduating and unsure if you will be returning to Drew in person, we have drop boxes at the EC during the following times:

- Thursday, March 19 : 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM
- Friday, March 20: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- Monday, March 23: 9:00 AM – 1 PM

Questions: contact : [library@drew.edu](mailto:library@drew.edu) or (973) 408-3486