Frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the Senate Guidelines (533rd/2019-20/9th e-meeting/May 19-20, 2020) for the closure of the current Semester (2019-20-II)

Q1 Will the semester close without the End Semester Examination for 2019-20-II Semester?

A1 The End Semester Examination for 2019-20-II Semester will not be held. The current semester will close with grade submission based on the evaluation criteria as determined by the instructor. This, in most cases, would imply considering the performance up to Mid Semester Recess. However, instructors may also consider online evaluations, e.g., assignments etc. for grading if they find these uniformly applicable to the class.

Q2 Can I get a Fail grade in my courses in the current semester?

A2 As a one-time exception, only A/B/C/S grades shall be awarded. D/E/F grades will not be awarded (See also Q41).

Q3 What does the 'S' grade in A/B/C/S grading scheme mean?

A3 'S' is the grade that will be awarded when a student's performance is lower than that deemed fit for grade 'C', as determined by the instructor (See Q13).

Q4 Will the 'S' grade count towards completion of credits and SPI/CPI?

A4 The 'S' grade will be counted only towards completion of credits. It will not be counted in SPI/CPI calculation (See Q14).

Q5 Can a student apply for an improvement of the grades awarded in the current semester?

A5 The non-graduating students, who have got B/C/S grades in the current semester have the option of improving their grades by appearing in a re-examination to be conducted once the academic activities resume.

Q6 Will it be mandatory to appear for the re-examination?

A6 No, the re-examination is optional and only for the non-graduating students. The nongraduating students who have got B/C/S grades and wish to improve their grades may apply for the re-examination.

Q7 When and how can I apply for the re-examination?

A7 A notice for the re-examination detailing the application procedure will be put up on DOAA website and also communicated via email in due course of time.

Q8 What will be the grading policy for the re-examination?

A8 The normal letter grades A/B/C/D/E/F shall be awarded. This grade revision, if any, will be considered final.

Q9 What will be the schedule of the re-examination?

A9 The re-examination will be conducted after the arrival of the students in campus for 2020-21 Semester I.

Q10 What will be the syllabus and weightage for the re-examination?

A10 The syllabi and the weightages will be announced by the Course Instructor to his/her class.

Q11 By what time will the grading for the current semester be completed?

A11 The grading for all the courses shall be completed by the instructors by June 20, 2020. The Grade Submission Portal will be available during June 20 to June 30, 2020. The last date of grade submission for all the courses is June 30, 2020.

Q12 Can a student 'opt' for a grade?

A12 No, students cannot 'opt' for grades. It is solely the Instructor's prerogative to award a grade to a student based on his/her performance in the course.

Q13 When can an instructor award the 'S' grade in the A/B/C/S grading scheme?

- A13 If, on the basis of his/her performance in the course, a student is likely to get grades lower than 'C', the Instructor may award the 'S' grade (See Q3). Whether a given performance deserves 'S' or the student needs to be de-registered will be determined by the Instructor based on all the available performance indicators (See Q24).
- Q14 A student getting 'S' grade can finish with a higher CPI than one getting 'C' because 'S' does not count towards CPI. How is this proposed to be resolved?
- A14 This will be looked into and an optimal solution will be found.

Q15 Will the 'S' grade(s) reflect in the transcript?

A15 The grading scheme of A/B/C/S adopted as a one-time measure for the current semester will be reflected in the transcript with an appropriate note.

Q16 What will the note on the transcript referred to in A15 say?

- A16 This will be decided in due course.
- Q17 Will the students get to know the marks obtained in the courses they are currently registered in?
- A17 Yes, the marks up to Mid Semester Recess (and in online assessments, if any) will be communicated by May 31 so that the students make an informed call with respect to the DROP option. Since online teaching/evaluations continue until June 15 as per the Senate decision, these can also be used for final evaluation

Q18 Can a student drop a course at this stage?

- A18 Yes, the COURSE DROP option is now active on Pingala. Students may apply for the COURSE DROP on Pingala between May 27 and June 5, 2020 June 8, 2020.
- Q19 What if the registered credit count for a student goes below the prescribed credit limit after dropping a course?
- A19 Lesser than the prescribed number of registered credits will not be considered as underload for the current semester as a one-time exception.

Q20 Can a student drop a Modular Course offered in the first half of the current semester?

A20 No, the Modular Courses offered in the first half of the current semester have already been graded and hence, cannot be dropped now.

Q21 Can a student drop a Modular Course offered in the second half of the current semester?

A21 The Departments/Instructors may choose to award A/B/C/S grades using the grading policy adopted for the regular courses, if the participation in the online component of the course has been full. The course may be withdrawn if the online participation has been partial. The student can drop the course if the Department/Instructor chooses to grade the course. The information on Modular Courses that are being withdrawn will be made available shortly. (See also Q39)

Q22 Will the student(s) get a waiver if a Modular Course offered in the second half of the current semester is withdrawn?

A22 If a Modular Course offered in the second half of the current semester is withdrawn, the credit requirements of the course will be waived for the graduating students only. Please refer to Q26 regarding maximum limits on course waiver. Non-graduating students may register for such courses in the subsequent semesters as and when offered in consultation with the DUGC Conveners.

Q23 If a student has dropped a course earlier, i.e., during the MID SEMESTER DROP, can he/she request revocation of the course drop?

A23 Yes, students who may have dropped a course after the Mid Semester Examination, can request for such course drops to be revoked through a REVOKE DROP request to be sent over email to the course instructor along with a reason. This request can be sent between May 27 and June 5, 2020. Whether or not the REVOKE DROP request is accepted is solely the discretion of the instructor.

Q24 Can a student be de-registered from a course by the instructor?

A24 Yes, if the student's participation in performance indicators such as Mid Semester exams/quizzes/assignments before or after the suspension of the semester as well as attendance in classes is found to be inadequate, the Instructor can de-register such a student. All such de-registrations will be approved by SUGC/SPGC and are to be completed by June 15, 2020.

Q25 I am a BTech/BS final year student. Can I apply for conversion to the Dual Degree Programme?

A25 As a one-time measure, BTech/BS students in their final year (including extended degree students) may apply for the Dual Degree option, if they wish to. Details regarding procedure and eligibility criteria will be announced when the call for applications is sent. The call will be sent in due course.

Q26 I am falling short by a few credits/courses for graduation by the end of the current semester. Can I get a course/credit waiver so that I may graduate on time?

A26 Yes, the graduating BT/BS/DM students will be given a waiver of any 3 courses or 27 credits, whereas the graduating students in MSc-2Year/MTech/DD/MDes/MBA/MSR programmes will be given a waiver of any 2 courses or 18 course/thesis credits. The course/thesis credit waiver given under this provision will reflect in the transcript with an appropriate note.

Q27 Will the waivers referred to in A26 be automatic?

A27 No, the graduating students will be asked to apply for the waiver at an appropriate time.

Q28 What is the procedure to avail the course/credit waiver for graduating students?

A28 The application procedure for availing the course/credit waiver will be announced shortly.

Q29 How will thesis credits be graded in the current semester?

A29 Only 'S' grades will be awarded for the thesis credits in this semester as special case and no 'X' grades will be awarded. If the performance of the student has not been satisfactory, appropriate number of thesis credits will be dropped through an off-line procedure to be made available to the thesis advisors/DPGC Convenors across departments.

Q30 I could not complete the research work and, as a result, I am unable to submit my Master's thesis. What options do I have?

A30 The submission of a Master's thesis towards partial fulfilment of the requirements of the Master's programme has been relaxed by replacing the thesis with a Master's Project Report as a one-time exception. This option is available to MTech/DD/MDes/MSR students who would have normally graduated by the end of current semester. The procedure will be announced shortly by the Chairperson, SPGC/SUGC.

Q31 I am a Master's student in my second year. Can I apply for conversion to the PhD programme?

- A31 Yes, eligible Masters students may apply for conversion to PhD programme as per the existing guidelines for conversion (Refer to clause 4.6 of PG Manual).
- Q32 Based on my cumulative performance, I am falling under the termination criterion as per UG/PG Manual(s). Will my programme be terminated at the end of the current semester?
- A32 No, as a one-time exception, there will be no terminations at the end of the current semester.
- Q33 I am a UG student. Based on my academic performance, will I be placed under Probation (AP) or Warning at the end of current semester?
- A33 No student will be placed under Probation (AP) or Warning at the end of the current semester.

- Q34 I am a UG student. Based on my academic performance in the 2019-20-I Semester, I was placed on Probation (AP) or Warning for the current semester. With my performance in the current semester, I can move out of AP/WR status. Will I be moved out of AP/WR?
- A34 Yes, you will be moved to a higher academic status depending on your performance in the current semester.

Q35 I wish to apply for Minors, Branch/Programme change. When can I apply?

- A35 The call for applications for Minors, Branch/Programme change will be sent once the resumption of next semester is announced.
- Q36 I am completing the maximum residency period applicable for my Programme by the end of the current semester. Do I need to seek academic extension in the next semester under the prevailing rules for my programme?
- A36 You do not need to seek academic extension in the next semester. The current semester (2019-20-II) will not be counted for the purpose of determining the maximum residency requirements of UG/PG students.
- Q37 I was on academic extension and could not finish within this semester. Do I need to seek academic extension for the next semester?
- A37 No, you do not need to apply for academic extension as the current semester will not be counted towards the duration of your programme.
- Q38 If a non-graduating student with B/C/S grade taking the re-examination to improve his/her grades, does not manage to improve the grades, can he/she opt for the earlier grades?
- A38 No, grades received in the re-examination will be taken as the final grades.
- Q39 Is there a deadline for the Instructors/Departments to withdraw the modular course(s) offered in the second half of the current semester?
- A39 Yes, June 15, 2020 is the deadline for withdrawing modular courses offered in the second half of the current semester (See also Q21).
- Q40. The course policy announced in the First Course Handout has undergone changes. Will the course policy changes be made available to students?
- A40. The course policy changes will be conveyed by the Instructor to the students, DU(P)GC and DOAA office by June 12, 2020.

Q41 Can a student get 'A*' in the current semester?

- A41 Yes, a deserving student may be awarded 'A*' if deemed appropriate by the instructor.
- Q42 Will the re-examination for grade improvement be held for all the courses offered in the current semester?
- A42 The re-examination for grade improvement will be conducted only for those courses that use exams as a mode of assessment (See also Q5).
- Q43 Will there be a SRS (Student Reaction Survey) for the courses offered in the current semester?
- A43 No, there will be no SRS for the courses offered in the current semester.

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