

Thank you!

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Please refer to:
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Curricular Affairs

Weekly Update - July 22, 2013

Fall 2013 syllabi have now been compiled and posted on the SOP Website on the Academic information page with an e-raider protected login. We have one exam conflict that was identified with the submission of syllabi drafts, but this is being resolved and as soon as that is complete we'll also be ready to release the updated Fall semester assessment grid to all. While I know this was a new process and a new deadline, and I know we all had to learn first-hand what logistical do's and don'ts would be the keys to making this even smoother next time, our end result was a success. I am already hearing positive comments from the students about the coordination of the exams and the posting of these syllabi. Lisa Bentley shared with me a recent phone conversation she had. With her permission, I wanted to share it with you.

One of the students called her about the syllabi and asked, "Is this REAL? Are these really the Fall 2013 syllabi? And these are really the exam dates for the fall??"

She of course did caution that some details could change. We know that there may continue to be some issues especially with room reservations and such, and she did advise that students should verify final drafts with their course teams. However, "yes", she answered "This is the fall semester". "This is so great! I can't believe it! We've been asking for this for a long time. Thank you!"

This student went on to express a sentiment we've been hearing from others too, that what they're thankful for is the advance notice to plan – to plan professional travel or to just plan their anticipated workload around their other life responsibilities.

Although exact numbers are pending in the final version, we are administering almost 90 assessments in the fall semester (that's counting a week's worth of lab practicums as 1 assessment). We identified about 9 times when two exams had to be given on the same date. Most of these include either 1) a presentation or minor assessment falling on the same day as an exam, 2) an elective assessment on the same date as a required course or two electives testing on the same day, or 3) a finals week with 6 finals fitting in 5 days. We avoided major professional meetings as best as we could. Some overlap was simply unavoidable in working with each team's needs. Overall I think we came out pretty well.

We expect a lot of our students, a heavy workload and a professionalism that includes meeting all deadlines without excuses. These are not by any means unreasonable demands, but we can all empathize with a desire for advanced notice and data that helps in planning to meet those demands. I am grateful for the collective effort of all course teams to provide course syllabi in advance. The gratitude of our future peers is also already evident.

THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!

Dr. Rebecca Sleeper