

# Modified Grade Policy + Other Academic Updates

Office of Academic Affairs <[academicaffairs@cia.edu](mailto:academicaffairs@cia.edu)>

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To: Student\_All <[Student\\_All@cia.edu](mailto:Student_All@cia.edu)>; CIA\_All <[CIA\\_All@cia.edu](mailto:CIA_All@cia.edu)>

Dear CIA Students:

I hope this message finds you well and that you are successfully adjusting to remote learning, creating and connecting. I wanted to take a moment to update you on some recent changes to academic policies and procedures in response to COVID-19, effective this semester only.

## **Modified Grade Policy:**

As a measure to mitigate student stress and address inequities of remote learning during this time of disruption, CIA administration and faculty leadership have approved the following modification to our current grade policy, which will apply to all courses (major, liberal arts, electives) for Spring 2020 grades only:

- Per current policy, students with grades “A” to “C” will continue to earn the assigned letter grade, which will be calculated into their GPA and in which they will earn credit toward their degree requirements. *There is no change to current policy.*
- Per amended policy, students with grades “C-” to “D-” will receive a “P” or passing grade, which will not be calculated into their GPAs, but in which they will earn credit toward their degree requirements and will not need to retake the course. *This is a change to current policy.*
- Per current policy, students with an “F” will continue to earn and “F,” which will be calculated into their GPA and in which they will not earn credit toward their degree requirements. *There is no change to current policy.*

Comparison of Current and Proposed Grade Schemes			
Current Grade Scheme	A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C	C-, D+, D, D-	F
Proposed P/F Grade Scheme	A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C	P	F

The policy addresses the following considerations:

- Students will still be able to achieve normal Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and be eligible for Title IV federal financial aid, as they would still be earning credits toward their degree.
- The U.S. Department of Education currently recognizes a “D-” or higher as a passing grade.
- Maintaining letter grades will allow those on probation to improve their GPA.
- Maintaining letter grades for A/B/C will address the students’ ability to transfer credits or hold a minimum grade threshold required for many graduate programs.

**Extended Withdrawal Deadline:**

Due to extenuating circumstances this semester surrounding COVID-19, the deadline to withdraw from a course or from the college has been extended to **Friday, April 24 by 4:30pm**. Students withdrawing from courses on or before April 24 will receive “W” course grades and will not earn academic credit. Please note that this extension is only for the Spring 2020 semester.

**Fall Registration Revised Schedule:**

The registrar recently emailed students an updated registration schedule. As a reminder, course scheduling begins on the following dates/times:

- *Continuing Seniors and Current Juniors:* Wednesday, April 8 at 7am
- *Current Sophomores:* Monday, April 13 at 7am
- *Current Freshmen:* Thursday, April 16 at 7am

Please be sure to make a virtual appointment with your academic advisor on myCIA (click on Academic Support >> Advising Appointments portlet).

I hope these modified policies and deadlines are helpful to you. I know this is an especially challenging time for all of us, but please know that the faculty/staff and I are exceptionally proud of you and are committed to your student success.

Thank you very much,

Kathryn

**Kathryn J. Heidemann, MAM**

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***View CIA's FAQ page in response to COVID-19: [cia.edu/healthalerts](http://cia.edu/healthalerts)***