Boston University Pass Fail Policy
COM

To encourage intellectual exploration, Boston University permits students in good academic standing to elect up to two courses total of academic course work on a Pass/Fail basis to satisfy credit requirements for the bachelor’s degree. The courses designated as Pass/Fail cannot be taken in the same fall, spring, or summer semesters. Students on academic probation may not elect to take a course on a Pass/Fail during any semester they are on academic probation.

A student’s earned grade in the course designated as Pass/Fail will be replaced by a “P**” for Pass as long as a student has earned a course grade of D or above. A student’s earned F grade in the course designated as Pass/Fail will be designated as “F*.”

When a student earns a P* in a course they have designated as Pass/Fail, the credits from that course count toward the degree, and neither credits nor grade are used in calculating the student’s grade point average.

If a student earns an F* in a course they have designated as Pass/Fail, both the credits and grade are used in calculating the student’s grade point average. The credits do not count toward degree requirements.

Pass grades may not be used to satisfy the following:

- General education requirements (for students entering before fall 2018, these are sometimes called liberal arts electives)
- Language requirements
- Writing requirements
- Major/minor program requirements
- Study Abroad courses
- Directed Study or Directed Research courses

Students wishing to pursue a major or minor after they have taken a course Pass/Fail in that program should work with their academic advisor in the program to determine the appropriate coursework.

**Directions for students and advisors**: Students who are interested in taking a course on a Pass/Fail basis must discuss the option with their advisor. If after careful consideration the student opts to exercise the Pass/Fail option, the student will complete the Pass-Fail Course Designation Form with a COM Undergraduate Affairs Advisor who will then pass it along to our COM Registrar for processing. The deadline for submitting the signed form is at 5:00 PM EST on the “Drop with a W” deadline for the course. Semester-long courses have a consistent drop with a “W” date, and it is published per semester on the official academic calendar of the University Registrar. The deadline for non-standard courses, such as half-semester courses, is computed individually and is published by the individual course on the Student Link and Faculty/Staff Link.

Designating a course Pass/Fail is irrevocable as of 5:00 p.m. EST on the deadline to withdraw with a “W” date, as described above, meaning the course grade will be changed to P* or F* regardless of the earned grade. To view the official Boston University policy on pass fail courses for undergraduate students please visit: [http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/policy-on-passfail-courses-for-undergraduate-students/](http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/policy-on-passfail-courses-for-undergraduate-students/).