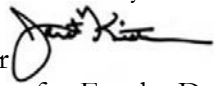




FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Faculty and All Instructors

From: Janet Kistner 
Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement

Date: 2020-2021 Academic Year

Subject: Important Policies and Modifications for Fall 2020

As the new academic year begins, I want to direct your attention to several important academic and general policies and procedures that govern your teaching, research, and service activities. In concert with the Faculty Senate, Florida State University has temporarily modified a range of academic policies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Modifications for Fall Semester 2020 determined as of this date are included in this memo; please monitor the University Communications and Faculty Development and Advancement sites for important updates to this evolving situation. See: <https://news.fsu.edu/tag/coronavirus/> and <https://fda.fsu.edu/teaching-during-covid>.

These temporary changes to University policies and procedures are needed to support both student and faculty success during this challenging time. Continuity of instruction was especially important to our planning, considering the increased potential for either student or faculty absence from class. Thank you for educating yourself about the policies and the temporary modifications described in this memo and directing any questions to the appropriate office.

The following websites contain additional important information:

- Office of Faculty Development and Advancement (<http://fda.fsu.edu/>)
- *Faculty Handbook* (<http://facultyhandbook.fsu.edu>)
- *Florida State University General Bulletin 2020-2021 and Graduate Bulletin 2020-2021* (pdf version to download or view in your browser) (<http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/>)
- FSU Policies (<http://www.policies.fsu.edu>)
- Office of Research (<http://www.research.fsu.edu/>)
- *The FSU Board of Trustees - Florida State University and The United Faculty of Florida Collective Bargaining Agreement* (https://hr.fsu.edu/?page=faculty_relations/faculty_relations_home)
- FSU Academic Calendar (<http://registrar.fsu.edu/calendar/>)
- Faculty Portal (single point of access for computer applications) <https://my.fsu.edu>
- Help Navigating Student Information System (<http://sc.my.fsu.edu/faculty/how>)

Special Notes

All Fall 2020 instructors will be required to utilize Canvas for specific course purposes. See Teaching Policies #1 on p. 4 for details.

Note that all final exams will be given and proctored remotely during the regularly-scheduled Final Exam Week in Fall 2020. Students will not be invited back to campus after Thanksgiving break.

In academic year 2020-2021, all student course evaluations will be administered online.

The Grade Appeals System has been revised by the Faculty Senate. Please see Teaching Policies Item #12 .

Guidelines for instructors to ensure social distancing and reduce virus transmission in the classroom are available at: <https://fda.fsu.edu/teaching-during-covid>.

General University Policies

1. Outside Employment/Conflict of Interest
([http://fda.fsu.edu/Faculty- Employment/Appointments](http://fda.fsu.edu/Faculty-Employment/Appointments))
 - “Outside activity” is defined as private practice, private consulting, additional teaching or research, or other professional activity, compensated or uncompensated, which is not part of the faculty member’s assigned duties and for which the University has provided no compensation.
 - “Conflict of interest” is defined as any conflict between the private interests of the faculty member and the public interests of the University, or the State of Florida, including conflicts of interest specified under Florida Statutes, or any activity that interferes with the full performance of the faculty member’s professional or institutional responsibilities or obligations. Conflicts of interest, including those arising from University or outside activities, are prohibited.

Florida State University encourages faculty and staff members to undertake outside activities that will increase the employee’s professional reputation and service to the community, subject to certain conditions. If an outside activity is undertaken, the faculty/staff member must take reasonable precautions to ensure that the outside employer or other recipient of services understands that they are engaging in such outside activity as a private citizen and not as an employee, agent, or spokesperson of the University. A faculty member must not engage in any outside activity that creates a conflict of interest or interferes with the full performance of their academic responsibilities in the classroom or in other assigned responsibilities.

At the beginning of each academic year, faculty members shall review Article 19.4, FSU BOT-UFF Collective Bargaining Agreement, and determine whether they are required to report a new outside activity. Not filing a report of outside activity indicates that the faculty member has no conflict of interest or compensated outside activity. Faculty members who plan to engage in outside activity must complete and submit the *Florida State University Faculty Outside Activity Statement* form (FSU Form FOA 802) for approval by the chair/supervisor and dean/director/vice president each year and before any new outside activity begins. The dean/director must submit the forms to the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement after all necessary approvals have been received.

Department chairs and deans will be notified annually to collect these forms from faculty members, and both forms are available on the FDA website year-round (<http://fda.fsu.edu/>).

2. Dual Compensation (<http://fda.fsu.edu/Faculty-Employment/Appointments/Dual-Compensation>)

Dual compensation is defined as compensation from the University for any duties (including work activities previously designated as overload) in excess of a full appointment (1.0 FTE). Dual compensation appointments within the University shall be offered equitably and as appropriate to qualified faculty members in sufficient time to allow voluntary acceptance or rejection. Such employment must meet all of the following conditions:

- Duties and responsibilities of an overload appointment shall be compensated through OPS, not Salary.
- No faculty member shall be required to accept a dual compensation appointment. Dual compensation appointments shall be offered to qualified faculty members before anyone who is not a faculty member.
- Approval by the Dean or Director of both the primary and secondary employing unit is required. Approval must be requested and granted prior to the dual compensation appointment and/or the performance of any work with the secondary employer;
- Does not interfere with the regular work of the faculty member for the primary department;
- Does not result in any conflict of interest between the two activities.

The following circumstances do not qualify as a dual compensation:

- When there is no other active appointment during the period of the dual-compensation appointment.
- Additional duties assigned in the same department. These may be handled through a temporary salary increase. (See Additional/One-Time Pay Form.)
- A one-time pay when no other new appointment is needed.

This procedure shall not be used to avoid the payment of over-time as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act. Also note that requests for dual compensation that bring a faculty member's total FTE above 1.25 require additional justification. Requests for overloads that require excessive time commitments will not be approved.

3. Sex Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy

(<https://regulations.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu486/files/policies/president/FSU%20Policy%202-2.pdf>) The University's comprehensive *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy* (see FSU Policy 2-2) at <http://policies.fsu.edu> is based on the idea that all forms of sex and/or gender-based discrimination and sexual misconduct violate the University's values and moral standards, which recognize the dignity and worth of each person. The Policy defines sexual harassment and misconduct; informs members of the community regarding expected standards of conduct; differentiates between "Responsible Employees" (including faculty members), who must report alleged violations, and "Confidential University Representatives," who can discuss related concerns with students on a confidential basis; describes reporting and investigatory mechanisms to resolve alleged violations of the Policy; provides information about rights for complainants and respondents; and outlines resources for those affected by sexual harassment and misconduct.

The University's Title IX Statement (see <http://titleix.fsu.edu/>) serves as a quick-reference to important information and resources contained in the *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy*.

4. Alcohol and other Illicit Drug Policy

(https://healthycampus.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu1016/files/FSUAlcoholPolicy_Updated_11-7-2016.pdf)

(<https://regulations.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/imported/storage/original/application/28a5fd5ff4a343f6892e274231df858c.pdf>)

The provisions in the two sites identified above constitute the alcohol and illicit drug policy of Florida State University. The policy (see FSU Alcohol Policy, Regulation 6.012) delineates where and under what circumstances alcohol is permitted on campus. Please note that specific approval from the appropriate administrative designee is required to serve alcohol in areas that are not designated for special events by the University.

For faculty events, the designee is the Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement; for student groups, the designee is the Vice President for Student Affairs; and for all other groups, the designee is the University Relations Office.

The policy also includes a clear statement of the standards of conduct that prohibit unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on Florida State University's property as part of its activities; a description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol; a description of the legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law; a description of applicable counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation/re-entry programs; and a clear statement of the disciplinary sanctions the institution will impose on students and employees.

5. Faculty Member Seeking Advanced Degree at Florida State University

No tenure-track faculty member above the rank of instructor is permitted to work toward an advanced degree at the University. This policy applies to the ranks of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor. Exceptions are made when the faculty member already holds a terminal degree in their field and wants to pursue another Ph.D. in a different field or pursue a less advanced degree than the degree the faculty member holds (e.g., a faculty member holding a Ph.D. may pursue a Master's).

6. Faculty Absences

A faculty member who is absent because of illness or for other legitimate reasons should notify the department chair/director or academic dean as soon as possible in order to make arrangements for the meeting of classes and the performance of other scheduled activities. Sick leave should be taken for any illness-related absence.

Teaching Policies

1. Required Minimal Canvas Usage

All Fall 2020 instructors teaching through any means (face-to-face, online, remotely, hybrid) are required to use the Canvas learning management system for the following purposes: Distributing and storing the course syllabus along with any syllabus updates, housing all available recordings of course activities, and maintaining student grades for student viewing (instructors may use Canvas or manually enter final grades via the grade submission tool in my.fsu.edu). The only exceptions are courses set up as individual academic experiences such as directed independent study (DIS),

supervised research, supervised teaching, preliminary examinations, and thesis or dissertation credits. Please note that individual departments, schools, and colleges may require that other features of Canvas must be used.

Instructors are also strongly encouraged to use Canvas for posting announcements, using the calendar for informing students of deadlines for submitting work, providing access to all course materials, and scheduling Zoom meetings. This ensures that students who are geographically dispersed and taking courses asynchronously have access to course content and provides an extra layer of security for Zoom sessions. Doing so will also allow for uniformity across students' course loads and facilitate the process of making up of course work missed because of illness, periods of self-isolation, and other excused absences. Using the FSU Emergency Module in Canvas can make course delivery more resilient in emergencies of all kinds. Contact the [Office of Distance Learning](#) Canvas Support Center (<https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/home/>) for technical assistance or training on the use of Canvas.

2. Course Syllabus (<http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources>)

University and Faculty Senate policy requires that a course syllabus be made available to each student at the beginning of the semester that includes the following items. In the fall 2020 semester, the syllabus for each course must be made available on Canvas. This will ensure that all students have access to the course syllabus (and any updates to it), including those who are geographically dispersed, are taking a course asynchronously, or need to be quarantined at some point during the semester. (See: [How do I add a syllabus to my site](#) for instructions.) Once the course has begun, instructors should not make changes to the syllabus that will substantially affect the implementation of the instructor's grading (evaluation) statement. Such changes could lead to grade appeals by students. Items to be included:

- written Student Learning Outcomes;
- an evaluation (grading) statement that indicates what procedures will be used to evaluate students and should make it possible to discern the approximate weight of each grade component;
- an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) statement (sample statement at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language>);
- a statement regarding academic integrity (see language required by Faculty Senate at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language>) and the Academic Honor Policy at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy> in Appendix A of the *Faculty Handbook*); and
- the class attendance policy, if applicable (see language required by Faculty Senate at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language> and Teaching Policies Item #3). Note that religious holy day observance requests must be accommodated in accordance with the Religious Holy Days (See Teaching Policies Items #4 and 15 below for special notes regarding Fall 2020.)
- It is recommended that instructors include a statement of their policy and/or expectations regarding classroom conduct and missed work.
- It is recommended that instructors include a statement regarding the availability of tutoring on campus (sample at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language>).
- During Fall 2020, instructors should include information regarding whether HonorLock will be used for remote proctoring of examinations.

- The University Curriculum Committee recommends that the statement regarding safety requirements found at: <https://fda.fsu.edu/teaching-during-covid> be added to each syllabus for a face-to-face class in Fall 2020.

3. First-Day Non-Attendance Policy

University-wide policy requires all students to attend the first class meeting of all classes for which they are registered. Students who do not attend the first class meeting of a course for which they are registered will be dropped from the course by the academic department that offers the course. In order to enforce this policy, instructors are required to take attendance during the first class meeting and either record attendance using the first-day attendance tool or report absences to the appropriate person in their department/school or college. For further information, consult the *FSU General Bulletin* at: <http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/>. Please note that some colleges and special programs have more stringent requirements for class attendance. First-day attendance should be taken with the Attendance Roster Tool on the myfsu portal (under Teaching). Instructions are found here: <https://sc.my.fsu.edu/faculty/how/use-attendance-roster-tool>.

In addition, all instructors are strongly encouraged to incorporate an assignment that requires students to verify their home address in Campus Solutions, to ensure that it correctly reflects the physical address where they will live during the Fall semester. Having this information as current as possible will aid in the event contact-tracing outreach is needed. This activity could be incorporated as part of the attendance verification activity or in conjunction with the use of one or more of the emergency management modules in Canvas.

4. Class Attendance

Florida State University's priority is to help keep the campus as safe as possible during the current pandemic. Thus, students will be encouraged by University Health Services and other medical providers to remain home if they are feeling ill. Further, we realize that it may not be feasible for students to obtain documentation for missing class (i.e., it may be necessary to limit visits to the University Health & Wellness Center to meet other health care needs). Because of these unusual circumstances, and in the interest of protecting the health of students, faculty and staff, we ask that faculty not penalize students for absences due to illness for which they cannot provide documentation of medical treatment. During this time, instructors are also strongly encouraged to modify attendance policies in ways that eliminate dependence on documentation of medical treatment. For instance, class participation can be emphasized without attaching points to class attendance. Regardless of whether an absence is excused or unexcused, the student is responsible for making up all work that is missed. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee has issued a set of guidelines for modifying procedures related to absence documentation for Fall 2020 that are available at: <https://fda.fsu.edu/teaching-during-covid>.

Each instructor decides what effect unexcused absences will have on grades and will explain class attendance and grading policies in writing at the beginning of each semester. Instructors must accommodate absences due to illness, deaths in the family and other crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities and must do so in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse (See Teaching Policies Item #15 for more information about religious holy days). This means that students with valid excuses must be given the opportunity to make up all work missed and earn the corresponding grade, and that students are responsible for making up all work that is missed. Official University activities include official events at which the student is representing the University, such as athletic competitions and academic activities sponsored by a student's academic department or college.

Registered Student Organization (RSO) and Greek Life activities are not considered official university activities. The current list of Registered Student Organizations can be found at: <https://nolecentral.dsa.fsu.edu/organizations>. Consideration should also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. All students are expected to abide by each instructor's class attendance policy. Students must also provide advance notice of absences (when possible) as well as relevant documentation regarding absences to the instructor as soon as possible following the illness or event that led to an absence.

5. Student Enrollment

Unless a student is approved through official channels to audit a course (see "Auditor Seating Privileges" in General Bulletin at <http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/>), all students must be registered in order to attend classes. Instructors should ensure that all students in their courses are registered properly to attend class and to access university resources such as Canvas.

6. Instructor-Authored Textbooks

When a textbook (written by the instructor of the course, by a relative of the instructor, or by a team of authors that includes the instructor) is required for a course and the author/instructor anticipates receiving textbook royalties of more than \$500 in one year from students enrolled in their course, it is considered a conflict of interest (Section 112.313, Florida Statutes). The author/instructor must request permission (to use their textbook under these circumstances) from the President in writing, through the Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, prior to the use of the textbook.

The request must include:

- A statement that royalties from required textbook purchased by students in the course at FSU are anticipated to exceed \$500 in one year;
- An estimate of how many students per year will enroll in the course where the textbook is required; and
- Justification of the unique suitability of the textbook for use in the course.

If the expected annual royalty income is \$500 or less, no request is required.

7. Ordering Textbooks and Other Required Course Materials

The Board of Governors interpretation of the 2008 legislative HB 603 (2008-78 Laws of Florida) regarding textbook affordability and notification requires state universities to:

- Post on their websites a list of textbooks required for each course not less than 30 days prior to the first day of class for each term; and
- Include as part of the list the titles, all authors listed, publishers, edition numbers, copyright dates, published dates, and other information necessary to identify the specific textbooks required for the course.

Florida State University is committed to improving education access and affordability through innovative approaches intended to reduce textbook and instructive material costs for students. For more information, see Regulation FSU-5.098, Textbook Adoption and Affordability (<https://regulations.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu486/files/regulations/adopted/FSU-Chapter-5-20180319.pdf>).

8. Americans with Disabilities Act and the Office of Accessibility Services

Each faculty member and teaching assistant has the responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Office of Accessibility Services provides letters authorizing specific accommodations for individual students; secure, reduced-distraction testing sites; and other services to students as well as consultation to instructors. Information on ADA requirements may be found at <https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>. See sample ADA statement at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language> that must be included in each course syllabus.

9. Academic Honor Policy (<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>)

The University has an Academic Honor Policy that calls for the coordinated efforts of faculty members and students to uphold academic integrity and combat academic dishonesty. The motto of the Honor Policy Committee is “Embrace Responsible Freedom...Learn with Integrity.” A copy of the policy that includes all procedures and necessary forms can be found on the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement website at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>.

Faculty members should remind students at the beginning of the term that they are bound by the Academic Honor Policy in all of their academic work. Also, faculty members must include a statement in each course syllabus referring students to the Academic Honor Policy and defining their expectations about two specific areas of the policy: whether group work and multiple submissions are permitted.

The Academic Honor Policy applies to all Distance Learning, International, and other off-campus programs. See sample Academic Honor Policy statement at <http://facsenate.fsu.edu/Curriculum-Resources/Syllabus-Language> that must be included in each course syllabus.

10. Posting of Student Grades

To protect private student data and ensure compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), instructors must use a FERPA-compliant tool for which the university has a contract. Fall 2020 instructors are required to use the learning management system, Canvas, for posting student grades on coursework (e.g., assignments, exams, quizzes, etc.) for student viewing. Because of the risk of identity theft, grades must never be posted through any other means unless reviewed by the Registrar’s Office and approved as FERPA-compliant. Final grades may be submitted via Canvas or entered manually via the grade submission tool in my.fsu.edu. Contact the [Office of Distance Learning](#) if you need [technical assistance](#) or [training](#) on the [use of Canvas for grades](#) or if you wish to request approval to use some other FERPA-compliant reporting tool for which FSU has a contract.

11. Incomplete Grade Policy:

(https://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/undergraduate/information/academic_regulations/)

“Incomplete” (“I”) grades should be recorded only in exceptional cases when a student, who has completed a substantial portion of the course and who is otherwise passing, is unable to complete a well-defined portion of a course for reasons beyond their control. “Incompletes” should not be granted in order to allow students to do extra coursework in an effort to increase their grades.

Even when a student can document exceptional circumstances, the authority for determining whether to grant an “Incomplete” rests solely with the instructor, or a Graduate Teaching Assistant’s faculty supervisor. (One exception to this guideline occurs when an “Incomplete” is

applied as a result of allegations of academic dishonesty that have not been resolved by the end of a semester.)

Instructors must assign both a timeframe for resolution and a default grade when granting an “Incomplete.” For more information, please consult the Undergraduate or Graduate Bulletin (https://registrar.fsu.edu/records/grade_services/).

12. Grade Appeals System (<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academic-Resources/Academic-Integrity-and-Grievances/Grade-Appeals-System>)

The purpose of the grade appeals system is to afford an opportunity for an undergraduate or graduate student to appeal a final course grade under certain circumstances. Faculty judgment of students’ academic performance is inherent in the grading process and hence should not be overturned except when the student can show that the grade awarded represents a gross violation of the instructor’s own specified evaluation (grading) statement and therefore was awarded in an arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory manner. The evaluation (grading) statement utilized during the grade appeals process is the one contained in the instructor’s syllabus at the beginning of the semester. This system does not apply to preliminary or comprehensive exams or to thesis or dissertation defenses; when necessary, these issues are reviewed by the Student Academic Relations Committee via the Office of the Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement.

The entire policy, which was revised in 2020 to exclude between-semester breaks from timelines and to update and clarify procedures, is found in the *Academic Regulations and Procedures* section of the *Florida State University General Bulletin* (http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/undergraduate/information/academic_regulations/) and on the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement website (<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academic-Resources/Academic-Integrity-and-Grievances/Grade-Appeals-System>).

13. Undergraduate Final Examinations
Florida State University General Bulletin and *Exam Schedule*
(<http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/>)
(<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academic-Resources/Academic-Policies>)

The Undergraduate Final Examination Policy provides:

- Final examinations in undergraduate courses are discretionary within any given department. If a department chooses to give a final exam, the exam schedule must be followed as published. All students, including graduating seniors and graduate students enrolled in an undergraduate course having a final examination, are required to take the examination.
- Unless an exam is given during the final examination period, no test may be given during the last week of classes.
- Examinations for courses being delivered remotely may be offered outside of the scheduled class time, provided they fall within the final examination period and do not conflict with other scheduled exams. For example, a course meeting at 10:00 am on Tuesday may offer an exam that is delivered asynchronously and can be accessed during the full day (or over the course of multiple days during the final exam week).

- The scheduling of a face-to-face or synchronous remote final examination at any time other than the regularly scheduled final examination period is prohibited by University policy. The final exam schedule is found in the Registration Guide located at <http://registrar.fsu.edu/>.

Classes meeting every day at the same hour and classes meeting for more than one time period will hold examinations according to the time and day of the first scheduled class meeting of the week. For example, a class meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday and at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday will hold its examination at the exam time scheduled for Tuesday 8:00 a.m. classes.

Note that all final exams will be given remotely during the regularly-scheduled Final Exam Week in Fall 2020. In the absence of a physical testing location, faculty are strongly encouraged to explore [alternate assessment strategies](#). If it is determined that proctoring is necessary for the final examination, the remote-proctoring system [HonorLock](#) should be used. Information regarding alternate assessment strategies and online proctoring are available on the ODL website (<https://odl.fsu.edu/assessment-testing/proctored-testing>).

Exceptions to the Examination Policy for an Individual Undergraduate Student:

Approval by the academic dean of the college in which the course is taught is required for any change in examination time for an individual undergraduate student. The student must first receive written permission from the instructor, if the instructor is willing to give a make-up examination at a specified time within the exam week. The student must then petition the dean of the instructor's college, giving the reason for the requested exception, and including the instructor's written permission. The dean will then notify the instructor in writing if approval is granted. Make-up examinations are permitted for an undergraduate student when justified by illness, conflicting examinations, three or more examinations in a 24-hour period, or for certain emergencies. Arrangements must be made prior to the scheduled exam (except in cases in which prior notification is impossible).

In case of conflicting examinations, group examinations take precedence over examinations scheduled by class meeting time and higher-enrollment classes take precedence over lower-enrollment classes. In the case of conflicts that cannot otherwise be resolved, the course meeting earlier (by day or time) takes precedence over a course meeting later.

It is the student's responsibility to identify such conflicts as early as possible and to notify all instructors in advance so that accommodations may be made.

Exceptions to the Examination Policy for an Entire Undergraduate Class:

No instructor of an undergraduate course may give a final examination during the separate examination period at a time other than that which appears online at <http://registrar.fsu.edu/>, unless the instructor has obtained prior approval from the Undergraduate Policy Committee. This approval must be requested via email to Dr. Eric Chicken (echicken@stat.fsu.edu), Chair of the Undergraduate Policy Committee at least three (3) weeks prior to the scheduled final examination. To re-schedule a final examination without prior approval places the instructor in jeopardy of administrative reprimand by their dean and the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Graduate Final Exams

If a final exam is given in a graduate course, the exam should be scheduled during the established final exam schedule unless clear arrangements are made with the students and the Registrar's Office.

Examination Papers

University policy requires that examination papers of students be kept in the faculty member's files for one year after the examination is given. Faculty members leaving the University before the completion of the year must leave the examination papers in the departmental files.

14. Course Evaluations

The student survey (Student Perception of Courses and Instructors or SPCI) is one among several components of teaching evaluation. Faculty Senate policy requires that all instructors (faculty, adjuncts, and graduate assistants) administer official course evaluations in all graduate courses with enrollments of five or more students, and in all undergraduate courses with ten or more students during the academic year (fall and spring semesters). In courses with lower enrollments than those designated, administration of official course evaluations is not recommended due to concerns over the anonymity and representativeness of responses. In academic year 2020-2021, all student course evaluations will be administered online. In addition, instructors may not administer official course evaluations during final exam week.

Due to the continuing impact of COVID-19, all official student course evaluation data for Fall 2020 (and possibly Spring 2021) will be excluded from the public reporting portal. Instructors who have questions about a course taught during this period should e-mail testing@fsu.edu. The course number, section number, and instructor name should be included in the request. More information about course evaluations, including access to the ordering and reporting system, policies and procedures, and samples of these forms, is available at <https://odl.fsu.edu/evaluations>.

15. Religious Holy Days (<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academic-Resources/Academic-Policies>)

The policy is intended to delineate what rights must be granted to students who wish to observe a religious holy day. Because instructors have the authority to set overall attendance policy, they may choose to grant additional flexibility to students. **Instructors should avoid scheduling important academic assessments during holy days typically observed by students.**

- Each student shall, upon notifying their instructor as soon as possible upon receipt of the course syllabus, but no later than two weeks before the religious holy day observance, be excused from class to observe a religious holy day of their faith.
- Two links will be helpful to instructors as they respond to students requesting absences: <https://interfaithcouncil.fsu.edu/> and <http://www.interfaith-calendar.org/>.
- While the student will be held responsible for the material covered in his or her absence, each student shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the work missed.
- Instructors and University administrators shall in no way arbitrarily penalize students who are absent from academic or social activities because of religious holy day observance.

A Florida State University faculty member who wishes to observe a religious holy day shall notify the department chair, school director, or academic dean as soon as possible in order that arrangements may be made for the meeting of classes and the performance of other scheduled activities.

16. Office Hours

Every member of the faculty must post and honor specific office hours each session in which they conduct classes. Instructors should notify students of scheduled office hours. While University policy does not set a minimum number of hours per week, standard practice has established that there be at least one hour per week for a minimum classroom teaching load. Instructors are encouraged to use Zoom to hold office hours for students learning remotely. More information on using Zoom for office hours can be found in the [FSU Canvas Support Center](#).

17. Copyright/Fair Use

There is an educational “fair use” exemption to the copyright law for classroom use of excerpts of copyrighted materials. These excerpts must be brief and are limited to one chapter, an article from a periodical or newspaper, a short story or essay, or a chart, cartoon, diagram, picture or the like. Moreover, the material may only be used for a single class and may not be developed into a permanent classroom document. An exception would be when a copyright release is obtained from the copyright holder. So-called course packs compiled by legitimate commercial print shops usually have been through this copyright release process. Further information concerning copyright and fair use may be found at <http://igs.fsu.edu/> under Copyright Information and <http://guides.lib.fsu.edu/copyright>.

Research Policies

The Office of Research website (<http://www.research.fsu.edu/>) provides information on research compliance policies and procedures as well as current research funding, training, and workshop opportunities that will assist you with your scholarly research and creative activities. Please pay special attention to the policy on Misconduct in Research, Creative Activity and Scholarship (FSU Policy 7A-2 at <http://policies.fsu.edu>).

Conclusion

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement or visit our website at <http://fda.fsu.edu/> for information about a wide range of issues relevant to faculty members and other instructors.