

TO: Lewis and Clark Students
SUBJECT: Spring 2020 grading options include Pass/No Pass and Late Withdraw
FROM: Linda T. Chapman, Vice President of Academic Affairs
DATE: April 16, 2020

GRADING

- At the end of the Spring 2020 semester, your faculty will enter letter grades in Colleague between May 13, 2020 and by 11 a.m. on May 18, 2020.
- Letter grades must be assigned to all courses with the exception of those that were established as Pass/Fail prior to the beginning of the spring semester.
- When you see Spring semester grades, you will have the option of converting to the Pass/No Pass option online. If you request the Pass/No Pass option, an “S” or “X” will appear on your transcripts.
- Pass (S) equates to A, B, and C letter grades and No Pass (X) equates to D and F. Faculty will not enter these grades. Students will request this option online starting May 14, 2020 through May 22, 2020. Neither an S or an X will be counted toward a student GPA, but an S will count as graduation credit.
- Students must consider what switching to a Pass may mean to them. Students in accredited transfer programs must meet certain pre-requisites. Nursing, Occupational Therapy, and Dental Hygiene programs may not benefit from a Pass which indicates credits earned but does not compute into a GPA. Students seeking admission into competitive programs such as Architecture, Engineering, pre-law, pre-med and others may be better served earning grades that compute into their GPAs. Students applying for scholarships may want the highest GPA they can earn and opt for letter grades. Students requesting this Pass/No Pass option should first confer with their academic advisors or program coordinators.
- Students whose programs culminate in licensure or certifications may want to talk with their program coordinators to make sure a Pass would not hurt future opportunities.
- The Pass/No Pass option will be offered in Spring 2020 and for students with Spring Incompletes, into Summer 2020. Those students have until two weeks before the end of the Spring 2021 semester to complete their Incomplete work.
- Students who have Fall 2019 Incomplete grades have until two weeks before the end of the Fall 2020 semester to complete.
- Students who elect to withdraw have until May 15, the last day of classes, to request the W option.
- Spring 2020 transcripts will include a statement that “Grades of Pass=S /No Pass=X were permitted in Spring 2020 in response to COVID-19 global pandemic.”

- For students who elect to convert a letter grade to the Pass/No Pass option, their choices become permanent and may not be reversed.

SUMMER 2020 COURSES

All summer courses will be taught either online or remotely. Any course qualified to be taught online will be taught online. Summer courses will also include those courses unable to be completed in Spring 2020. At present our clinical partners are not allowing students in clinical settings. The agencies that accredit our health sciences programs determine the guidelines for completing clinicals. Nursing clinicals can be accomplished through simulation, but EMT, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Medical Assistant, Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, and CNA are not allowing simulation to meet clinical requirements. Those Spring 2020 students will be awarded incomplete (I) grades and we will endeavor to provide clinical experiences during the summer. IDPH has closed all dental practices until further notice, so we are not sure when we will be able to open our dental clinic.

Similarly, career skills-based classes such as Welding, Truck Driving, and Automotive Technology will award students incompletes and those faculty will plan to complete hands-on instruction and skills assessments in small groups during the summer.