



Pia Bhatia <pb919@georgetown.edu>

Fwd: [STUDENTS] Grading Policy for and Withdrawals from Spring Semester Classes

1 message

Emma Cullen <enc005@bucknell.edu>
To: pb919@georgetown.edu

Thu, Apr 2, 2020 at 4:10 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elisabeth Mermann-Jozwiak <emmj001@bucknell.edu>
Date: March 19, 2020 at 5:09:11 PM EDT
To: Students Mailing List <students@bucknell.edu>
Cc: Faculty/Staff Mailing List <facstaff@bucknell.edu>
Subject: [STUDENTS] Grading Policy for and Withdrawals from Spring Semester Classes
Reply-To: emmj001@bucknell.edu

Dear Students,

Today's transition to remote learning represents a significant change for all students and faculty. I write to thank you for your continued commitment and patience, and to share important news about grading policy and withdrawals during these extraordinary circumstances.

A word of caution: Before you take advantage of either of the options listed below, please be sure to consult with your academic advisor and/or the Associate Dean for Students about any implications of your choices. You should also consult with the Office of Financial Aid to ensure that your decision has no adverse impact on your current or future Financial Aid package.

During the past week, the faculty has been exploring approaches to teaching and evaluating student performance that will allow us to meet academic goals while maintaining the flexibility needed to adapt to this unexpected change.

As a result of these important conversations, the University has approved a new policy for grading this semester. For each class, students will have the option of keeping the assigned grade or converting it to pass/fail after final grades are submitted. Student transcripts will be modified to provide an adequate context about the disruption caused by COVID-19 during the spring 2020 semester and the resulting change in grading.

Many of the specifics by which this policy will be enacted are still being finalized. In the next few weeks, you will receive additional information about the processes and procedures we will use to allow you to determine and request which, if any, course grades you wish to convert.

In addition to the pass/fail option, we are extending the course withdrawal deadline for this semester to April 27, the last day of classes. Under existing policy, twice during their careers at Bucknell, students may withdraw from a course with a grade of W through the 10th week of class (this semester, that date would have been March 27). Any course withdrawal taken after the March 10 announcement that we were moving to remote education will not count as one of the two withdrawals under the existing policy. As with the pass/fail grade option, details and procedures for this change are still being finalized, and you will receive additional information as soon as it is ready.

Please be sure to check your email regularly. Remote learning is a new experience for most of us, and there will be bumps as we adapt. Now more than ever, good communication with your professors is imperative. They understand that many of you have unusual challenges at this time, and they are eager to support you.

I thank you for your partnership in this process as we embark on the final weeks of the semester.

Sincerely,

ELISABETH MERMANN-JOZWIAK, PH.D.
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