

TO:	University of Idaho Students
CC:	University of Idaho Faculty and Staff
FROM:	John Wiencek, Provost and Executive Vice President
DATE:	March 27, 2020
SUBJECT:	Changes to Academic Calendar

The coronavirus pandemic brings challenges to our spring semester that we could not have predicted. Each day brings new information and new obstacles, but our goal is to be flexible and do what is right to help you succeed.

We have heard your concerns and have taken steps to mitigate them. As such, University of Idaho has instituted two temporary policy changes:

## Withdrawal Date

The course withdrawal date and semester withdrawal date have been extended to Friday, May 1, 2020, for Spring 2020.

## **Pass/Fail Grading**

Undergraduate and graduate students — except for law — can opt in to pass/fail grading for Spring 2020 courses. This option is available for all classes except for eight-week courses that have already concluded. You will have the ability to opt in to pass/fail grading for individual courses. You must opt in by May 1. The College of Law will implement pass/no pass grading for all courses.

## What You Should Do Now

Undergraduate and graduate students considering opting in to pass/fail grading need to carefully consider your decision and reach out to your academic or faculty advisor with questions.

Grades of pass **do not** affect your GPA, but a grade of F will. If you need to raise your GPA to remain in school or to graduate, please contact your advisor before switching to pass/fail grading. Also, be aware that some colleges and universities do not accept pass/fail courses for transfer.

Remember, you do not have to choose today. You have until May 1 to decide. The date has been extended to give you time to make the best decision, and you may be in a better place to do that in a few weeks.

University Advising Services academic advisors are available to support you via phone or Zoom. Schedule appointments through <u>VandalStar</u>. Faculty advisor contact information is available through VandalStar in your My Success Network. Email <u>advising@uidaho.edu</u> for all other advising needs.

You can find directions for opting in to pass/fail grading <u>online</u>. You can also find directions for <u>course withdrawal</u> and <u>semester</u> <u>withdrawal</u> online.

Thank you for your continued flexibility. Providing the quality education you deserve and supporting you in that effort are our top priorities. We are committed to you and your futures. Please use the resources available to you. If you don't know where to go, email <u>askjoe@uidaho.edu</u>.

Go Vandals.

John Wiencek Provost and Executive Vice President

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