

56-R-20

A Resolution to Clarify the Pass/Non-Pass Option for Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Graduate Courses

Hayden Price (for himself) introduced the following resolution to the Academic Affairs Committee where it passed. Then, to the Steering Committee where it passed, and to the floor where it passed.

* * *

Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University; and

Whereas section (K) of University Rules 3335-8-21 establishes the grades PA and NP as official marks of the university;¹ and

Whereas point 1 of section (K) of University Rules 3335-8-21 states, “the grade pass "PA" means the student has satisfied the stated objectives of the course, and the grade non-pass "NP" is the equivalent of the grade "E.”;¹ and

Whereas point 2 of section (K) of University Rules 3335-8-21 states, “an undergraduate student may elect this option for courses that are not required or designated as required electives in the curriculum leading to the degree for which the student is a candidate.” and the University Rules provide no restriction on the level of course that undergraduate students may use this option on;¹ and

Whereas the Graduate School Handbook (GSH) provides students with “rules, policies and guidelines applicable to the graduate community at The Ohio State University.”;² and

Whereas Section 4.0 of the GSH outlines various ways that undergraduate students can be enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above, with undergraduate enrollment in these classes being restricted to “combined program students, undergraduate students taking courses under Senior Petition, and honors students by petition.” Section 4.0 additionally clarifies that students do not receive graduate credit for courses completed while registered in other enrollment units outside the Graduate School, including the undergraduate colleges;² and

¹ <https://trustees.osu.edu/rules/university-rules/chapter-3335-8-instruction.html>

² <https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-school-handbook-gsh/gsh-section-4-course-credit-marks-and-point-hour-ratio>

Whereas Section 4.1 of the GSH lists the marks available for graduate students at Ohio State and notes “Graduate students cannot receive a mark of “PA/NP.”;² and

Whereas undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above have the PA/NP option available to them in certain circumstances; and

Whereas the use of the PA/NP option for undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above under Senior Petition or a combined program may be complicated or disallowed; and

Whereas there are circumstances in which the use of the PA/NP option may be beneficial for undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above outside of Senior Petition or a combined program; and

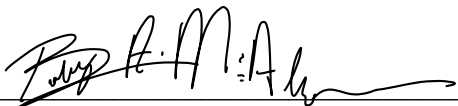
Whereas neither the University Rules nor the GSH provide clarification on the use of the PA/NP option for undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above; and

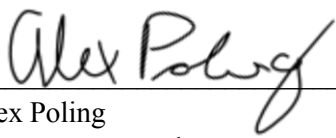
Whereas a lack of understanding of the availability of the PA/NP option may lead to undergraduate students not being able to fully utilize it.

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government calls upon the Graduate Council, the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and the Dean of the Graduate School to revise Section 4.1 of the GSH to provide clarification on the availability of the PA/NP option for undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above in various circumstances; and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government additionally calls upon the Board of Trustees to amend University Rules 3335-8-21 to provide clarification on the availability of the PA/NP option for undergraduate students enrolled in courses numbered 6000 and above in various circumstances.

Floor Vote: Aye: 24 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 24


Bobby A. McAlpine
President


Alex Poling
Speaker of the 56th General Assembly

Date Adopted: January 24th, 2024

Date Terminated: _____