

ACADEMIC CALENDAR PART 1, ACADEMIC SESSION 2020

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES A. MASTER'S DEGREE B. PHILOSOPHY DOCTOR

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

1. How will the Teaching and Learning (T&L) and assessment methods be implemented after this?

Starting from the 6th of April 2020, T&L will be fully implemented online. The assessment is still ongoing as usual, whereby the submission of assignments and other assessments can be made via email and etcetera. However, the Final Exam will be held face to face (F2F) on the $11^{th} - 24^{th}$ of May 2020. The amendments of Academic Calendar Part 1, Academic Session 2020 for the Postgraduate programmes can be referred at the Centre for Graduate Studies (CGS) website.

2. What if I have limited or no internet access for online Teaching and Learning (T&L)?

Lecturers will diversify alternative course delivery methods to ensure students can access all the learning materials needed.

Nevertheless, students who have limited or no internet access and cannot attend online T&L, in addition to being unable to return to campus for face-to-face T&L, will be advised to postpone their Semester 1 studies.

3. How will online classes be coordinated?

Existing Lecture Schedules will be used to avoid overlapping of classes.

4. When are students expected to return to campus?

If the Movement Control Order (MCO) period is halted during the lecture week, the student will continue the online T&L until the end of the semester. Students are only allowed to return to campus for the final examination on May $11^{th} - 24^{th}$ May 2020. However, this is subject to the decision from the University, and students are advised to contact CGS before returning to the University. The University will coordinate the movement of students back to campus from time to

time to ensure that the COVID-19 screening process is implemented smoothly.

5. What if the Final Exam is not possible to be held on the $11^{\text{th}} - 24^{\text{th}}$ of May 2020?

If this happens, the University will determine another suitable date for the Final Examination before the beginning of the upcoming semester. CGS will inform all students on this matter from time to time.

6. Can I continue my research work in the laboratory throughout the MCO period?

CGS recommends that research work in the laboratory be delayed during the MCO period. However, for students who are still required to continue their research work, special permission must be obtained from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) by writing an application letter supported by their respective School before submission via CGS.

7. How are the Research Proposals and Pre-viva presentations conducted during this MCO period?

Research Proposals and Pre-Viva presentations are allowed to be conducted fully online during the MCO period at the respective School level.

8. Can the 8 thesis manuscripts for external examiner evaluation be sent during the MCO period?

The 8 thesis manuscripts for examination evaluation can be sent in softcopy (.pdf) format by emailing to exam_cgs@unimap.edu.my. The hardcopy must be sent after the MCO period expires.

9. Will there be any viva-voce session during the MCO period?

There will be no viva-voce sessions that take place during this MCO period.

10.If no viva-voce session can be conducted during the MCO period, why are online viva-voce guidelines developed?

Oral examination or viva-voce is a more effective examination method. However, the University provides flexibility by allowing a platform for online viva-voce sessions. The online viva-voce session is not only applicable during the MCO period. There are 2 situations where online viva-voce are permitted:

- Attendance constraints from the External Examiner This is at the request of the External Examiner who cannot attend the face-to-face examination due to valid reasons. Other panel members and students are required to attend the face-to-face session.
- Attendance constraints from the student This flexibility is allowed if students are unable to attend the campus because of the situation in their home country/place where students are not permitted to present during the MCO period. An official application to the Dean of the Centre for Graduate Studies through the respective School's Dean. A strong justification and support from the Dean of the respective School are required for this purpose.

The implementation of online viva-voce is subject to the developed guidelines.

11.Can 3 copies of the thesis manuscript for graduation purposes be sent during the MCO period?

The 3 copies of final thesis manuscripts that have been approved by the vivavoce panel can be sent in softcopy format (.pdf) by emailing to <u>exam cgs@unimap.edu.my</u>. The Hardcopies must be sent after the MCO period expires.

12. How can I contact the PPS during the MCO period?

For any questions or inquiries, please email <u>cgs@unimap.edu.my</u>.