

PASS/FAIL OPTION

Undergraduates may register for courses on a Pass/Fail basis. Students:

- **May** register for only one course as Pass/Fail in a semester.
- **May** take as Pass/Fail courses used to meet distribution credit, with the limitation that the course is not additionally being used to meet course requirements for a major, minor, or certificate.
- **Must** designate courses to the Pass/Fail grade mode online, via [ESTHER \(https://esther.rice.edu\)](https://esther.rice.edu), no later than the posted deadline, usually the end of Week 10 of the semester.
- **May not** take more than one course as a Pass/Fail per semester for each full year of residence (students studying in off-campus programs through Rice are considered to be in residence for the purpose of this rule).
- **May not** take more than four courses total as Pass/Fail.
- **May not** take more than a total of 14 semester hours total as Pass/Fail.
- **May not** take as Pass/Fail a repeatable course previously taken and designated as Pass/Fail.
- **May not** take as Pass/Fail any course used to meet the requirements for their major, minor, or certificate.*
- **May not** take as Pass/Fail any First-Year Writing-Intensive Seminar (FWIS) course.

Students may convert a Pass/Fail course to a graded course by submitting the proper online conversion form, via [ESTHER \(https://esther.rice.edu\)](https://esther.rice.edu), and must adhere to the Pass/Fail deadlines as stated in the [Academic Calendar \(https://registrar.rice.edu/calendars/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/calendars/). Students wishing to designate a course as Pass/Fail during the summer sessions should see [Registration During Summer Sessions \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/registration/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/registration/).

The final grades of P (Pass) or F (Fail) are calculated based on the standard letter grade submitted by the course instructor. The grade of P is awarded for an instructor submitted grade of D- or above, and has no impact on a student's Grade Point Average (GPA). However, students should be aware that a grade of F is counted as a failure and is included in the student's GPA. Students who take a course during the Rice summer session as Pass/Fail should also note that this counts toward their allowable total of four courses. For more information, please see [The Pass/Fail Option page \(https://registrar.rice.edu/students/reg_pass_fail/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/students/reg_pass_fail/) on the [Office of the Registrar \(https://registrar.rice.edu/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/) website.

***Please Note:** If students take such courses as Pass/Fail, they should request in writing to the Office of the Registrar that the P grade be replaced with the letter grade earned. Otherwise, the Office of the Registrar will uncover the P grade during the final degree audit process (which begins with day one of the student's final semester). Once the P is uncovered, it will not be restored or subsequently returned to that course; therefore, students should review their Degree Works degree audits carefully to ensure that courses are applied in their degree audit as expected.