

Subject: FYI - USG Statement on Grades

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 6:10:11 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Public Health Faculty on behalf of Erin K Lipp

To: CPH-FACULTY@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU

Many of you may be wondering about options for switching to pass/fail for this term. Please see the latest from USG. Short answer is that A-F courses must continue as such (but keep in mind that faculty do have discretion in assessments and grading in your own classes).

USG Statement:

The University System of Georgia is aware some institutions around the nation have decided to shift to pass/fail grading after transitioning to remote education. We are confident our students will rise to the challenge, and the USG will do everything in its power to help them do so. We trust our faculty to teach and grade students effectively.

In times of adversity, we should reach higher, not lower. Maintaining high academic standards is critical to the success of USG students now and in the future. Continuing letter grading for the final few weeks of the semester will allow faculty to assess the performance of students in the same manner as they always have. The USG is confident that faculty and students will rely on the resilience they have shown thus far and continue to meet our high standards.

While online instruction will be new to many, thousands of USG students and faculty have already experienced it through nearly 11,000 online course sections offered prior to USG's temporary shift to all-online instruction. In addition, the USG has offered resources to assist faculty (https://www.usg.edu/keep_teaching_usg) and students (https://www.usg.edu/keep_learning_usg) make the transition.

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