In the wake of Wagner College’s need to transition temporarily to a distance education model, the College is providing students with expanded access to Pass/Fail opportunities for the spring 2020 semester.

Effective Monday, March 30th, students may elect to switch some or all of their spring 2020 courses to Pass/Fail. The deadline to switch spring 2020 courses to Pass/Fail is Friday, May 1. Please follow the instructions for requesting a switch for some or all of your classes to P/F. The following outlines the temporary changes and issues for faculty, advisors, and students to consider.

Expanded access to the P/F grade mode aims to reduce student stress during this already stressful time, while still providing a pathway to fulfill program and degree requirements. While students may decide to continue to pursue a letter grade (A-F) in their spring 2020 classes, the P/F grade mode may be a sensible and healthy option, depending on individual circumstances, undergraduate minor and major requirements, Key Skills and Knowledge Areas or General Education requirements as well as graduate courses, etc. Students are encouraged to consult with their advisor(s) prior to electing P/F.

Please note for undergraduate and graduate programs in Physician Assistant, Nursing, and Education, students (this includes students who have not declared yet but plan to major in one of these disciplines) must not pursue the Pass/Fail option as New York State has GPA requirements that restrict a student’s ability to select P/F. If a student has questions, they should direct them to the Dean, Program Director, or Chair of their respective undergraduate or graduate program.

Spring 2020 Exceptions to Wagner College’s Pass/Fail Policy

The Academic Policy Committee (APC) has provided college-wide exceptions to several P/F policies and procedures, including:

1. Courses graded P/F may satisfy major, minor, Key Skills and Knowledge Areas, General Education and concentration requirements, including minimum unit/credit requirements.
2. Freshmen (8 or fewer units) are permitted to switch into the P/F option.
3. 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 P/F.
4. Classes taken P/F in Spring 2020 will not count toward the maximum allowable P/F units/credits during their Wagner career.
5. Internships taken for units or credits may be graded P/F.
6. A course used as a replacement for a previously taken course, including tutorial(s), may be taken P/F – with knowledge that the student loses the benefit of significantly improving their GPA.
7. Students earning the equivalent of a “D” or better will be awarded a grade of “P” (satisfactory). The “P” carries no grade points and is not computed into a student’s semester or cumulative grade point average (GPAs.)

8. A grade of “F” (failing) is recorded normally and computed into a student’s GPA.

9. 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.

10. In addition to Education courses, Dual majors cannot take MA 119 or higher on a pass/fail basis.

11. 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.

12. PA students in their first or second years at the College cannot take courses pass/fail.

13. Students who get a “P” will earn Key Skills and Knowledge Areas, writing-intensive designation, “D”s and “I”s.

14. The decision to switch to P/F is irreversible.

15. 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.”

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

17. 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.

18. 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 athletic advisor as well as the CACE office.

19. Please note that the P/F option allows a student to complete the semester; an Incomplete should only be given in the circumstances outlined in the Bulletin.

20. Instructors are not typically aware that a student has elected to take their course on a P/F basis, but given the unusual circumstances, instructors will be aware of their decision. Instructors will be receptive and supportive of this choice.