



# NORTHWESTERN STATE

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

*Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs*

211 Caspari Hall | Natchitoches, LA 71497

A grade of "Pass" represents a grade of A, B, or C for all undergraduate courses, and an A or B for all graduate courses

- **When should I consider this option:** You should consider this option if you want credit for the class, but not the GPA points associated with the grade you earned;
- **Will I earn credit with a 'P':** yes
- **Will I earn grade points with a 'P':** no
- **Will this grade of "P" impact my GPA:** no

A grade of "Fail" represents a grade of D or F for all undergraduate courses, and grades of C, D, or F for all graduate courses

- **When should I consider this option:** This is not a good option. Instead, you should consider requesting a late withdrawal, especially if you were not passing a course at midterm;

**What if I earned a 'D' in an undergraduate course or a 'C' in a graduate course:** You can accept the 'D,' and earn the grade points (if it is accepted by your program, this grade will fulfill the degree requirement, but your GPA will be impacted); **or** request a late withdrawal. **For Graduate Students:** You can accept the 'C' and earn the grade points (Only 2 grades of 'C' may be applied toward completion of any graduate degree program; **or** request a late withdrawal;

- **Will the 'Fail' affect my GPA:** Yes. It is the grade of 'F.'
- **Will I earn credit with the 'Fail' grade:** No.

**How will this affect my financial aid, scholarships, and TOPS eligibility?** Without the calculation of a GPA, you may not be eligible for the continuation of certain scholarships/financial aids. Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation 41 JBE 2020, and it includes some initial guidance on TOPS. Please see the proclamation here <https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/Proclamations/2020/41-JBE-2020-Stay-At-Home-Extended.pdf> Please refer to the TOPS FAQ that will be available on the NSU website.

- **What about admission to graduate and professional schools in the future?**
  - Some graduate and professional schools require a letter grade in required/listed pre-requisite courses. If you do not have a letter grade, you may have to repeat the course prior to acceptance into those programs.
- **What if I want to take the pass/fail option for some courses but the letter grade option for others?**
  - The grading options are to be decided on a course-by-course basis.
  - You can decide to use a letter grade in one of your courses for the semester and a Pass/Fail option for another course
- **Can I make this decision on my own?**
  - Ultimately, the decision is yours as a student. However, we strongly encourage and advise you to talk with your Academic Advisor, Director, Dept. Head, and Academic Dean to make the best academic decision for your future. We also



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encourage and advise you to talk with the Financial Aid office to determine how the grading policies could negatively impact your continued financial aid.