

Enhanced Pass-No Credit Alternate Grading System
Fall Semester 2020
Appalachian State University

Because of the ongoing hardships caused by the COVID-19 Global Health Pandemic, Appalachian State has adopted an Enhanced Pass-No Credit Alternate Grading system as an opt in choice that undergraduate students can make on a course by course basis for any undergraduate course they are taking at Appalachian State this semester. This policy has been approved by the Student Government Senate on October 22 and by the Undergraduate Academic Policies and Procedures Committee on Wednesday, November 4. It also has approval from the Provost and Chancellor. We encourage all students to seek advice from their professors and advisors before deciding whether or not to utilize this system. Please note that the deadline for making this switch is December 18 at 11:59 PM, the Friday after grades are posted.

Students seeking Teacher Licensure are encouraged to talk to their advisors or the Reich College of Education Dean's office for advice on licensure consequences of switching some course to this system.

Overall Changes

- Dean's or Chancellor's list will be awarded to any undergraduate student who carries 12 semester hours or more of coursework on which grade points are computed and who meets the grade point average threshold for each list. Only those courses earning credit toward graduation will be used in determining eligibility for honors. This is actually not a change from our normal policy but is a change from Spring 2020.
- The normal restrictions on what requirements can be fulfilled by Pass No Credit classes are waived for this semester
- Normal Probation and Suspension policies will be in place this semester. As with the Dean's and Chancellor's List policies, this is not a change from normal policies but is a change from Spring 2020
- A note will be added to all academic transcripts indicating the major disruption this pandemic has caused to the academic experience.

Alternate Grading System

- Students will have the option of choosing the enhanced pass fail grading system for any undergraduate course they are taking at any time between Monday, November 16 and Friday, December 18 at 11:59 PM. After the deadline, this choice is not reversible, so students are encouraged to consult with their advisors and/or instructors before making this choice. This choice will be made through Banner Self Service. Instructions on how to do this will be available at a later time. Students in Accelerated Admissions graduate programs can not opt in to the Pass No Credit system for any course that they wish to have count towards a graduate degree unless a Pass No Credit system is adopted by the graduate school.

- Faculty will continue to grade each course as normal, assigning the appropriate letter grade A-F, with pluses or minuses where appropriate. If a student chooses to adopt the alternate grading format for a course, their grade in that course will not be used in GPA computations. Furthermore the grade will be recorded by adding a "P_" before the grade assigned for passing grades and by changing an F to NC. Thus the possible grades in the alternate system are P A, P A-, P B+, P B, P B-, P C+, P C, P C-, P D+, P D, P D-, and NC and these will be the grades that will appear in Banner, including in Banner Self Service. All official transcripts from Appalachian State only show the first two characters of the grade so will either show P or NC. A grade of NC does not earn course credit, does count as attempted credit hours, but is not used in GPA computations.
- The letter grade part of the grade will still be used in determining major, minor, certificate, and prerequisite requirements if there is a grade requirement.
- As was announced earlier this semester, any course that a student is taking for the initial time may be repeated for grade forgiveness in a future semester and will not count as one of the students four grade forgiveness courses.
- If a student is repeating a course seeking grade forgiveness this semester, the only way to replace their original grade is to stay with the letter grade option for the course. A student may opt in to the P/NC system for the repeated course for this semester but if they do the original/initial grade will not be replaced. However, a student who opts into a grade of P will be allowed to use grade forgiveness again for this course at a future time if desired. Of course, a student also has the option to withdraw from any course until December 18 at 11:59PM.