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CENTRE FOR ACADEMIC COURSES
ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI – 600 025



Dr. S. HOSIMIN THILAGAR
DIRECTOR

Letter No.363/AU/CAC/SA-Online/2021

06.02.2021

To
All the Deans
All the Heads of the Departments
CEG / MIT / ACT / SAP Campuses
Anna University, Chennai - 25.

NOTIFICATION

Based on the deliberations, the following decisions were taken

Item 1: Clarification on the Evaluation of NPTEL Courses

Based on the notifications issued by the Director, Centre for Academic Courses, the students were permitted to undergo Online Courses in various platforms like SWAYAM, MOOCs, NPTEL etc. Guidelines were also prescribed by the Centre for evaluation of the Online Courses. Due to the COVID'19 pandemic, it was decided that the students shall write the examinations conducted by the NPTEL and transfer the marks obtained. A Committee shall be constituted by the respective Departments and evaluate the marks and assign the grades.

As per the Regulations, the student should earn a minimum of 50 marks to PASS. As there is a difference in the evaluation, a uniform evaluation pattern has to be prescribed. The matter was deliberated and the following decisions were taken.

- The online course shall be recommended by the Departmental Consultative Committee
- A student may withdraw from an online course before the date of the examination. It will not be considered as an attempt
- If a student fails in the course as evaluated by the NPTEL offering the course, the student shall be considered as FAIL
- If a student pass the course as evaluated by the NPTEL offering the course, the absolute grading system shall be followed and the grades shall be decided as follows.

Letter Grade	Marks
O	88 – 100
A+	76 – 87
A	64 – 75
B+	52 – 63
B	40 – 51

Item 2: Clarification of Shortage of Attendance related issues for Audit Courses and Certain other type of Courses.

Clarification was sought regarding how to consider Shortage of Attendance in Audit Courses.

As per the AICTE guidelines, the Regulations and Curriculum 2019 of UG and PG Programmes have audit courses. Registration for the Audit Courses is optional and there is no evaluation process. There are also no credits. However, the minimum attendance as per Regulations shall be satisfied.

As per Regulation 2019 Clause 14.2.1 dealing with Classification of First Class with Distinction, a student *"Should not have been prevented from writing end semester examination due to lack of attendance in any of the courses"*.

Considering that registration in Audit Courses is optional and there is no evaluation or credits, it was decided not to consider Audit courses for classification even if a candidate secures shortage of attendance.

For courses like Seminar / Internship / Comprehension where end semester examinations are not there, but which have evaluation process and credits are part of the curriculum, the committee has deliberated and decided that if a student does not earn minimum attendance then the same shall be considered for classification.

Further, the committee also decided that when a student opts for additional professional or open elective courses over and above the requirement of curriculum and secures shortage of attendance, then the same shall not be considered for classification.

It was therefore decided to amend the Regulations 2019 as below

- *"Should not have been prevented due to lack of attendance from credited courses of the Curriculum making up the total credit requirement"*.

The amendment shall be placed in the ensuing Academic Council for approval.

Item 3: Discussion on the Modalities of MCA Degree programme offered in the Academic Year 2020 – 2021.

Further to the decisions taken in the Chairperson's Meeting held on 12.01.2021 and suggestions made in the Chairperson's Meeting, a Special Board of Studies of Information and Communication Engineering was conducted on 19.01.2021 with respect to the two year MCA Degree Programme started in the academic year 2020-2021.

The Chairpersons' committee deliberated and decided to adopt the decisions taken by the BOS as follows.

1. For students from other backgrounds of study (other than CS, IT, CA or equivalent), all the prescribed bridge courses are mandatory.
2. For students from other than the CS/IT/CA backgrounds, the bridge courses are to be conducted in parallel (during weekends or evenings at convenience) with the

regular courses prescribed in the curriculum for the two year MCA programme, **as a onetime measure (For the students admitted in the year 2020 only)**. The evaluation of the student performance in the bridge courses has to be done **internally** by the respective institute/college, **as a onetime measure**.

3. The Institute/college has the complete responsibility of conducting the bridge courses in a just manner. In addition, for candidates who had already studied a few courses similar/equivalent to that of the bridge courses in their undergraduate programme, then those courses may be exempted.
4. Among the set of bridge courses, the courses relevant to the Semester I curriculum of the two year MCA programme have to be offered and classes for the same shall be held in the first semester. From the remaining bridge courses, the courses relevant to the Semester II of the MCA programme, shall be offered in the semester break. The left out bridge courses shall be offered in parallel with the regular courses.
5. However due to the complexity of the given situation and paucity of time, it is recommended that, the regular students (those without the need for bridge courses) may be given a short break in the conduct of classes (**for this semester only**), as per the academic calendar, so as to accommodate and facilitate the students with bridge course requirements, to keep up pace with the regular students, as a **onetime measure for this semester only**.
6. It is also recommended that, for the students with bridge course requirements, the classes for the portions missed out in the regular courses shall be held during this break.
7. Maximum period of study for the students with bridge course requirements shall be **4 years** similar to that prescribed for regular MCA students.

The members approved the decisions taken by the Board of Studies. These recommendations shall be placed in the ensuing Academic Council for approval.

Item 4: Increase in the percentage of online courses in University Departments corresponding amendments

As per Clause 4.9 of Undergraduate Programmes of Regulations 2015 and 2019 of University Departments, students can credit only one Online Course during the entire duration of their course. However, in this current pandemic situation and as per UGC/ AICTE guidelines, it had been decided to adopt online/ blended learning using various teaching platforms like NPTEL, SWAYAM, MOOC's etc., upto 25% courses as a **onetime measure** during the Aug-Nov 2020 academic semester. However, as the pandemic is continuing, the following decisions have been taken after detailed deliberations.

- a. Students may be permitted to undergo upto 25% Courses through SWAYAM/MOOC/NPTEL during the academic session December 2020 – May 2021 in the Curriculum of Even Semester of all UG programmes (ONE OR TWO THEORY COURSES) except for final Semester. The students of the final semester, shall be permitted to undergo ONE ONLINE COURSE in their Final Semester Curriculum.
- b. All processes and modalities for the Online Courses will be as per Regulations.

Considering the further long term implications of the pandemic, the Regulations 2015 and 2019 shall be amended to increase the overall percentage of Online Courses.

This decision is taken with the approval of the competent authority.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


06.02.2021
DIRECTOR

Copy to:

1. PS to Vice Chancellor
2. PA to Registrar
3. The Chairpersons, Faculty of Civil / Mechanical / Electrical / ICE / Technology / Management Sciences / S&H / Architecture & Planning, AU, Ch – 25.
4. Office of the Controller of Examinations
5. Office of Additional Controller of Examinations (UDs)
6. The Stock File, CAC.