



To: University of Scranton Graduate Students
Subject: Revised Undergraduate Grading System Option Announcement
From: Dr. Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D, Provost & Sr. Vice-President of Academic Affairs

April 1, 2020

Dear Scranton Graduate Students,

Let me begin by thanking you for your patience and flexibility as we make the transition to remote learning. I write to you today to share an important adjustment that we are making in response to our move to remote learning as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Yesterday, the Faculty Senate approved a motion to revise our grading policy to choose a “satisfactory/unsatisfactory”. Over the next week, academic departments will consider which courses or programs will be eligible for this option. Because of accreditation or other important academic concerns, **not all courses or programs will be eligible for this change. We will notify you of these courses on April 9.**

Between April 9 and May 1, interested students will be able to apply for a change to this system for eligible courses. While further details of this process will be provided to you next week, there are a few important things for you to know:

- You can just ignore this if you wish. Students who want to retain a letter grade for a course need not take any further action.
- Students approved for this option will receive the following transcript notations under the satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading system: a grade of C or higher yields a S (satisfactory) notation; a failing grade yields a U (unsatisfactory) notation.
- Courses receiving a “satisfactory” grade count toward your accumulated credit hours for the degree, but they are not included in your grade point average calculation.
- Approval for this change must be given by your academic advisor and the dean. More information on the administrative process to get these approvals will be sent to you on April 9.

As I noted above, more details will be sent to you on April 9. Until then, you can start considering whether this is an option that you want to choose.

As always, we continue to keep you and your families in our prayers during these challenging times. I have been so impressed with your resilience throughout the past few weeks as we prepared ourselves for remote learning. We know that this is not easy for you and not at all what any of us expected when we started the spring semester. To the graduate on-campus students, know we miss you on campus (it’s just not the same without you) and know that you wish you

could be here as well. To those students already operating remotely, we know that you might also be faced with personal circumstances created by the coronavirus and we are with you in spirit as well.

We will get through this because we are a strong community.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gingerich

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