

From: VPACADEMIC

Sent: April 30, 2020 7:01 PM

Subject: Additional information about the Intersession/Summer semester

To all instructors:

Intersession and 12-week Intersession/Summer courses begin on May 19, 2020. Revised dates for Spring/Intersession can be found [here](#). This message provides a few updates about the Intersession/Summer semester.

Grading Policy in Intersession/Summer

As you know, the emergence of COVID-19 in the Winter 2020 semester necessitated changes to instruction and assessment in many classes at the University, aimed at safeguarding the health and safety of the campus community. These changes were made when students had already completed significant proportions of their courses, and past the point when students typically make the decision to continue or not continue with a course. In response to the potential difficulties that students might have experienced because of these unprecedented end-of-semester changes, the University announced Revised Grading Regulations to provide students with more flexibility in deciding how their academic performance is recorded for the Winter 2020 semester.

Intersession/Summer courses are all being offered through non face-to-face methods. When courses begin, students will be able to review the content and evaluation methods as stated in the course outlines and decide whether they want to remain in those courses. **As the teaching and evaluation approaches involved are part of the University's normal teaching practice, the grading system for these courses will be consistent with those practices. This means that students will not have the option of choosing a P/NP or VWC instead of their normal grades for courses in the Intersession/Summer semester.**

Student Self-Report of Illness

Given the potential for ongoing health-related concerns, the University has made the decision to extend the use of the student self-report of illness interface (with the exception of students in the JD and the Dual JD), and to continue to waive the requirement to submit medical notes for the Intersession/Summer semester.

As always, students are entitled to request accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds, such as bereavement or serious mental or physical health circumstances, or unanticipated extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the student (e.g., jury duty, caring for an ill family member, labour disputes, etc.) (Bylaw 54, 2.18 and Bylaw 55, 1.11). Determinations about whether and how to accommodate students who submit requests for consideration based on compassionate grounds will as usual be made by instructors and/or the Associate Dean, in keeping with any standard procedures within specific Faculties and the Senate bylaws.

Student Evaluations of Teaching (SETs)

The University's standard implementation of Student Evaluations of Teaching (SETs) will also be reinstated this semester, in keeping with Senate policy, using the standard online tool that is always used for courses that are offered without face-to-face instruction. Faculty are welcome to contextualize SET score data as part of regular performance review processes.

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