

**From:** "Belinda M. Richardson" <[Belinda.Richardson@bc3.edu](mailto:Belinda.Richardson@bc3.edu)>

**Date:** April 6, 2020 at 5:27:05 PM EDT

**To:** Faculty Credit All <[Faculty@bc3.edu](mailto:Faculty@bc3.edu)>, Faculty Full Time Non-Teaching Support <[FacultyFullTimeNon-TeachingSupport@bc3.edu](mailto:FacultyFullTimeNon-TeachingSupport@bc3.edu)>

**Subject:** **SPRING SEMESTER 2020 - ALTERNATIVE GRADE OPTION**

Good Evening Faculty,

I hope each of you, your loved ones, and your students are well. Thank you for the resilience, flexibility, and patience you have demonstrated during this challenging time. The support you have provided to students and colleagues overall has been overwhelmingly appreciated.

As information, I wanted to share that in response to the unique circumstances related to COVID-19 and the need to transition to remote instruction the College is working to provide options to students regarding how their coursework will be graded this semester.

In understanding that many individuals and families are facing challenges and dealing with unprecedented burdens, the plan is designed to minimize negative impact to their GPA's and official transcripts.

For each course taken during spring semester 2020 the students will have the "option" of replacing the letter grade they earned with an alternative grade that will not be calculated in their grade point averages. The alternative grades are:

S\*= A,B,C

SD\*= D

U\*=F

Faculty will enter letter grades at the end of the semester as planned. Students will have two weeks to decide if they want to keep the letter grade or have it converted to an alternative grade.

We understand that you may have questions. Your deans and I are happy to clarify. Please know that additional details will be available soon.

Attached you will find the draft email that Dr. Willoughby plans to send out to students soon. What we are calling "SPRING SEMESTER 2020 - ALTERNATIVE GRADE OPTION" is BC3's version of what some other institutions have identified as Pass/Fail.

The College is aware that this is a very sensitive but important topic. Our message is to stand by our faculty in encouraging students to work hard in achieving academic excellence. Our decision to offer this additional support to students is informed by our collective understanding of the unique challenges faced by students and their families during this uncertain time.

Thank you for your understanding,

Dr. B

Dr. Belinda Richardson  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Butler County Community College  
P.O. Box 1203  
Butler, PA 16003-1203  
724-287-8711 x 8262