



The Bullsheet, a forum for news, humor, and community dialogue, is funded by DCGA and is printed each day that classes are in session. Submissions must be sent before 6:30pm for next day submission via e-mail to:bullsheet@denison.edu. Submissions herein solely reflect the opinions of the authors.

Edited last night by: Zach  
Delivered this morning by: Your Internet Service Provider  
vol. LXVI/ no. 38 / March 25, 2020

## A PROPOSAL FOR CORONAVIRUS AND YOUR TRANSCRIPT

Throughout the past week and a half, various student-driven petitions have circulated the student body facebook groups proposing Denison moves to a Pass/Fail grading system for the semester to account for the different and varied challenges that remote learning poses for every member of our student body. While many schools across the country, both similar and dissimilar to Denison in size, reigor, and structure have moved to the Pass/Fail system, there are certain drawbacks that should be considered. Will students be able to petition to receive actual transcript grades for certain courses? If a student does not want to take any course Pass/Fail, will they need to petition for each individual course? How will Pass/Fail versus regular grading impact professors?

Another thing to consider is the way that a move to mandatory Pass/Fail grading, similar to the move Bowdoin College, a liberal arts school similar in size and rigor to Denison, has made, will impact Denisonians hoping to apply or applying to graduate schools. Many prestigious schools, such as Harvard Medical School, have come forward to say that they will only accept Pass/Fail credits for pre-med requirements if the applicant is from a school where that's the only option. If Denison were to move toward optional Pass/Fail grading, where a student were to petition for a grade at the end of the term, they would have to know in advance which courses they required credit for in order to apply for desired graduate programs. While we can hope that any higher education institutions would look upon grades from this term with leniency, it is impossible to predict the outcomes of higher education as a practice after the pandemic passes. Until other graduate programs come forward with an official statement regarding how they will consider Pass/Fail credits, but it's not difficult to envision a future where the letter-grade students are getting accepted into schools, while Pass/Fail students (of equal merit) find themselves at a disadvantage.

Since we are discussing transcript options in the time of Coronavirus, I would like to propose a different way to address the varied and different impacts the pandemic is having on student life and ability. The University of North Carolina created a new grade option, CV (for COVID-19), which gives students three extra months to complete their work, and eventually gets replaced by a passing grade for the semester (provided they complete all the course requirements). While UNC is a school that is in no way similar to Denison in size or in infrastructure, providing three months of extended deadlines for completing coursework acknowledges there will be students even within a Pass/Fail framework who, through no fault of their own, will be unable to complete coursework this semester within the normal time frame, and will fail without a sympathetic administration's support. Further, in providing the CV note on transcripts, there will be a reminder for any future transcript reviewers, employers or grad schools, of the enormous impact of COVID-19 on academic life for all students this semester. In giving everyone a passing transcript grade for the semester, even those who may 'slack off' or abuse the three month extension, will definitely inflate all grades across the semester, but in these uncertain times, I believe it is better to reward all students for any work that they do, instead of depriving some (including hard-working students facing unprecedented challenges) of any reward.

It is important to note that there is no one rule to satisfy everyone, and I'm sure across the board for all universities, grades from this Spring will be wack. But I believe the three month extension with the transcript marker of CV, replaced with a passing grade when coursework is completed is a humane and achievable response to a crisis that is impacting every single student in different and disparate ways.

*-Sophia Menconi, Senior Editor*

# HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME FEEL LIKE DENISON

Now that we are a few days into Remote Learning at our fair college on the server it has become more than evident that things are not the same. Adjusting is hard especially during a global destabilizing pandemic. To help adjust here are some steps to make Remote Learning feel more like you are back on campus:

1. Set your alarm to the sounds you would normally wake up to. West and East Quad should use the sound of doors being slammed, North Quad outdoor frat parties and the Sunnies power tools at 8:00 am every damn day.
2. Smells can elicit strong memories so make sure to pour out some Natty and White Claw down the hallway and stairs to have the same aroma as your dorm.
3. If it is rainy outside, still don't go to your 8:30 Zoom lecture.
4. If your family eats lunch between 11:00 and 1:00 tell them you can't eat because its Slayer blackout hours and then not explain the reason why.
5. If your family eats dinner late, like say after 8:30, tell them you can't join as its a different type of blackout hours.
6. Family meetings are a lot like floor meetings, so skip them.
7. Introduce your neighborhood to that magic of Naked Week.
8. After exercising make sure to still walk up eight flights of stairs or drive your car around outside for like 2 minutes to simulate the hill.
9. Anytime you see a water fixture rip it the fuck off of whatever it's on.
10. Figure out your home's housing policy and then don't follow a word of it.

*-Zach Correia Head Writer*

## A WORTH WHILE QUOTE

So I didn't write this but it's a quote that's been bouncing around my head for weeks, and it's brought me some peace (as much as is possible, I suppose, in these crazy times) whenever I stop and think about it, so I thought it might be nice to share it with everyone.

Frodo: "I wish the Ring had never come to me. I wish none of this had happened."

Gandalf: "So do all who live to see such times, but that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us." --J.R.R. Tolkien

*-Eathan McAtee*

This 'Sheet was edited on Apple's Preview PDF reader as my Adobe Account is bust so... \\_(ツ)\_/

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