

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS, EVALUATION AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS

GRADING POLICY CHANGE

1. **Type of Change**: Amendments to the standing Lehman Pass/Fail policy in the Undergraduate bulletin

2. **From**:

Pass/Fail Option

Students may elect P/F grades for a maximum of ~~18~~ credits in their degree program under the following conditions:

- The course for P/F must be outside (a) the ~~College degree~~ requirements (b) the major, minor, or interdisciplinary program and the courses offered by Lehman's teacher education departments, except for those education courses that have Pass/Fail or Pass/No Credit grading basis.
- ~~Only one~~ P/F course may be elected in any semester, with the exception for those courses that have a P/F grading basis.
- The P/F choice may not be changed after the ~~College late registration period~~ has ended.
- The credits taken on a P/F grading basis may not be counted toward the major and minor.

3. **To**:

Pass/No Credit Option

Students may elect P/NC grades for a maximum of 12 credits in their degree program under the following conditions:

- The course for P/NC must be outside (a) the General Education requirements, (b) the Major, Minor, or Interdisciplinary program, (c) Certification/Licensing requirements, (d) and the courses offered by Lehman's Teacher Education departments, except for those education courses that have Pass/Fail or Pass/No Credit grading basis.
- Up to two P/NC courses may be elected in any semester, with the exception for those courses that have a P/F grading basis.

- The P/NC choice may not be changed after the end of Week 7 (and is allowed in Fall/Spring semesters only).
- The credits taken on a P/NC grading basis may not be counted toward the Major or Minor.
- Advising is mandatory for students opting into the P/NC policy; only advisors can make the selection and begin a workflow that will be verified by Financial Aid as well.

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

A subcommittee of CAEAS was formed to create/suggest recommendations about how to make the standing Lehman Pass/Fail policy more useful to students. The subcommittee comprised faculty, students, staff and administrators, and, in order to formulate the recommendations, the subcommittee also considered feedback from other faculty and the deans, which was solicited via email in the Fall of 2021. First, the change from Pass/Fail to Pass/No Credit has been mandated by CUNY for all Colleges. The subcommittee then debated various possible amendments. Since the policy has changed so that a failing grade would be awarded “no credit” instead of “fail” (as before), the total limit on credits taken under this policy should be reduced to balance this new advantage. The extension in the deadline to select the Pass/No Credit option would allow students a while longer to get a real sense of a course before having to make the decision about whether to utilize this policy. The extension to allow students to utilize the Pass/No Credit option for up to two courses per semester, instead of just one, could allow for students to make more use of this policy as well. However, the subcommittee strongly agreed that students opting into this policy should have to see an advisor and that their choice to opt-in must also be approved by financial aid, to ensure that students do not inadvertently select an option that is not to their advantage. As such, opting into the Pass/No Credit policy must be selected by an advisor; advising will be mandatory for students choosing to utilize this policy. This will begin a workflow that must go through financial aid (federal and state) as well. In addition, students should have to agree to some “acknowledgement” statements indicating some possible implications of choosing to utilize this policy (e.g., to maintain eligibility for financial aid, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress, which would mean that the courses not being selected for the Pass/No Credit option must earn grades sufficient for the student’s required GPA; e.g. if a student takes a course as a “true” elective and elects to use this policy, but later declares their major in that area, that course would have to be retaken for a letter grade but financial aid would not pay to take it again) and indicating their agreement that the choice to opt-in to Pass/No Credit for a course cannot be undone or appealed. These stipulations should be included/specified at the time the student opts into using this policy, to ensure that all implications and potential consequences are understood.

5. Date of CAEAS approval: 4/25/2022