

Faculty Senate Resolution Number S-2025-06

TO: Dwayne Smith, Ph.D., Interim President, Southern Connecticut State University  
FROM: Natalie Starling, Ph.D., President, SCSU Faculty Senate

The attached Resolution of the Faculty Senate is entitled:

RESOLUTION Regarding Revisions to the Pass/Fail Graduate Policy

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This resolution was approved by Faculty Senate on: March 12, 2025

XX This resolution is presented for APPROVAL

     This resolution is presented for INFORMATION

In accordance with the CSU-AAUP Contract (Article 5.10), "When the Senate makes a written recommendation to the President, the President shall acknowledge and respond to the recommendation in writing within fifteen (15) days of receiving the Senate's recommendation."

After considering this resolution, please indicate your action on this form and return it to the President of the Faculty Senate.

Natalie Starling

Natalie Starling, Ph.D., President, SCSU Faculty Senate

03/14/2025

Date

cc: Julia Irwin, Ph.D., Interim Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

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**ACTION OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT**

Resolution for Approval

Resolution APPROVED

Resolution DISAPPROVED (Attach statement)

Resolution for Information

     Resolution NOTED (applies to Informational Resolutions only)

Dwayne Smith

Dwayne Smith (Mar 26, 2025 17:57 EDT)

Dwayne Smith, Ph.D., Interim President, SCSU

03/26/2025

Date



# Southern Connecticut State University

## FACULTY SENATE

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### Resolution Regarding Revisions to the Pass/Fail Graduate Policy

Whereas, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) exists for the primary purpose of furthering academic excellence;

Whereas, The SCSU Faculty Senate is the official representative body of the Academic Faculty;

Whereas, Revising the Graduate Pass-Fail policy will provide Graduate students with increased clarity; now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the existing Pass-Fail Policy for Graduate students be revised according to the changes indicated below in red font color and stricken-out, and furthermore, be it

*Resolved*, That effective date shall be the Fall semester of 2025:

#### **Pass-Fail Option – Graduate Policy:**

With required consultation of their graduate program advisor (if the advisor is the instructor for the course, consultation with the program coordinator, chairperson, or dean), matriculated graduate students ~~who have completed at least 9 credits of graduate work with a "B" (3.0) or higher average~~ are eligible to register for certain courses **on a to be graded as** Pass-Fail ~~basis~~. The Pass-Fail option is blind in that the instructor is not aware of the student's use of the Pass-Fail option until after the grades are submitted.

~~Required courses may not be taken under the Pass-Fail option and no more than one elective course in any program may be taken under the Pass-Fail option. Undergraduate courses listed in any program that students are required to take to strengthen their academic backgrounds may not be taken under the Pass-Fail option. There is no limit on the number of courses, which are not a part of the program that may be taken under the Pass-Fail option.—~~

Courses that are excluded from the Pass-Fail option are:

- ✓ the required courses in a graduate program; and
- ✓ undergraduate courses listed in any program that students are required to take to strengthen their academic backgrounds.

No more than one elective course in any program may be taken on Pass-Fail option.

There is no limit on the number of courses, which are not a part of the student's program of study, that may be taken under the pass-fail option.

If the final grade ~~will be reported as "S" if the final grade~~ earned is "C" or higher, **it will be reported**

as 'S' on the transcript. This grade has no effect on the **grade point average (GPA)** but does count as attempted credit. If the final grade earned is "C-" or below, the final grade will be reported as "F". This grade will impact the GPA and does count as attempted credit. Once a student selects the Pass-Fail option it will not be possible to revert to a graded option ~~following the add/drop period for the course.~~

Courses taken for pass-fail might not be accepted for transfer credit when attending another institution; are excluded from GPA calculations which may impact a student's ability to meet certain GPA requirements needed for their program or graduation; and may not be satisfactory in meeting prerequisite requirements when applying to other graduate programs. ~~Consulting an advisor, as documented with the Pass-Fail Contract, serves as evidence that the student is aware of the potential impact of their decision.~~

The [Pass-Fail Contract](#) must be **endorsed signed** by their **student's** advisor ~~prior to the start of the 4th week of the fall or spring semester, or prior to the start of the 2nd week for courses in a shorter term.~~ prior to the end of the 12th week of classes (for shorter terms see the [pass-fail deadlines](#) on the academic calendar).

# S2025-06 Pass Fail Graduate Signature

Final Audit Report

2025-03-26

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