

College of Education: Special Education Guidance on CR/NC grading option for Spring 2020

Subject: IMPORTANT SP ED Majors – Critical information on impacts of choosing credit/no credit option

Hello Special Education Majors,

We are thinking of each one of you in these unusual times. We wanted to reach out due to the recent University of Utah (U of U) announcement of the option to choose Credit/No Credit for your Spring 2020 courses. We appreciate the U of U for acknowledging these turbulent times and providing you with this option.

However, as a student who is majoring in Special Education, we strongly advise you to not choose the Credit/No Credit option for any SPED classes.

We believe that choosing the Credit/No Credit option is not in your best interest and therefore we want to provide you with some additional information that is relevant to your major. Specifically,

- 1) We are aware of some licensing and certification agencies (from entities outside of the University of Utah that are beyond our control) that may not accept a credit/no credit option now or in the future for licensure or certification. As a result, taking courses Credit/No Credit may result in a situation where you would need to retake courses to fulfill licensure or certification requirements in classes for which you could have received a grade.
- 2) Agencies and organizations who may not accept credit/no credit options include BCBA certification through BACB, ASHA, the Council of Academic Accreditation, some state-level teaching licensure agencies, etc. (please note this list is not all inclusive, there are likely other certifications for which credit/no credit will not be accepted).
- 3) In light of the extraordinary circumstances, faculty have been encouraged to be flexible with course requirements to accommodate the change in delivery method. Please contact your instructor if you have course specific questions or concerns.
- 4) If you have any special circumstances and/or questions about the Credit/No Credit option please reach out to your advisor.

In summary, we strongly advise you to not choose the Credit/No Credit option for any SPED courses and request that ALL students connect with their advisors before considering the credit/no credit option to ensure that they fully understand the potential impacts of this decision.

Thinking of you all,

Faculty and Staff of the U of U Special Education Department

Susan S Johnston, PhD SLP
Professor and Chair
Department of Special Education
University of Utah
801-581-5187