

## Oklahoma State University Policy and Procedures

<b>UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC FORMAT AND FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY</b>	<b>2-0207 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS August 2014</b>
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### POLICY

1.01 Oklahoma State University operates on a semester basis. A formal final examination week is observed each fall and spring semester, as is the principle of pre-finals week just prior to the week of final examinations. The semester consists of the weeks of scheduled classes and the final examination week.

1.02 Before a course is authorized as a part of the curriculum, the content of that course will have been reviewed and approved by the faculty, the Department Head, the College Curriculum Committee, the Dean of the College, the University Curriculum Committee, and the Provost and Senior Vice President, Office of Academic Affairs.

1.03 The schedule of classes is submitted to the Office of the Registrar by the Head of each Department with review by the appropriate Academic Dean/College Academic Coordinator and the Provost and Senior Vice President, Office of Academic Affairs.

1.04 All instructors of record for courses having regularly-scheduled meeting times are required to distribute a semester plan (i.e. a syllabus), electronically and/or physically, during the first week of courses. This typically includes the schedule of examinations and other course requirements, as well as details of the grading system that will be used in the determination of final grades.

1.05 Courses without regularly-scheduled meeting times (of which the most common examples are independent study, directed readings, thesis [5000] and dissertation [6000] research, and the like), are exempted from this policy, though even in these cases a written plan or agreement of some kind between student and instructor can prove helpful and prevent subsequent grade or credit disputes.

1.06 The final examination for a class should be one of substance and should follow periodic evaluation during the semester.

1.07 The Registrar's Office constructs the final examination schedule. Final examinations shall be held at the times listed in the official schedule.

1.08 Information related to the final exam process such as final exam overload and final exam conflict issues can be found in Policy & Procedures Letter 2-0216 Final Exam Overload and Common Final/Common Evening Exam Conflict Policy.

## **DISTANCE DELIVERED COURSES**

2.01 The Oklahoma State University policy on final exam scheduling applies to distance delivered courses that are scheduled to meet on a regular basis during the semester (synchronous courses). The final exam will be scheduled appropriate to the time of the regularly scheduled meeting time.

2.02 Final exams for distance delivered courses that are not scheduled to meet on a regular basis during the regular semester [i.e. courses that use a "To Be Announced" (TBA) or "asynchronous" class schedule format, such as internet courses], but are expected to be completed within a regular semester time frame, must be scheduled during the final exam period for that semester. The instructor will set the specific day and time for the final exam. Students must be notified of the course's final exam schedule at the beginning of the semester by publication in the course syllabus and/or on the course web site.

2.03 Final exams for students receiving synchronous course delivery in courses that meet on a regularly scheduled basis for less than the regular sixteen-week format will be scheduled during the final class meeting.

2.04 Final exams for students receiving courses of less than sixteen weeks that are not scheduled to meet on a regular basis during the course [i.e. courses that use a "To Be Announced" (TBA) or "asynchronous" class format, such as internet courses] must be scheduled on or before the final date that class work must be completed. The instructor will set the specific day and time for the final exam. Students must be notified of the course's final exam schedule at the beginning of the semester by the course syllabus or on the course web site.

2.05 Oklahoma State University Policies related to other aspects of the final exam process such as final exam overload and final exam conflict issues will apply to distance education courses. (See P&P 2-0216 Final Exam Overload and Common Final/Common Exam Conflict Policy)

## **PROCEDURE**

3.01 Faculty members are expected to adhere to the assigned class schedule.

3.02 In the event that "special circumstances" require a change of a scheduled class, a request must be made to the department head for approval. Some class changes require additional levels of approval.

3.03 The request for a change of the schedule for final examinations, including justification for the requested change, must be approved by the department head, the dean of the college, and the Provost & Senior Vice President, Office of Academic Affairs.

Reference: Memorandum from Vice President for Academic Affairs, November 5, 1970

Approved: Vice President for Academic Affairs, November 23, 1971

Modified: Deans Council, January 13, 1997

Modified: Faculty Council, December 10, 2002

Approved: Instruction Council, June 13, 2003

Approved: Deans Council, July 10, 2003  
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