Assessment of the First Semester of 2019-2020

Following the University’s decision of suspending classes and in-hall exams on the Main Campus during the final weeks of the first semester, the Faculty had been working hard to make online teaching and learning available, and to work out the assessment arrangement. Here below some Frequently Asked Questions:

Q1. Will there be exams for the first semester of 2019-2020?

A1. While all in-hall exams on the Main Campus are suspended, there will be online assessment (also known as take-home exams) for law students.

Q2. How students will be graded?

A2. Regarding one-semester law courses, undergraduate, exchange and Juris Doctor (JD) students will be graded according to their course options (indicated in early December 2019):

(i) “Letter Grading” as usual; OR
(ii) “Pass/Fail”, meaning result of the course (by online assessment) is shown as Pass/Fail in transcript and not contributing to the cGPA; OR
(iii) “Late Drop”, that is to drop the course and no record will be shown in the enrolment record nor transcript.

As for full-year law courses, assessment will remain unchanged, i.e. letter grading.

Other Taught Postgraduate and Research Postgraduate students may choose to continue with letter grading for the course or opt-out of the course entirely.

Q3. When the official exam results for the first semester will be released? Will the delay affect students’ internship/mini-pupilage application?

A3. Subsequent to the adjusted timings of the semester and extra time required to process students’ course options, official exam results for the first semester will be released in mid-Feb 2020. We hope law firms and chambers could extend their deadlines of internship/mini-pupilage application on an exceptional basis.

Q4. Will this academic year end later? Will students’ summer internship/mini-pupilage be affected?

A4. No, at present, the University expects the second semester will commence in January 2020 as scheduled. We anticipate students will be able to complete the second semester in accordance with the normal academic calendar and start their summer plans accordingly.

Q5. Will Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) students be affected?

A5. No, as all PCLL exams take place in the second semester, assessment would not be affected and students can complete the PCLL as scheduled in the academic calendar, subject to their exam results.

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