Dear CBS Students,

Please take a moment to read the contents of this email in its entirety to be informed of the revisions to the University’s Pass / No Pass (P/NP) grading policy for the 2020 Summer Sessions. To best support our students through challenges that may arise during these times, the Academic Senate has voted to extend flexible grading options into the Summer Sessions. Additionally, for 2020 Summer Sessions, CBS students will be allowed to take major courses P/NP.

Are you unsure what it means to take a course P/NP vs. for a letter grade?

- If you take a course for a letter grade, you will earn an A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, etc. You will receive credit for the course for all letter grades except F. Therefore, in this grading mode, all D grades are considered “passing letter grades.”
- If you take a course Pass / No Pass, you will receive either a “P” for Pass or a “NP” for No Pass. You will not receive credit for the course for a NP grade. Therefore, in this grading mode, all D grades are assigned a “NP” and you do not receive any credit for taking the class.

Do faculty know if students are taking a class P/NP vs. for a letter grade?

- No, faculty enter letter grades into the grade sheets provided by the registrar for both grading modes. They do not have the option of entering a P or NP grade. If the student selected P/NP grading, faculty will enter letter grades and the Registrar’s software converts a grade of C- or better to a P. The Registrar’s software converts any grade of D+ or lower to an NP.

When determining the best grading mode (letter grade or P/NP) for your personal circumstances, please take the following factors into consideration:

- A “P” (pass) is equivalent to a C- or better. P/NP grades are not used in GPA calculations.
- A “NP” (no pass) is equivalent to a D+ or below. You will not receive units for a NP. If you need units for minimum progress, you will need to take the course for a letter grade.
- You cannot retake a course that you have already taken for a letter grade as P/NP; although, you can retake a course that you have previously earned a NP for a letter grade.
- Taking a course P/NP could have important implications for future graduate pre-professional school admissions. Graduate schools and Pre-Professional programs may have prerequisites that require letter grading. Please check with graduate and pre-professional programs of interest for information on how P/NP grading may affect your application.

Additionally, Courses taken P/NP during the 2020 Spring and Summer sessions will NOT count towards the University’s 1/3 rule policy. Typically, this policy states that students cannot take more than 1/3 of their courses as P/NP.

Important Grading Deadlines
For Summer Session I, students have until July 24th to decide on or change between letter grade and P/NP in Schedule Builder. For Summer Session II, the deadline is September 4th. Should you want to change your grading mode for any course, you must do so before these dates!

Can students who are not in good academic standing take courses P/NP?
NO. Currently only students who are in good academic standing can take courses P/NP. The Academic Senate made an exception to this rule for the Spring 2020 quarter. There is no exemption for summer sessions.
If you have additional questions about deciding between a letter grade or P/NP:

- Visit the CBS and Student Affairs FAQ pages to review P/NP questions.
  - CBS FAQs
  - Student Affairs FAQ
- Email questions to cbsundergrads@ucdavis.edu.
- Schedule an appointment with your BASC advisor. Please note that BASC is only offering virtual appointments throughout the summer and it may take time to schedule an appointment due to Aggie Advising for incoming first year students.