

Sardar Patel Institute of Technology, Mumbai

Policy for Evaluation of Even Semester of 2019-20

Preamble:

The whole world, including India, is passing through unprecedented difficult times due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. As all universities and colleges are closed due to national lockdown, the teaching – learning process and other academic activities have been badly disrupted. The schedule of Terminal Semester examinations has also got disturbed. In such scenario, it is joint responsibility of all the stakeholders to manage multiple key issues relating to academic activities in the institutions. It is glad to observe that SPIT faculty and student have shown extra ordinary courage and sincerity in ensuring that 100 % curriculum is completed. They have adopted the On-Line Teaching-Learning during 16th March to 1st April and 4th May till date. Feedback of faculty and students indicate that 100 % curriculum is completed almost for all the courses. Our faculty have demonstrated creativity and innovation while dealing this crisis. It is worth mentioning that few faculty have designed virtual experiments using open source tools While it was crucial to follow measures taken by the Government to contain the spread of COVID-19, it was also important to continue the educational process making effective use of technology and other available options and maintain academic standards and ethos of SPIT.

For whatever reasons, the end semester examination or terminal examination has a unique importance in our education system, even in autonomous institutions. We are glad that UGC, Government of Maharashtra and University of Mumbai, have declared guidelines regarding the examinations for the institutions including the autonomous colleges. SPIT has decided to follow these guidelines broadly and has articulated its policy towards the terminal/end semester examination for second term of academic year 2019-20, and subsequent gradation.

Policy

1. Outgoing students (Final year B.Tech)

- (A) **Category-I Students (who are doing full semester internship)**; Four fifth of the final year students of the engineering program are presently engaged in industry internship at various industries. The presentation on the internship to a specially constituted committee and subsequent viva-voce will be carried out during 22nd to 30th June, completely on ON-LINE mode using appropriate technology. The students are expected to submit the soft copy of the report as per institute guidelines on or before 15th June 2020. The committee's evaluation will be treated as external evaluation. The evaluation of the candidate by the industry supervisor/manager as per the prevailing norms of the company will be treated as the internal evaluation. The students will be graded on the combined performance.
- (B) **Category II students (who have not opted for the semester long industry internship)**; Nearly one fifth of students preferred normal semester (project work and few courses). The curriculum of all laboratory and theory courses is 100 % completed for these students.

- **Oral, practical, for all laboratory courses** will be conducted **ONLINE** by the respective departments. For every evaluation, besides the internal examiner (normally a course teacher), additional external examiner will be appointed. If it is not convenient to invite the external examiner for whatever reasons, SPIT faculty of respective domain will be invited.
- **Project examination** will take place between 16th June to 21st June. Students need to submit the soft copy of the project report adhering to the institute guidelines before 15th June 2020. A committee of three members (project guide, internal examiner from SPIT, and external examiner from industry/institutions) will evaluate the students based on the visual presentation and viva-voce.
- **Theory courses:** The 40 % internal evaluation for the theory courses is completed so far (ISE1-10, MSE-20, ISE2-10). The ESE will be conducted in the first week of July as per the guidelines given by the Govt of Maharashtra/University of Mumbai. These guidelines are expected to be published on 20th June 2020. {Though, all students of Category II have requested to take the examination in early June, in ON LINE mode, the request can not be granted at this moment, in light of the guidelines issued by the Govt of Maharashtra and University of Mumbai}.
- It is recently learned that the Higher and Technical Education Department of Maharashtra has requested the UGC for permission regarding rolling out final year students without end semester or terminal examination. **Whatever is the outcome, SPIT will conduct online test for End Semester Examination for outgoing, interested students. The combined performance of In-semester evaluation and this on-line test, in the proportion of (50:50) will be used to grade the students.** The mid semester examination was conducted in conventional manner (paper and pen) and covered 50 % curriculum. In view of this, for this semester it is suggested that the weightage of the MSE is enhanced to the 30%, thus, elevating the in-semester evaluation to 50 %. The ESE will have the weightage of 50 %. However, course teacher will have freedom to stick to (10:20:10) pattern and elevating it to 50%. Course teacher may also choose (10:35:5) or (10:40:0) considering the way at which in semester evaluation is carried out for a course.
Besides this, the evaluation will also be carried out as per future directives from the Government. The best of these performances will be considered for final grading for these students.
- If any student of this category, has back logs of previous semesters, the examination for those backlogs will be conducted in the first semester of 2020-21 at the earliest.
- In case of failure of any student in any course, a special examination will be arranged in the in the first semester of 2020-21 at the earliest.

2. **Outgoing Students (Second year M. Tech):** These students will submit the soft copy of the Dissertation on or before 15th June 2020. A committee of three members (project guide, internal examiner from SPIT, and external examiner from industry/institutions) will

evaluate the students based on the presentation and viva-voce. The combined performance of this evaluation and the internal evaluation so far will be used for the grading of the students.

- 3. Outgoing Students (Third year M.C.A):** The presentation on the internship to a specially constituted committee and subsequent viva-voce will be carried out during 15th to 30th June, completely on ON-LINE mode using appropriate technology. The students are expected to submit the soft copy of the report as per institute guidelines on or before 13th June 2020. The committee's evaluation will be treated as external evaluation. The evaluation of the candidate by the industry supervisor/manager as per the prevailing norms of the company will be treated as the internal evaluation. The students will be graded on the combined performance.

If any student has back logs from previous semesters, the examination for those backlogs will be conducted in the month of July.

- 4. Intermediate Students (F. Y, S.Y., T. Y Engineering, M.Tech First Year, F.Y and S.Y of MCA)**

All students, including year drops, will be promoted to next year irrespective of number of backlogs of previous semesters and performance in this semester.

The performance of all intermediate students for this semester will be calculated as;

- (a) Considering the 50 % of **in semester performance** of various courses registered in this semester, and 50 % of **the performance in the past semester** (SPGA of the past semester. **The SGPA will be evaluated considering credits earned.** Thus, only those courses in which candidate has obtained the PASS grades will be considered in arriving at SGPA of the past semester). **The SGPA to percentage conversion will be computed as per the rules of Mumbai University, as follows;**

The percentage marks = (SGPA *7.4 +12), if SGPA is 7 or greater than seven, else,
= (SGPA *7.1 +12).

Thus, if a student has a SGPA of 7.9 in previous semester dropping the failed courses, if any, she is deemed to earn 35 marks out of 50 for each course in the current semester. Similarly, if the student has a SGPA of 6.95 in previous semester considering only credits earned, she is deemed to earn 31 marks out of 50 for each course in the current semester.

- (b) **Considering the 100 % of in semester performance.**

- (c) **Best of (a) or (b) performance will be used to grade the students.**

- (d) The in-semester performance will consist of (ISE1-10, MSE-30, ISE2-10). Thus, for this semester, the weightage of the MSE will be elevated to **30 % instead of 20 %** as MSE was conducted in conventional manner and covered nearly 50 % syllabus. However, the course teacher will have freedom towards deciding this break up. For certain course it could be (10, 35, 5) or (10, 40, 0) or (20, 20, 10). Else someone may prefer to stick to (10,20,10) and elevate this total to 50. Basically, the course teacher will look at the rigor at which the assessment for various components is carried out and will modulate the weightages in consultation with the HoD. The total in semester performance will be out of 50 in any case.
- (e) The laboratory courses will be graded solely based on the in-semester evaluation as carried out by the respective course teacher. It may be based on continuous evaluation up to 13th March (say for hardware laboratories), continuous evaluation till 22nd May (for software laboratories) or otherwise. Continuous evaluation may include viva, submission, report, assignments, etc. **No end semester examinations will be conducted for the laboratory courses.** Course teacher will have entire freedom for the in-semester evaluation of the students for respective laboratory courses.
- (f) For all intermediate students, the even term of 2019-20 closes on 29th May 2020. All submission, internal evaluation, online oral/viva be completed before 29th May. All intermediate students will observe the summer vacation from 30th May to 26th July 2020.
- (g) The result so computed will be declared with in the week from the physical opening of the Institute.
- (h) All intermediate students will get an opportunity to improve the grades for the registered courses, during the next academic semester. For such students, a special examination of 100 marks will be arranged by the institute within 4 months from the physical opening of the institute. Interested students will have to register for this special examination. The gradation for this special examination will be based solely on the performance in this examination disregarding the in-semester evaluation. If the new grade earned turns out to be less than the grade already earned, student will retain the original grade.
5. **The Autumn 2020-21** for intermediate students will begin on **27th July 2020** completely on **ON-LINE mode.** A gradual, comfortable change over to the on-campus learning will be attempted carefully analyzing the situation as the semester progresses. Students will be permitted to take 20-25 % courses though MOOCs, preferably from NPTEL, during the next academic semester. Institute shall declare the permissible list of the courses in this regard. **No student is expected to physically report the institute before 3rd August 2020.**
6. All intermediate students will register their choices regarding the department electives, open electives, for the next semester, before 30th June 2020. The Departments will design the necessary formats towards this and take these choices online only. However, present

third year students will register their choice for internship (Cat I or Cat II before 30th May 2020). Dean Academics and TPO will invite student choices towards internship immediately.

7. The summer term specially for **Cat I** students (present third year students who opt for a semester long internship in industry or other institutes or at SPIT) will be between **1st June to 26th July 2020**. The HoDs and Dean Academics will declare the courses floated for such students before 30th May 2020. Wherever possible, students will be encouraged to take MOOCs/NPTEL courses of 8/12 weeks for 2/3 credit courses. The Department will publish the list of permissible courses from MOOCs.
8. **This policy is exclusively for Even Semester of 2019-20 only. Any clause of this will not form any precedent for any subsequent semesters and is exclusively meant for this present unprecedented situation.**

Wellbeing of our students, staff and faculty is of paramount importance to us maintaining the academic standards and ethos of SPIT. We shall review our policy and future course of actions considering this if the need arises, in days to come. We shall deal special cases, which do not fit in this policy, on case to case basis.

We wish you to take care of yourself and your family and stay safe.

Bhalchandra Chaudhari
Principal, SPIT
Date: 21st May 2020