



College of Business
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To the College of Business Students,

What a semester! The FAU buildings are eerie without having you here in the hallways, classrooms and walking around outside. As we are all trying our best to deal with the challenges that COVID-19 has thrown at us, I want you to know that while the College of Business Dean's office, faculty, and advisors miss seeing you in person, we are here for you virtually. We are proud of you and your accomplishments and we want to help you work through these difficult times.

Several of you have expressed concerns that the College of Business is not allowing the Pass/Fail and Successful/Unsuccessful grading option for required business courses for our majors, minors, and those earning business certificates. Our faculty and I made this decision because we felt it was important to maintain grading standards, as earning a business degree certifies that you have mastered the core knowledge in business disciplines. We believe that over the long term this will serve you best in your careers, particularly if you later decide to apply to a graduate program (e.g., Masters, Law school, or PhD), or something similar.

Speaking bluntly, the Pass/Fail standard would mean that a student who earned a grade as low as a D- would get a "Pass" in the course, and we are not comfortable certifying that a D or D- is a good enough sign of mastery of the material in our required business classes.

At the same time, we are making efforts to provide you with the necessary support and access to course materials and lectures that you will need to succeed. Please also be aware that our advising office will do their best to be accommodating on withdrawal attempts, testing requirements to declare your majors, and petitions for the spring 2020 semester.

If you experience difficulty in completing your course requirements, you should be proactive in reaching out to your professors or your advisors for help. Our faculty and advisors have chosen their respective professions because they share a deep appreciation of what a difference a good education can make in ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to succeed in their learning and life goals.

We are here to support you, but we will ask you to focus your efforts as best you can. Please reach out to us if your circumstances are especially difficult.

Please stay in touch, study hard, and stay healthy. I suspect you have never been looking forward to returning to a physical classroom as much as you are now. We are anxious to have you return to campus, and we look forward to welcoming you back here as soon as that is possible!

My very best to all of you,

Dr. Daniel M. Gropper
Dean