



MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Committee of Faculty Council (April 7, 2020)
Faculty Council (April 29, 2020)

From: Professor Daniel Posen
Chair, Committee on Examinations

Date: April 5, 2020

Re: Academic Standing and Promotion Regulations for Winter 2020

REPORT CLASSIFICATION

This is a routine or minor policy matter that will be considered by the Executive Committee for approving by electronic vote and forwarding to Faculty Council for information. By doing so, it is possible to provide clarity to students far sooner than the April 29 Faculty Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 situation has interfered substantially with the Faculty's ability to adequately assess Academic Standing resulting from the Winter 2020 term. In particular: 1) final exams have been replaced with atypical and non-closely supervised final assessments, and 2) students may opt to have their grades reported on the transcript on a CR/NCR basis. Together, these facts make a student's Winter 2020 Session Average an inappropriate metric on which to base Academic Standing.

Relevant regulations (sections VI, VII, and VIII) are available at the following link:
<https://engineering.calendar.utoronto.ca/academic-regulations#six>

STRUCTURE

Below is the proposed plan for undergraduate student Academic Standing and Promotion for Winter 2020 only:

1. Final session:
 - a. The graduation requirement to achieve a final Session Average of 60% (Section VI. Subsection 2) is waived. Instead, a student need only to have successfully obtained the required credits for their program.

- b. Honours standing upon graduation will be awarded as per existing regulations (section VII, subsection 2); note that courses with the grade CR are not factored into cumulative or sessional averages.

2. First year:

- a. To proceed to year 2, first-year Core8 and TrackOne students must successfully retain credit in at least eight 0.5-credit courses and must have attempted all critical courses outlined below (regardless of whether credit was awarded). Attempting a course is defined as completing all term work and final assessments, with the exception of any work waived via the petition process.
- b. Critical courses for Core8 and TrackOne include the math courses for each program (MAT 186/7, MAT188), as well as the following program specific courses:

Program	Critical Course(s) + All Math (MAT186/7, MAT188)
Chemical Engineering	CHE112
Civil & Mineral Engineering	APS110/MSE101 & CIV100
Electrical & Computer Engineering	APS105 & ECE110
Industrial Engineering	APS106 (or APS105)
Mechanical Engineering	APS110/MSE101
Materials Science & Engineering	MSE101

- c. To proceed to year 2, Engineering Science students must successfully retain credit in at least ten 0.5-credit courses.
- d. Students who have more than two outstanding 0.5-credit first-year courses will only be eligible to continue in year 1. In the case of outstanding pre-requisite courses for Core8 and TrackOne students, a modified second-year course plan will be required at the discretion of the home Department and the First Year Office. In the case of outstanding first year courses for Engineering Science students, a modified second-year course plan will be required at the discretion of the Division of Engineering Science.

3. Probation rules, for all years:

- a. There will be no decrease in probation status (e.g., moving from Clear status to Probation) on the basis of Winter 2020 grades.
- b. Consistent with existing promotion regulations (section VIII, subsection 1), a student meeting the required Session Average will have their probation status lifted, provided that they retain numerical grades in four or more non-repeated HCEs (half-course equivalents).

4. Sessional honours, for all years: a student will receive a transcript notation that Honours were awarded for Winter 2020, provided that they retain numerical grades in four or more non-repeated HCEs (half-course equivalents), and have a Session Average of 79.5% or greater. "Extra" (EXT) courses do not count toward the four course minimum.

PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

Aspects of the proposed changes were discussed with the First Year Office, Registrar's office, the Dean, and Chairs & Directors. Various proposals were discussed over the course of several meetings of the Committee on Examinations.

The final proposal was approved by majority vote of the 2019-2020 sitting of the Committee on Examinations.

MOTION FOR FACULTY COUNCIL

For information.