Information on the Spring 2020 Grading Policy

For All Students:
Grading Basis for Spring 2020 Courses:

- All Spring 2020 courses are mandated by the faculty to be graded only on a credit/fail (CR/F) basis, unless a grade had already been recorded at the time the policy was adopted.
- There is no option to change the grading basis to graded for a Spring 2020 course.
- All work (including all papers) recorded on the transcript after March 6 for Spring 2020 will be CR/F (this includes work submitted after Spring 2020).
- All work completed and submitted by March 6, 2020 (including from prior terms) will be subject to the ordinary grading rules. (Per ordinary practice, grades already recorded will not be subject to change, except in case of faculty or clerical error.)
- Students may opt in to CR/F for in-progress courses from a prior term only if a grade has not yet been recorded and if the work is completed and submitted between March 7, 2020 and July 1, 2020.
- Work carried over from terms prior to Spring 2020 that is completed and submitted after July 1, 2020 will be subject to the grading rules of the term in which submitted.
- LLM students should make sure they have 9 units in the Fall term that count toward the graded unit requirement before electing any Fall course still in progress as CR/F.
- The deadline to change a course in progress from a prior term from graded to CR/F is before the instructor submits a grade or April 27 2020, whichever date comes first.
- If no election to CR/F is made by July 1, 2020, for a course from a prior term, the normal grading system will apply.
- To elect CR/F for a course from a term prior to Spring 2020, students should use the Spring 2020 Change of Grading Basis form accessible here and submit it to registrar.law@yale.edu

Dropping a Spring 2020 Course:

- Students may drop a Spring 2020 course if doing so will not drop their schedule below 12 units for the term or impede their progress in meeting graduation requirements for their degree.
- Students do not need to secure the instructor’s permission to drop a Spring 2020 course.
- There is no fee for dropping a Spring 2020 course after March 6, 2020.
- The deadline to drop a Spring 2020 examination course is April 27, 2020.
- In order to drop a Spring 2020 course use the form that is accessible here and submit it to registrar.law@yale.edu

For JD Students:
Writing Requirements

- SAWs that are written for Spring 2020 courses or through Supervised Research are CR/F, irrespective of when the final paper is submitted.
- SAWs that were begun in a prior term but will be completed during Spring 2020 may be either graded or CR/F only if all the units for the paper will be recorded in a prior term.
SAWs begun in a prior term, with 1 or 2 units recorded in a prior term and the final number of units recorded in Spring 2020, may have the prior term graded or the student may elect CR/F for that term but the Spring 2020 grade must be CR/F.

SAWs that are begun in Spring 2020 and carried over after July 1, 2020 will have the Spring 2020 units graded CR/F.

If a student continues to work on the paper and receives units in a subsequent term, those units will be graded according to the grading policies in effect for that term.

Substantial Papers completed in Spring 2020 must be graded CR/F.

Substantial Papers begun in a prior term but completed in Spring 2020 may be either graded or elected CR/F.

Fifth-Term Writing Requirement Deadline

- As of this writing, students who expect to enroll for their fifth-term in Fall 2020 must complete one of the two writing requirements by August 1, 2020.

For Students Completing Enrollment in a Degree Program in Spring 2020

- The first conferral date for Spring 2020 degrees remains May 27, 2020.
- To be eligible for a May 27 degree conferral, all final grades and paper certifications should be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the instructors by May 22.
- As of this writing, the Yale Corporation is expected to confer degrees again at its meeting on June 13.
- For students who do not complete their work for the May 27 conferral, all final grades and certifications must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by June 8 for the degree to be conferred on June 13.
- There has been no decision whether another conferral date will be offered during the summer.

Note: Faculty do not need to track whether a student has elected CR/F for a course from a term prior to Spring 2020. If the faculty member submits a passing grade (H, P, or LP) for such a course the system will automatically convert that grade to CR.