Meredith Undergraduate Students,

COVID-19 has caused extraordinary disruptions to all aspects of our lives this year, creating extra stress and new burdens for students. Although students and faculty have shown remarkable resilience in the transition to remote learning, Meredith’s academic leaders understand that the circumstances surrounding this global health crisis have created the need for flexibility in our grading policies this semester.

For this reason, all undergraduate students will have the option of electing Pass/Fail Grading (P/F) for courses after grades are turned in. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors will have up to two weeks after grades are turned in for this election. For seniors, this time frame will be three days.

Here are a few additional details regarding how this new policy will work:

- Pass would be assigned for letter grades A-D,
- Faculty will still turn in letter grades, so the Registrar’s Office will have a record of the grade even if the student elects P/F.
- All prerequisites will remain unchanged. For example, if a student who needs a C or better to advance gets a D, opting to change the grade to a P will not get around the prerequisite requirement.
- Any courses taken for a P would not count toward the limit of courses taken as P/F and could count toward fulfilling major/minor/general education requirements.
- Repeat courses taken P/F will not replace the grade in the GPA calculation.

Note that the P/F option may not be the best choice for students who plan to attend graduate school, since it is not yet known how graduate schools will look at pass/fail grades. In addition, VA (Veterans Affairs) students should not elect this option, as it is unclear at this time as to whether or not the VA will support this option.

We will post more information on the process for electing this option on the registrar’s office web page. If you have questions about which grading option is right for you, consult with your faculty adviser before making the decision.

On behalf of the academic deans and the faculty, we hope this decision will ease your academic concerns. Best wishes for your academic pursuits for the remainder of the semester.

Sincerely,
Matthew Poslusny
Senior Vice President and Provost

Sent March 31, 2020, 5:29 p.m.