

EPC Agenda
August 21, 2020

In attendance: Jim Barber, Magali Compan, Xin Conan-Wu, John Donoghue, Josh Erlich (chair), Jonathan Glasser, Michael Kordosky, Rachel Li, Tom Linneman, Sallie Marchello, Elizabeth Mead, Christy Porter, Denise Ridley-Johnston, Cory Springer, Nori Thurman, Kristin Wustholz, Amy Xia

Welcome to Student Members.

Alex Johnson (could not attend meeting)
Rachel Li
Nori Thurman

We also welcomed Xin Conan-Wu, Matt Haug's replacement for the Fall term.

Minutes from 8/13/20 were approved.

The Consent Calendar was approved.

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| ELEM 420 - supervised student teaching | COLL 400 |
| GOVT 360 - Building the American Welfare State | Course change |
| GOVT 391 - Foreign Economic Policy | Non-traditional mode |
| GOVT 391 - Title:Foreign Economic Policy | COLL 300 |
| JAPN 330 - Japanese Popular Culture | COLL 200 |
| KINE 358 - Community Nutrition | New course |
| MUSC 383 - The Baroque and Classic Period | Domain designation |
| Philosophy - N/A | Curriculum change |

Other Proposals:

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| AMST 341 - Gender and Digital Culture | New course |
| Approved. Cory Springer confirmed that this is only a course renumbering. | |
| BUAD 492 - Power, Politics, and Persuasion (PPP) | COLL 300 |
| Tabled. Josh Erlich will confirm COLL 300 policy for DC program courses. | |
| BUAD 492 - See syllabus | Non-traditional mode |
| Approved. | |
| DATA 410 - Advanced Applied Machine Learning | COLL 400 |
| Tabled. Syllabus was provided shortly before the meeting. | |
| HIST 212 - Indigenous Sovrnty/Sustnbility in Aotearoa | COLL 200 |
| Approved. | |
| JAPN 308 - Savoring Japan | COLL 200 |
| Approved. | |
| RELG 308 - Religion and Sports in the US | COLL 200 |
| Tabled due to lack of time. | |

Pass/Fail options for Fall 2020

In light of the unusual pandemic conditions that students and faculty are operating under, the Dean's office proposes:

I. That all undergraduate A&S students be allowed to choose one class for a P/F grade as long as it is an elective class (i.e., not a COLL class, not for their major or minor requirements).

Approved.

II. That students have until Friday, September 11 to make this determination.

Substitute motion: Students have until [the last day of classes]...

Substitute motion approved.

III. That EPC consider whether students should be allowed to select more than one class as P/F.

EPC decided that this possibility is not necessary under current conditions. This possibility will be reconsidered later in the semester if it seems warranted.

Summary of discussion:

There was extensive discussion of these motions, with both strong support and strong opposition expressed during the discussion.

There is student support (including via an online petition) for flexibility in selecting P/F grading. Arguments include the added stress induced by working under pandemic conditions and the possibility of change in course modality (face-to-face transitioning to online, etc) during the semester. Increased flexibility in grading modality would ease some of the added stress. It was mentioned that students do not take many electives, so the P/F option as proposed might not apply to many students' schedules.

Arguments against enhanced P/F options include potential difficulties in graduate and professional school applications, and confusion related to rules for majors and minors. What do undeclared students do if their P/F course is required for the major that they would later select?

There was discussion regarding whether P/F options should include COLL and major/minor courses. No substitute motion that would allow these possibilities was proposed.

In the end, EPC favored allowing a single P/F grade per student (including Freshmen and Sophomores) for elective courses (Motion I), and an extension of the deadline for students to determine whether to select the P/F option until the last day of classes (Substitute Motion II). Students should be advised to speak with their advisor prior to making any decision that would affect their transcript. The Dean's office should share guidance with students regarding policy for students who would declare a major/

minor after selecting a P/F grade in a major/minor course. By default, students would need to petition the Committee on Degrees on a case-by-case basis.