



USC LAW'S REVISED ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE CHANGES IN ACADEMIC CALENDAR
DUE TO COVID19 PANDEMIC

Recognizing the fluidity of the situation brought about by the Covid19 pandemic, and acting on the May 14 advisory issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases or IATF, this *Revised Action Plan* is issued to recalibrate and supplement the Action Plan dated April 18, 2020.

I. Academic Calendar for the remainder of AY 2019-2020

Inasmuch as face-to-face or in- campus instruction may not be had prior to September 1, 2020, USC Law is revising its schedule and mode of ending the second semester of AY 2019-2020.

Hence, *all courses will be ended fully and completely online*. There will be no more in-campus classes for the second semester of AY 2019-2020. Thus:

- 1.1. Bar courses listed in Appendix 1 of the April 18 Action Plan will be completed online. Appendix 1 is reproduced in this Advisory for ready reference. To compensate for the intended but foregone in-campus classes, the end of the semester for these courses are hereby extended to not later than July 18, 2020. The deadline for the submission of grades for these courses is set on July 28, 2020.
- 1.2. Non-bar courses and courses not listed in Appendix 1 of the April 18 Action Plan, having been delivered completely online, will end on May 23, 2020. The deadline for the submission of grades for these courses will be on June 6, 2020.
- 1.3. All thesis proposal hearings shall be done online with the Thesis Defense Committee of USC Law.
- 1.4. USC Law foregoes with summer term for this academic year.
- 1.5. Separate announcement will be made on the date of graduation of the graduating students of Batch 2020. Note needs to be taken that the Supreme Court is yet to issue an advisory on the schedule of the bar examinations.

II. Grades in All Law Courses

The policy on grading for this second semester of AY 2019-2020 remains. The policy, as announced in the April 18 Action Plan is reproduced herein for ready reference:

- 2.1. Academic freedom mandates that the matter of grades be left to the discretion of the faculty members concerned, hewed in by the consensus arrived at by the teachers in the faculty meetings conducted by the College.



As agreed, numerical grades are to be given to students taking into account their class standing and course performance prior to ECQ, their performance in online assessment activities and their marks in the comprehensive exams to be conducted by the teachers concerned.

Taking into consideration, however, the unprecedented crisis faced by all of us, students who were not able to comply with course requirements will be given a grade of INC and will be permitted to complete the requirements when normal classes resume.

Further, USC Law adopts the “no outright failure” policy for this second semester only. As used in this Action Plan, this policy shall mean no failing mark will outrightly be entered in the student record. Instead, an INC mark will be given, with Expanded Learning Opportunities given to the student to comply with the requirements within one academic year before a final numerical grade is entered.

Furthermore, all grades received this second semester are provisional. Hence, a student receiving a passing numerical grade may opt to improve such passing mark. The student will communicate such intention to improve his or her passing mark within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the grade in ISMIS. He or she will then have one academic year to make the improvement, in coordination with the teacher concerned. The latest mark shall prevail.

The policy announced on the holding of tutorial classes and bridging programs is modified to the extent that physical classes may only be held beginning September 1, 2020. A separate advisory will be issued for this purpose at the appropriate time.

III. Summer Apprenticeship Program (SAP) for JD with Thesis Students

SAP will be taken by the students concerned throughout the entire two semesters of AY 2020-2021.

IV. Refund of Fees

The matter of refund of fees for the second semester of AY 2019-2020 is already being addressed by the Office of the Vice President for Finance. Law students will receive corrected and/or adjusted assessments in their ISMIS accounts reflecting the adjustments made.




V. Advance Information re First Semester of AY 2020-2021

USC Law has already envisioned a transition into a *Blended Learning* environment last school year 2018-2019. The plan was to set this project in motion beginning August 2020. The pandemic has accelerated its implementation. Thus:

- 5.1. USC Law will migrate into a *Blended Learning* set-up beginning first semester of AY 2020-2021. A learning management system will be provided to all law students that will enable a mix of online and onsite delivery of instruction. Arrangements are being made to address the concern of availability of internet connection and/or of internet connectivity.
- 5.2. Core processes in the university, e.g., enrolment procedures, are being revised to ensure that the health and safety of USC students, faculty and staff are not compromised. Procedures are being revised to enable online applications. For those in-person transactions, safety protocols will be put in place compliant with government rules and regulations.
- 5.3. USC Law will provide face shields to its students, faculty and staff when classes open.
- 5.4. A separate advisory will be issued addressing the scenarios of our First Semester of AY 2020-2021.

VI. Other contingency plans

IATF acknowledges that the situation is very fluid. Hence, the policy set forth in this advisory may be recalibrated as the need arises. All other provisions of April 18 Action Plan of USC Law not inconsistent with this recent advisory are deemed integrated herein. All memo and advisories issued by the University are likewise deemed reproduced and made part of this issuance.


JOAN S. LARGO
Dean
18 May 2020



APPENDIX 1 Courses

Obligations and Contracts
Constitutional Law II
Criminal Law I
Criminal Law II
Civil Procedure
Credit Transactions
Taxation I
Administrative Law, Law on Public Officers & Election Laws
Evidence
Conflict of Laws
Special Proceedings
Torts and Damages
Corporation Laws
Intellectual Property Laws
Public Corporation
Appellate Law Practice
All Courses in the 4th Year
