

SMSS Pass / No Pass FAQ

Recommendations for Students and FAQs about the Pass/No Pass Option for Spring 2020

Points to Consider:

1. Once students receive their final letter grades, they will be able to decide whether they want to keep their final letter grade, or whether they want to opt for a Pass or No Pass option.
2. Students will be provided with a link to your Pass/No Pass Selection Portal the week of May 4. Selections will be made between Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13. Changes won't be permitted after the deadline of May 13.
3. Letter grades of A, B, or C fall into the Pass category; letter grades of D or F fall into the No Pass category.
4. Some courses require a prerequisite of a C; grades of A, B, or C, or the Pass option, would fulfill this requirement.
5. Some courses require a particular course as a prerequisite; the Pass option would fulfill this requirement.
6. Letter grades are factored into a student's GPA; Pass or No Pass outcomes are not factored into a student's GPA.
7. There is no limit on the number of courses in Spring 2020 for which students can select the Pass/No Pass option.
8. The Pass/No Pass option applies to traditional undergraduate and graduate courses taken in Spring 2020. It does not apply to courses in accelerated online programs.

Recommendations for Students Pursuing Teaching-Related Degrees:

1. If you are applying to the UTRGV Teacher Education Program this semester, keep in mind that you must meet certain GPA [admission requirements](#). Also keep in mind that letter grades are factored into your GPA, while Pass or No Pass options are not factored into your GPA.
2. If you are applying to Clinical Teaching for Fall 2020, keep in mind that you must meet certain GPA [admission requirements](#). Also keep in mind that letter grades are factored into your GPA, while Pass or No Pass options are not factored into your GPA.
3. If you have a question about whether you should take a particular letter grade or the Pass/No Pass option, see the FAQs below.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

- 1. What letter grades count as a Pass and what letter grades count as a No Pass?**
A, B, and C letter grades count as a Pass; D and F letter grades count as a No Pass.

2. How long will I have to decide whether to keep my letter grades or select the Pass/No Pass options?

You can make your decision after the final letter grades become available on May 12. Selections can be made on the portal until Wednesday, May 13 at 6 p.m. After that time, please contact the Office of the University Registrar.

3. When I will be able to see my Final grade?

Letter grades will be released on May 12.

4. What happens if I take no action?

The letter grades assigned by your instructor will be applied to your academic record.

5. Can I select a letter grade for some courses and select the Pass/No Pass option for other courses this semester?

Yes.

6. How many courses can I select the Pass/No Pass option for?

There is no limit on the number of courses for which you can select the Pass/No Pass option for the Spring 2020 semester.

7. Does the Pass/No Pass option affect my GPA?

Letter grades (A, B, C, D, F) are factored into your GPA; Pass/No Pass options are not factored into your GPA and therefore do not affect your GPA.

5. My final letter grade in my course is A, B, or C. Should I keep the letter grade or should I select the No Pass option?

If you have a letter grade A there is no need to change it to a Pass. However, if you have B or C you are advised to contact your advisor about the impact on your GPA.

6. My final letter grade in my course is a D. Should I keep the D or should I select the No Pass option?

It is your decision on whether to keep the D or to select the No Pass option. If you keep the D letter grade, it will be factored into your GPA. A letter grade of D may lower your GPA. If you select the No Pass option, it will not be factored into your GPA. If passing your current course is a prerequisite for a future course and you select the No Pass option, you will not have fulfilled the prerequisite for the future course.

7. Will this affect my financial aid in any way?

It depends. If your financial aid requires you maintain a certain GPA in the spring, you may need to take at least one class with the letter grade option that satisfies the GPA requirement. If you are considering moving from a standard letter grading option to pass/no pass, you should seek guidance from Financial Aid to understand the

implications related to your financial aid satisfactory academic progress. Please be sure to do this as soon as you receive your grades on May 11. Selections for pass / no pass options must be made between Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13. Changes won't be permitted after the deadline of May 13.

8. If I would like to appeal my grade what I need to do?

Grades appeals can still be submitted according to the procedure outlined in the UTRGV Student Handbook.

9. Can I still request an Incomplete?

Yes, but the pass/no pass is distinct from an Incomplete. Documented requests for incomplete must be made to your instructor before the Final exam.

10. How many times I can switch grade options between Pass/No Pass option?

You can log back into the Pass/No Pass Selection Portal and cancel your request there until Wednesday, May 13 at 6 p.m. After that time, please contact the Office of the University Registrar.

11. Who can I contact for additional questions about “Pass/No Pass Grading”?

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