**DECISION TREE FOR THE S/U OPTION FOR UNDERGRADUATES**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This decision tree is a highly simplified map to help you choose whether or not to opt-in for the Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) option. Your situation may not fit perfectly into any of the categories in this decision-making path. Make sure you understand your instructor’s grading criteria for the S/U option. **Talk to your advisor** before finalizing your decision as there may certainly be other considerations such as financial aid and/or graduate school applications. The deadline for students to request a change from the standard grading system to the S/U option is **May 7, 2020.**

Are you expecting to receive a D or an F in this course?

- **Yes**
  - Opt-in for the S/U option so your GPA won’t be negatively affected even with a U grade. However, with a U, you may still need to repeat the course to fulfill core, prerequisite, and/or major/minor requirements. Also, a U grade may be perceived negatively by some graduate and professional programs. If you will be better off withdrawing from the course rather than getting a U, then **drop the course** and receive a W. Consult your advisor.

- **No**
  - Are you expecting an A?
    - **Yes**
      - Don’t opt-in for the S/U option. Getting an A will help increase your GPA whereas getting an S won’t.
    - **No**
      - Are you expecting a B?
        - **Yes**
          - Opt-in for the S/U option if you have a perfect 4.0 and don’t want a B to drop it, since an S won’t affect your perfect GPA.
        - **No**
          - Are you expecting a C?
            - **Yes**
              - Opt-in for the S/U option if a C would lower your current GPA even though it is a passing grade. An S won’t affect your GPA while a C grade may lower a high GPA.
            - **No**
              - Don’t opt-in for the S/U option if you have a very low GPA and are looking to raise it (for instance, if you are on academic probation) since a C could help increase your GPA a bit but an S won’t.