

Department of Biology Advisement for Students Regarding Pass/No Pass Option Spring 2020

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q1. I have general questions about UTRGV's Pass/No Pass option for courses taken in spring 2020. Where can I get that information?

Answer: Please visit: <https://www.utrgv.edu/ucentral/grades-and-transcripts/grading/index.htm>

Q2. What letter grades can count as a 'Pass' and which are considered 'Not Pass'?

Answer: Per UTRGV guidelines, grades of A, B or C count as 'Pass'; grades of D or F would be considered 'Not Pass'.

Q3. Who can I contact to get advising on whether to opt for the Pass/No Pass option for degree plans within the Department of Biology?

Answer: You may send an email to the department email account, biology@utrgv.edu, or you may contact the department Chair, Dr. Kristine Lowe, at kristine.lowe@utrgv.edu for general information. For specific degree plans and programs, please contact the program coordinator or advisor from the list below.

Degree Program	Contact Person	Contact Email
BS in Biology with a Minor	Dr. Kathryn Perez	kathryn.perez@utrgv.edu
BS in Biology: Concentration in Biological Sciences	Dr. Kathryn Perez	kathryn.perez@utrgv.edu
BS in Life Science (UTeach 7-12) Edinburg campus	Ms. Monica Yates	monica.yates@utrgv.edu
BS in Life Science (UTeach 7-12) Brownsville campus	Ms. Danuta Mogilska	danuta.mogilska@utrgv.edu
BIS in Middle School Science (UTeach 4-8) Edinburg campus	Ms. Monica Yates	monica.yates@utrgv.edu
BIS in Middle School Science (UTeach 4-8) Edinburg campus	Ms. Danuta Mogilska	danuta.mogilska@utrgv.edu
MS in Biology	Dr. Robert Dearth	robert.dearth@utrgv.edu

Q4. If I choose the Pass/No Pass Option, what effect will that have on my grade point average (GPA) for my Biology major or minor?

Answer: The Pass/No Pass option will not affect your major or minor GPA; however, students will still need to maintain the minimum required GPA for their program in order to graduate.

Q5. Are there courses required for a Biology degree that must have a letter grade?

Answer: Biology students must receive a grade of C or better in BIOL-1406 and 1407, and CHEM 1311/1111 and 1312/1112. To receive the 'Pass', students have to receive a C or better, thus, the Pass option would satisfy this.

Q6. I earned a letter grade of 'D' for one of my courses. What are the consequences if I opt for the Not Pass for that course?

Answer: Taking an earned D will let you complete a course and graduate unless the core or program explicitly requires a C or better in that course. If you choose 'No Pass' that course isn't complete and you will have to re-take it.

Q7. I am interested in applying to graduate school, medical school, dental school or other post graduate program after I complete my undergraduate degree at UTRGV. How will the Pass/No Pass option affect my application?

Answer: Graduate schools, medical schools and other professional schools have minimum prerequisites and GPA requirements. Please contact them directly to determine if the Pass/No Pass option applies to these requirements.