



## Academic update for students

### General Guidance to Students

This is an unusual time – in fact, an extraordinarily unusual time – not just for UNB, but for all other Universities, and all other sectors of society. Responding effectively as a University requires us to be creative and flexible in constructive ways and in all aspects of our mission as we continue to prioritize student success while ensuring the health and safety of all. As we act swiftly but also carefully to implement appropriate modifications to course delivery and assessment for the remainder of the winter term, everyone involved (instructors, staff and students) is encouraged to be patient, tolerant and understanding of the diverse challenges entailed. Direction has been provided to instructors concerning flexibility in course content, delivery and assessment with the understanding that any such changes should not disadvantage students. The following guidance is provided to students to assist them in navigating their way to successful term completion.

### Academic Dates

- Because of time lost due to University closure, the last date to hold term tests shall now be **Friday, April 3, 2020**. Existing Undergraduate Calendar exceptions still apply, as per Section B. Examinations and Evaluation of Course Work, 5.d).
- You may withdraw without academic penalty up to and including the last date of Winter term, **Thursday, April 9, 2020**. Courses dropped before this time will be shown as “W” on your transcript. If you have already withdrawn from a course and received a “WF”, your transcript notation will be changed to a “W”.
- You will be able to choose whether you are taking a course for a letter grade (A–F) or for credit/no credit (CR/NCR). If you choose to take a class for CR/NCR, you must notify your instructor by **Thursday, April 9, 2020**. Students taking a class for CR/NCR are still expected to complete all course requirements, including the final exam, if applicable. Further, students should be aware of what it means to take a class for CR/NCR:
  - Courses marked as CR (credit):
    - will count towards program requirements,
    - will count as credit hours completed,
    - will count as a pre-requisite,
    - will not be assigned grade points, meaning it will not negatively (or positively) affect a student's GPA.
  - Courses marked as NCR (no credit):
    - will not count towards program requirements,
    - will count as credit hours attempted,
    - will not count as a pre-requisite,
    - will not be assigned grade points, meaning it will not negatively (or positively) affect a student's GPA.

- CR/NCR is not recommended for students considering applying to future programs; for more information about this option, please contact your academic advisor.
- Instructors may grant course extensions to term work upon student request.

### **Syllabus Changes**

- Instructors may choose to revise their course syllabus to facilitate course delivery and completion. This could include changes to or elimination of pending assignments, assessments or final exams, and then a requisite re-weighting of assignments already completed.
- Revisions to course syllabi that involve a re-weighting of assessments must not disadvantage a student. Hence, the effect of re-weighting assignments in a course cannot be that a student is left with a final grade lower than the final grade they would have received were it calculated based on work completed as of **Friday, March 13, 2020**.
- Any revisions to course syllabi must be communicated to students by **Friday, March 27, 2020**.

### **Exams**

- Instructors may choose to cancel an exam or replace a scheduled exam with a take-home exam.
- If instructors chose to proceed with a prescheduled final exam, then the original date and time must be respected as one continuing option for students who had planned to complete the exam during that period.
- Take-home exams will be due by the usual take-home deadline of the last day of the exam period (**Friday, April 24, 2020**).
- Students who are unable to write a final exam may apply to the appropriate campus Registrar for permission to write a deferred exam. Application to defer an exam may be completed by email from your UNB email account, or by completing the "Defer Exam" tab in your e-services.

### **Accommodations**

- Any academic accommodations that have been pre-approved by a Student Accessibility Centre will still be honoured. It is recognized that some accommodations may be adjusted based on alternative delivery formats.
- If you lack reliable Internet access (or face other challenges due to uncontrollable circumstances), you should contact your instructor.