

Senate Resolution

Final Assessment/Examinations of the Fall 2020 Semester and Delivery of the Spring 2021 Semester in view of COVID-19 Pandemic 29th of October 2020

The Senate during its 115th meeting held on the 29th of October 2020 at 14.00, having considered:

- 1. the Directive "Instructions for the operation of Institutes of Higher Education with physical presence of students, academic, administrative and other staff" of the Ministry of Health, sent by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth on the 28th of August 2020,
- 2. the Cyprus Quality Assurance and Accreditation for Higher Education Agency's (DIPAE) framework for the delivery of the Fall 2020 semester, as outlined in DIPAE's website announcement, dated 13th of May 2020, https://www.dipae.ac.cy/index.php/el/nea-ekdiloseis/anakoinoseis-el/527-13-05-2020-leitourgia-idrymaton-xeimerino-examino-20-21,
- 3. the current rapidly deteriorating COVID-19 pandemic in Cyprus and abroad, has unanimously decided the following:

A. Fall 2020 Semester - Final Assessment/Examinations

- i. **Online and Hybrid/Blended learning courses**: Alternative methods of assessment/examinations (as per Appendix A) should be used. Exceptionally only and subject to the approval of the Dean of the School which the course belongs to and the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, face-to-face invigilated final assessment/examinations should be used for Hybrid/Blended Learning courses only.
- ii. **Face-to-Face (F2F) Courses:** Where absolutely required, synchronous face-to-face invigilated final assessment/examinations should be used, otherwise alternative methods of assessment/examinations (as per Appendix A) could be used.

B. Spring 2021 Semester

a. Method of Delivery

The delivery method of the courses will be as follows:

- i. Lab Courses Face-to-Face (F2F) with Normal Teaching Hours for both faculty members and students. Depending on the nature of the course and as decided by the course leader/programme co-ordinator/Head of Department/Dean of School, livestreaming will be available for students who belong to vulnerable groups or they cannot return to Cyprus or for any other serious reason they cannot attend F2F.
- ii. Non-Lab Courses **Online** with Normal Teaching Hours for both faculty members and students.
- iii. Hybrid/Blended Learning Courses **Online including some Face-to-Face (F2F)** with Normal Teaching Hours for both faculty members and students. Depending on the nature of the course and as decided by the course leader/programme co-ordinator/Head of Department/Dean of School, livestreaming will be available for the F2F component for students who belong to vulnerable groups or they cannot return to Cyprus or for any other serious reason they cannot attend F2F.

b. In-course Assessment

In-course continuous assessment methods include amongst others, synchronous delivered midterm examinations/assessment, open book examinations and problem-solving exercises with scenarios and application problems, projects, assignments, portfolios, quizzes, etc..

- i. No physically invigilated midterm assessment/written examination should take place for courses that are not taught entirely face-to-face (F2F).
- ii. Alternative methods to synchronous midterm examinations/assessment can be used.
- iii. Synchronous midterm examinations/assessment can be delivered using Proctorio software or Oral assessment.

The above will be reviewed if needed, during the Spring 2021 Semester, based on any developments.

c. Final Assessment/Examinations

The method(s) of final assessment/examination will be decided at a later stage.

d. Provisions for Students

- a. New and returning students will be provided with training on the Online tools that will be used during the semester.
- b. New and returning students will be provided with training with regards the health and safety measures pertaining to the physical presence on-campus and the logistics with regards on-campus teaching and learning.
- c. Student Advising Hours will be conducted with alternative methods to face-to-face meetings.

e. Provision for Faculty Members

The Senate considers that faculty must be provided with the necessary equipment to teach online, such as laptops and other devices to perform the tasks of teaching. Budget requests in addition to those already submitted by the Schools, will be submitted by the Schools.

f. Exceptions

Any exceptions can be granted with the agreement of the Dean of School in consultation, if needed, with the Rectorate.

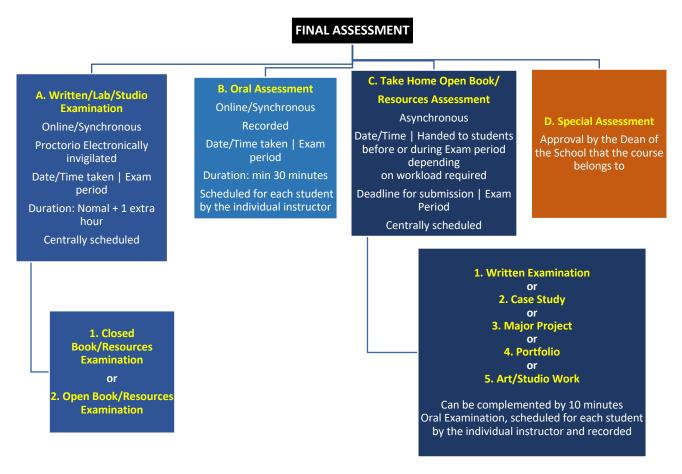
Professor Philippos Pouyioutas Rector

Signature:



Date: Thursday 29th October, 2020.

Appendix A Alternative Final Assessment/Examinations for the Fall 2020 Semester



Notes

- 1. A face-to-face programme which is offered also in DL mode should employ the same assessment method as the DL one.
- 2. The **rest of the face-to-face programmes** should employ any of the above methods depending on the subject area and following discussions within the School and Department.
- 3. The methods of assessment for **the joint programmes** should be decided by each Programme Coordinating Committee.