

Pass/Keep/Withdraw

College of Science



College of Science Advising



Lauren Perkins
Academics
& Outreach
Coordinator



Jennifer Bradley
Senior
Academic
Advisor



Morgan Lewis
Senior
Academic
Advisor



Matthew Wilson
Academic
Advisor



Jenny Harvard
Academic
Advisor



Contact Information

Due to the current circumstances with COVID-19, all advising appointments are being held remotely.



Science.Advising@uah.edu

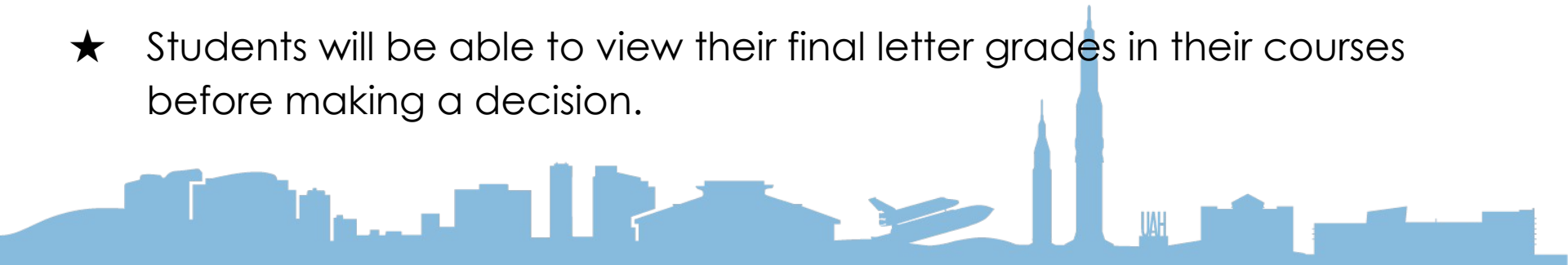


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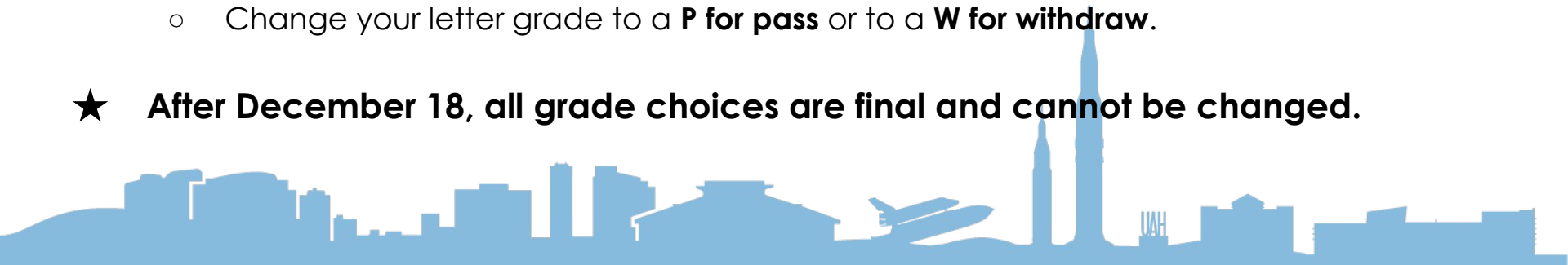
What's going on?

- ★ UAH has issued a new grading policy that will apply to both Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 terms.
- ★ Students may change their grade from a letter grade to a pass or to a withdraw.
- ★ Students may switch to the pass/withdraw options on a course by course basis.
- ★ Students will be able to view their final letter grades in their courses before making a decision.



P/K/W Process

- ★ Your instructors will assign a letter grade for each of your courses.
- ★ These grades will appear on your transcript, which you can view at my.uah.edu.
- ★ You will have from Wednesday, December 16 until 11:59 PM Friday, December 18 to make your selection for each course:
 - Keep your letter grade as is.
 - OR**
 - Change your letter grade to a **P for pass** or to a **W for withdraw**.
- ★ **After December 18, all grade choices are final and cannot be changed.**



Option A: KEEP (default - no action)

- ★ You may choose to keep your letter grades as earned for each course.
- ★ These grades will be used to calculate your semester and cumulative GPA.
- ★ This is what normally happens every other semester.
- ★ This is the default and will occur if you take no action.

****See implications below.***



Implications for Option A: KEEP

- ★ All letter grades, including grades of F, that are kept will factor into your semester and cumulative GPA.
- ★ All grades of D- or better that are kept will count towards earned hours.
- ★ Your decision is final after your selection has been made and saved.

Remember: All letter grades will be kept in you do nothing.



Option B: PASS (action required)

- ★ You may choose to change your letter grade to P (pass) if you have earned a D- or better in a course.
- ★ A pass grade will not be used in the calculation of your semester or cumulative GPA.
- ★ A pass grade will count towards hours earned for the semester.

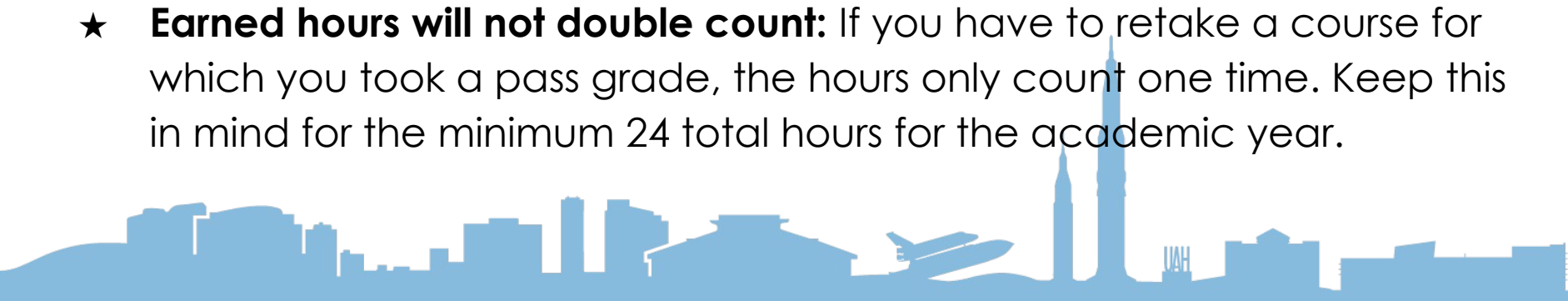
Remember: You must take action to switch your letter grade to pass.

**See implications below.*



Implications for Option B: PASS

- ★ Pass grades will be indicated on your transcript with a P.
- ★ **A grade of C- or better is still required for prerequisite course.** You may pass a course with a D- or better, but you will be required to retake the course and earn a C- or better to satisfy prerequisite(s).
 - **Example:** You earned a D in MA 171 and choose to switch to PASS. You will have to retake MA 171 and earn a C- or better to move on to MA 172, but the PASS does not affect your GPA.
 - **Example:** You earned a C in PH 111 and choose to switch to PASS. You may take PH 112 the next semester because your letter grade is a C- or better, even though you elected to use the PASS grade, and the C will not affect your GPA.
- ★ **Earned hours will not double count:** If you have to retake a course for which you took a pass grade, the hours only count one time. Keep this in mind for the minimum 24 total hours for the academic year.



Option C: WITHDRAW (action required)

- ★ You may choose to change your grade to W (withdraw) for any grade earned.
- ★ A withdraw grade will not be used in the calculation of your semester or cumulative GPA.
- ★ A withdraw grade will not count towards hours earned for the semester.

Remember: You must take action to switch your letter grade to withdraw.

**See implications below.*



Implications for Option C: WITHDRAW

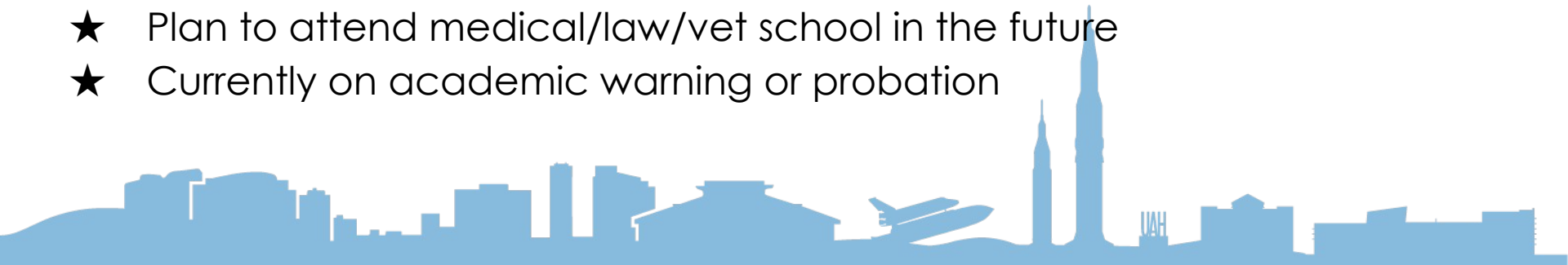
- ★ Withdraw grades do not count towards your GPA.
- ★ Courses required for the degree would need to be retaken.
- ★ Student with federal aid or loans must meet completion ratios.
 - Contact Financial Aid for verification.



Implications: OTHER

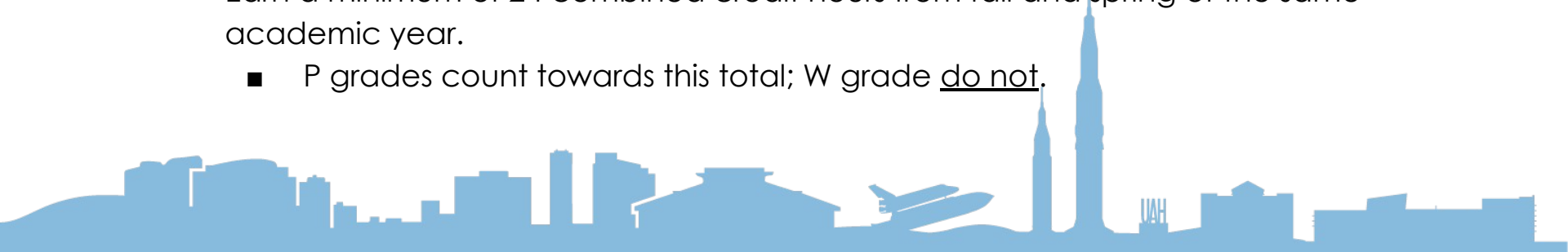
The pass or withdraw options may affect you differently if you:

- ★ Have a merit tuition scholarship
- ★ Receive any type of financial aid (federal loans, grants, or other scholarships)
- ★ Are a student athlete
- ★ Utilize VA educational benefits
- ★ Plan to pursue JUMP/graduate school in the future at UAH
- ★ Plan to attend graduate school in the future not at UAH
- ★ Plan to attend medical/law/vet school in the future
- ★ Currently on academic warning or probation



Merit Tuition Scholarship

- ★ To renew your merit tuition scholarship, you must meet the following requirements:
 - Remain classified as a full-time undergraduate student for each consecutive fall and spring term.
 - Earn a minimum 2.00 UAH grade point average each semester.
 - You cannot choose P or W grades for **all** of your fall classes as you would not have a fall GPA.
 - Maintain a minimum 3.00 cumulative UAH grade point average.
 - Earn a minimum of 6 credit hours each fall and spring semester.
 - Grades of A-D or P.
 - Earn a minimum of 24 combined credit hours from fall and spring of the same academic year.
 - P grades count towards this total; W grade do not.



Merit Tuition Scholarship

- ★ **First Time Students:** Your semester GPA **is** your cumulative GPA.
- ★ **Earned hours will not double count:** If you have to retake a course for which you took a pass grade, the hours only count one time. Keep this in mind for the minimum 24 total hours for the academic year.



Other Financial Aid or Scholarships

- ★ Federal loan or grant renewal and/or non-merit tuition scholarship and/or competitive scholarship renewal are based on the terms and conditions of the financial aid product or scholarship.
- ★ You should be able to view these terms and conditions at my.uah.edu under the Financial Aid heading.
- ★ You should confirm the requirements for renewal by contacting the Financial Aid Office at **(256) 824-6650** or **finaid@uah.edu**.



Student Athlete

- ★ Athletes must complete 9 hours with grades that satisfy degree requirements.
 - Fr. & So. - any UAH degree requirements
 - Jr. & Sr. - specific major requirements

- ★ Athletes must have a semester GPA at the end of fall term of at least 2.00. You cannot pass/withdraw everything.

- ★ All athletes should contact Julie Woltjen to confirm compliance for their eligibility at **(256) 824-7853** or **woltjenj@uah.edu**.



VA Benefits

- ★ Typically, VA Affairs allows for pass/withdraw grading options under unique circumstances, BUT you will want to verify the requirements and limitations with the Office of Military and Veterans Programs.
- ★ You may contact Brittany Howard at either **(256) 824-2758** or **va@uah.edu**.



JUMP & UAH Graduate School

- ★ **Currently in JUMP:** You may use a "Pass" on the undergraduate course of "D-" or better, but only a "Pass" on the graduate course of a "C-" or better.
- ★ **Planning to apply for JUMP:** The department may review your original letter grade you earned in certain courses for admission to the program.
- ★ UAH Graduate School is making accommodations internally at UAH for students who wish to attend graduate programs at UAH.



Other Graduate Schools

- ★ You are encouraged to speak with the university college or program you are considering. While we are making accommodations internally at UAH, we are unable to predict how Pass/Withdraw will be interpreted by other graduate programs.



Med/Law/Vet/etc. Graduate Schools

- ★ **From Brooke Sheetz:** "Students are encouraged to keep their letter grades if they are able to. I encourage them all to continue to keep striving for the best grade possible... Most professional schools have mentioned that they will accept Pass/Fail classes during this semester however, we have the option of Pass and a Letter Grade which changes things. One thought for students: professional schools see that you chose to take a few A's as grades and then a P grade, that could raise some questions on how you truly did in that class that you selected P for."
- ★ Contact Brooke Sheetz at ppa@uah.edu for advising and verification.



Academic Warning or Probation

- ★ We are awaiting direction from Academic Affairs regarding any changes to the academic warning/probation status and pass/withdraw grading.
- ★ Last spring, academic warning/probation status was extended to fall semester (if not resolved by the spring 2020 GPA). We don't have final word on this matter for fall 2020 at this time.



For Consideration...

- ★ We can't predict how employers will perceive pass grades – and so far our data is mixed.
- ★ We also understand the desire to protect your GPAs.

ADVISORS' ADVICE: Keep working hard to get the highest letter grade possible. A few P grades or a few W grades over three semesters is probably not going to raise any red flags. Three semesters full of only P and W grades might.



Plan from here:

- ★ The Advising Office will send out reminders of the policy including a survey to make sure you understand all the requirements and implications of the pass/withdraw policy.

- ★ **Timeline: Final grades will be posted by December 16. You will have until 11:59 PM on December 18 to make a selection.**
 - If you do nothing, your letter grade will remain as is.

- ★ Need help using DegreeWorks GPA calculator or What-If Analysis?
 - The College of Engineering has two videos:
 - GPA Calculator: <https://bit.ly/3onvS1T>
 - What If Analysis: <https://bit.ly/3koP5xQ>



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