FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To whom does this Pass/Fail policy apply?

This policy applies to all Wagner students – undergraduate and graduate. However, please note for undergraduate and graduate programs in Physician Assistant Students, Nursing, and Education, students do have restrictions, as New York State has GPA requirements that restrict a student's ability to select P/F. These restrictions are noted directly below.

**Physician Assistant:** students must not take any courses Pass/Fail.

**Nursing:** Nursing (NR) courses cannot be taken Pass/Fail. Also, undergraduate students planning to enter the B.S., Nursing program cannot take the following courses on a Pass/Fail basis: Biology 209, Biology 210, Microbiology 200, Nursing 224, and Psychology 101, Sociology 101, or Anthropology 101.

**Education:** Education (ED) courses cannot be taken Pass/Fail. Also, Dual majors in Education cannot take MA 119 or higher on a Pass/Fail basis.

Can student-athletes make their courses Pass/Fail?

The NCAA is reviewing the impact of these adverse learning conditions and the different policies that Division I schools are employing. Student-athletes should be guided by NCAA guidelines. These are expected to be updated by March 30th, well before our May 1st deadline. Please check with your academic and athletics advisor as well as the CACE office.

Will Pass/Fail affect my financial aid eligibility?

It is possible that pass/fail courses may impact a student's financial aid eligibility. Grades of pass/fail are incorporated into the financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy. Both pass and fail grades will be counted toward rate of completion. In addition, if a student's cumulative GPA already is below 2.0, the GPA will not change if they exercise pass/fail option for all courses in spring 2020, and the cumulative GPA is less likely to change the fewer courses are given letter (A-F) grades. In this case, a student will not meet the minimum requirement for SAP and their financial aid could be in jeopardy. Please refer to the SAP policy for additional guidance.

Can international students make their courses Pass/Fail?

There are no expected visa-related impacts on international students who elect to make their courses to P/F.

Can students on Academic Probation make their courses Pass/Fail?
Students on Academic Probation may elect to take their courses P/F, but their GPA will not be significantly improved, so discuss with your advisor or the CACE office prior to making the switch to P/F.

**What if I am retaking a course? Can I make that Pass/Fail?**

A course used as a replacement for a previously taken courses, including tutorial(s), may be taken P/F - with knowledge that the student loses the benefit of significantly improving their GPA.

**How do I make a spring 2020 class Pass/Fail?**

You can use [this form](#) to make your request to make a spring 2020 course Pass/Fail.

**How many of my spring 2020 courses can I make Pass/Fail?**

For most students (with the exceptions of PA, Nursing, and Education), there is no limit on the number of spring 2020 courses/units/credits allowed to be taken Pass/Fail.

**What is the deadline to make a course Pass/Fail?**

The deadline is May 1, 2020.

**If I make a course Pass/Fail, can I choose to change it back to a letter grade?**

No. The decision to switch to P/F is irreversible.

**If I make a course Pass/Fail, how is my grade determined?**

The instructor of your class will assign a letter grade at the end of the semester. Letter grades of A-D will convert to a Pass. F grades will remain a Fail.

**How does making a course Pass/Fail affect my GPA?**

A grade of "P" will not affect your overall GPA.
A grade of "F" will affect your GPA as an F would under typical circumstances.

**How does making a course Pass/Fail affect the Dean’s List?**
Students' ability to receive “Dean’s List” distinction will be impacted by the decision to take more than 2 classes as P/F. This will make a student ineligible for “Dean’s List” honors in spring 2020.

**Will I get the units for courses I make Pass/Fail?**

If you get a “P” for the course, and if the course earns units currently, you will earn the same units.
If you earn an “F,” you will not earn the units.

**Can a Pass/Fail course meet General Education and Key Skills & Knowledge requirements?**

If you get a “P” for the course, you will earn Key Skills and Knowledge Areas, the writing-intensive designation, “D”s, and “I”s.
If you earn an “F,” you will not earn these designations.

**How will a Pass/Fail course appear on my transcript?**

Courses made Pass/Fail will appear either with a “P” or an “F,” depending on what is earned.

The College’s Academic Policy Committee has approved the addition of a semester-level comment to the official Wagner College academic transcript stating, e.g., “Spring 2020 courses were completed during the coronavirus pandemic.”

**If I have additional questions, who should I contact?**

We encourage you to speak with your faculty advisor about your choice and about any impact your choices might have for success in future courses or admissions to future programs.

For questions about specific programs and majors, we suggest you contact the Dean, Program Director, or Chair of the program, department, or School.

You may also want to contact academic advisors in CACE (cace@wagner.edu), advisors in Athletics, or the Registrar’s Office (registrar@wagner.edu).