

Modified Academic & Examination Regulations for One Year LL.M (Master of Laws) Degree Program

(From the Academic Year 2021-2022)

The One Year LL.M. Degree program will focus on strengthening critical reading, research and writing skills of candidates by offering courses that focus on these skills. These courses are offered both as mandatory and optional papers. The evaluation pattern of these courses follows the broad objective of the kind of courses offered. Candidate admitted to One Year LL.M. Degree program at NALSAR University of Law can pursue specialized or general LL.M.

The following specializations have been offered at NALSAR so far: 1) Corporate and Commercial Laws (including consumer laws); 2) Intellectual Property Laws; 3) Legal Pedagogy and Research; 4) International Trade and Business Laws; 5) Personal Laws; 6) Criminal Laws and 7) Public Law and Legal Theory. A Group of courses across various areas of law are on offer in the General stream. The University reserves the right to offer the specializations subject to the exegeses of faculty in any given academic year. The University may expand the number of specializations if merited by the faculty expertise.

Course Structure:

- 1.1. Candidates must earn a total number of 36 credits to acquire a LL.M Degree which must be earned by completing 12 credits through mandatory courses, 9 credits through seminar courses, 9 credits through elective courses and 6 credits through submission of a dissertation. Students may accumulate extra credits which will appear in the transcript. The University offers both specialised streams and a general LL.M. **A student must complete 18 credits in a particular specialisation to secure a LL.M. with the specialisation mentioned.**
- 1.2. Elective courses are courses in which a higher number of classes are conducted through lectures and provide candidates with an updated knowledge in a given area. Since Elective courses are optional courses offered by the faculty on the basis of their interest they are not a static set of papers offered every year and will vary every year.
- 1.3. Seminar papers are research oriented courses where the faculty member will guide the candidate through writing a research paper through the period of the course. The taught component in these courses will offer an introduction into the area which is usually a niche area within a broader area of law and the focus of the course is to equip students to carry out independent research. The evaluation will be on the research paper and a presentation made before a panel of faculty members.
- 1.4. Elective and Seminar courses require a minimum number of students in order for them to be offered. In case less than 7 students and less than 5 students

opt for Elective and Seminar courses respectively the course will not be offered. In case of visiting elective a minimum of 20 and a visiting seminar a minimum of 15 students must opt for the course.

- 1.5. There shall be a window period in each course proportionate to the credit of the course within which students can alter their option. Any withdrawal from an elective or seminar course subsequent to the window period; or failure to appear in exam or submit the research paper shall be deemed equivalent to failing a course and shall be accordingly depicted on the transcript.

Provided that on the first such transgression a 'F' shall not be placed on the transcript but will be only noted in the records of the university . Upon the second transgression, a 'WD' shall be affixed on the transcript, provided that the withdrawal is sought within 14 (fourteen) days of the commencement of the course. This option of withdrawing after the window period will not be available for a visiting elective/seminar course and elective courses one credit or two-credits

Any subsequent breach would be deemed a fail and the F would be recorded on the transcript.

I Semester (July to December):

Mandatory Courses:	Course Credits	Maximum Marks
Law and Justice in Globalizing world	4	100
Research Methods and Legal Writing - I	4	100
Optional Courses:	Course Credits	Maximum Marks
Elective Paper-I	3	100
Elective paper-II	3	100
Seminar paper-I	3	100

Note: Students must ensure that they choose more electives than seminar courses in the first semester. In the following semester they are required to choose two seminars and one elective. This balances the taught and writing courses.

II Semester (January to May):

Mandatory Course:	Course Credits	Maximum Marks
Comparative Public Law and Systems of Governance	4	100
Optional Courses:	Course Credits	Maximum Marks

Elective Paper-III/ Teaching Assistantship	3	100
Seminar paper-II (Research Methods and Legal Writing - II) *	3	100
Seminar Paper-III	3	100
Dissertation *	6	200

*** The Seminar Paper – II and Dissertation are mandatory courses.**

- **Students may opt for extra credits which would be shown in their transcript.**

Correlation of credits with teaching hours

Course type	Credit points	Credit hours
Mandatory	1	10
Elective (3 credit)	1	10
Seminar	1	5

Dissertation:

The main objectives of the dissertation component are to assess the research and writing skills of the students as well as to provide a platform for creative legal scholarship. Students who enrol in the LL.M. program are especially encouraged to think about career options in teaching and research. Hence, writing a dissertation is a significant exercise that helps in developing one's prospects for the same. The detailed guidelines for dissertation will be given by the CPGLE from time to time.

**EXAMINATION REGULATIONS
ONE YEAR LL.M. DEGREE PROGRAM
(From the Academic Year 2021-2022)**

1. CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chancellor shall constitute the following Committees:

The Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Education Committee (CPGLE): The Centre shall comprise all Professors, Associate Professors and such other Faculty Members who are assigned LL.M. Courses teaching. The Vice-Chancellor shall nominate one Professor as Chairperson of the Centre. The Committee shall supervise the overall functions of One Year LL.M. Degree Program and shall make necessary recommendations on academic, examinations and other academic related matters.

2. SCHEME OF EVALUATION

The following shall be the scheme of evaluation for each course:

Each of the courses shall carry a maximum of 100 marks and the dissertation shall carry a maximum of 200 marks.

The Evaluation for mandatory papers (except Research methods and Legal Writing Course I & II) and elective papers shall be as follows for each course:

End Semester/End of Course Examination : 100 Marks

The Evaluation for the Elective Papers shall be announced by the faculty.

The Evaluation for seminar papers (except the research writing course) shall be as follows for each course:

Research paper	:	70 Marks
Presentation	:	30 Marks

The Distribution of marks for dissertation shall be as follows:

Dissertation	:	150 Marks
Pre-Submission presentation	:	50 Marks

3. ATTENDANCE

- 3.1** Every student has to secure a minimum of 75% attendance overall to be eligible to appear in the end-semester examination in such subject. Student shall not be permitted to take the end of the course/ end semester examination if the candidate falls short of the requisite attendance. Student shall not be permitted to submit seminar paper if the student falls short of the requisite attendance in that seminar course.

3.2 Medical Leave

Students who have less than 75% mandatory attendance, may apply for grant of medical leave provided he/she has secured minimum of 65% attendance overall. Students are required to submit medical leave forms along with medical record within a week of the student returning from the leave.

3.3 Menstrual Leave

¹{Menstrual Leave: Every beneficiary of this Policy can claim Menstrual Leave, that is, one day in every month, in an academic semester / trimester in the University.

Provided that in no case will total attendance requirement be less than 67%, inclusive of any medical leave that may be claimed by the beneficiary in the same academic semester / trimester.

Provided that there is no requirement of medical proof, or any other proof whatsoever, apart from self-certification, to claim the Menstrual Leave.}

4. SEMINAR SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION

- 4.1** The concerned faculty shall fix the last dates for submission of the seminar report.
- 4.2** Every student is required to secure minimum of 50 marks out of 100 marks for both seminar writing and presentation put together.
- 4.3** Student who fails to secure the minimum of 50 marks out of 100 in total seminar writing and presentation is required to re-submit the seminar after revision for evaluation before the commencement of the next Semester. If he/she fails to secure the minimum after re-submission also, he/she is treated as failed in the course and is required to re-register for the course subsequently in the relevant Semester when the course is offered and shall submit new draft and do the presentation.
- 4.4** Students are required to submit their written seminar paper as original work.

5. END-SEMESTER / REPEAT AND IMPROVEMENT EXAMINATION

- 5.1** End-semester examination will be conducted at the end of the Semester/Course.

¹ Inserted by the Executive Council on 23-03-2024

- 5.2** Repeat / Improvement exam will be held for students who were either absent with prior permission or had failed in the end semester examination or who wish to improve their grade.
- 5.3** The repeat examination shall be conducted only once (excluding the main examination) and grade secured at the repeat examination shall carry 'R' (Reappear) at the top of the Grade secured. The same shall be recorded in the Grade Sheet.
- 5.4** No repeat exams or submissions can be allowed in Visiting Faculty courses. In case students fail to clear the course they must take extra credits to cover the shortfall.
- 5.5** The Students who appear for end-semester examination and secure pass marks are only entitled to apply for improvement examination and shall take the examination at the time of repeat examination. Students who fail in end-semester examination cannot apply for improvement examination. The grade secured by the student at the improvement examination shall be taken as the final grade and will carry the letter 'I' at the top of the Grade secured indicating that the grade was obtained after 'Improvement Test' and will be recorded in the Grade Sheet. Improvement in seminar is not allowed.

6. QUESTION PAPERS

- 6.1** The paper setting for the written examination shall be done either by the teacher who instructed the course or by some expert within or outside the University nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The evaluation of answer scripts of the written examination shall be done by the concerned course teacher or the examiner appointed by the Vice-Chancellor

7. DISSERTATION

- (i) The word limit for the Dissertation shall be between 14,000 to 18,000 words excluding table of contents, table of cases, table of statutes, abbreviations, foot notes, bibliography, appendix etc.
- (ii) The Cover page, Supervisor's Certificate, Student's Declaration and the manner of giving Acknowledgements shall be given as prescribed by the Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Education.
- (iii) The last date for submission of dissertation will be notified by the CPGLE.
- (iv) The dissertation shall be sent to an outside expert nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from among the panel of experts suggested by the Supervisor or added by the Vice-Chancellor..

8. EVALUATION AND AWARD OF GRADES AND GRADE VALUE (CGPA)

8.1 Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is arrived at by dividing the sum of the products of Grade Values and the Course Credits in each course by the total number of credits in all the courses as per following table:

Percentage of Marks	Grade	Grade Value
90 and above	O+ (Exceptionally Outstanding)	10
85 – 89	O (Outstanding)	9
80 – 84	E +	8.5
75 – 79	E (Excellent)	8
70 – 74	A++	7.5
65 – 69	A+	7
60 – 64	A	6.5
55 – 59	B+	6
50 – 54	B	5.5
Below 50	F	0

8.2 The following abbreviations shall be used in the grade-sheet:

Ab	-	Absent
NA	-	Not Allowed
R	-	Repeat
W	-	Withheld (Result)
I	-	Improvement
F	-	Failed
RR	-	Re-registered
WD	-	Withdrawn from the Course

8.3 A candidate to be successful has to obtain a minimum of 50% marks or the equivalent grade, i.e., B in every course/dissertation. However, the candidate who fails to obtain the minimum grade (i.e., B) shall be given one more chance (repeat-examination) to complete the course. If the student fails in the course in End Semester / End of Course Examination and also in repeat examination the student shall reregister for the course next year in the relevant semester.

8.4 No Student shall be allowed to absent himself / herself from any examination except with prior written permission of the Vice-Chancellor on a written request with reasons. Student who is absent without permission shall be declared 'failed' and may be allowed to take repeat examination. However, the grade sheet shall carry mandatory 'R'.

8.5 Once a student is declared as 'failed' for whatever reason, his/her grade shall carry ® with the grade obtained later. Likewise, student

who is not allowed to take the End Semester/End of Course Examinations for shortage of attendance/ has failed the repeat exam and has been allowed to re-register, his/her grade after re-registration shall be recorded in the transcript by using an 'RR' against such Course/Courses.

8.6 Dissertation

8.6.1 After submission of Dissertation the Vice-Chancellor, on the recommendations of the Supervisor concerned, shall appoint one external examiner who is an expert in the relevant area of Dissertation.

8.6.2 The examiner shall enter the award of marks in the prescribed proforma and return the same to the University.

8.6.3 Candidate must secure a minimum of 50% marks in the written part of the Dissertation.

8.6.4 After completion of the dissertation and before the final submission, the candidate shall make a pre-submission presentation. The suggestions/modifications suggested shall be incorporated upon the instruction of the guide in this regard in the dissertation by the candidate. The pre-submission presentation shall be evaluated by a panel of faculty for 50 marks. The Vice-Chancellor may nominate an external expert to be a member/head of such panel.

8.6.5 If a candidate secures 'F' grade in Dissertation or fails to submit the Dissertation within the time permitted he/she shall have one more chance to submit a revised Dissertation or Dissertation as the case may be within such time as required by the University.

8.7 A student admitted to the One Year LL.M. Degree Program shall have to complete all the prescribed requirements within a maximum period of 2 years from and including the year of admission in order to be eligible for the award of the Degree.

8.8 The final CGPA will be calculated for 36 credits by taking the credits in mandatory courses and 3 electives and 2 seminars. A student who has taken extra credits in electives and seminars, the best score will be considered. Students who seek specialisation without dissertation and research and writing Seminar II must take extra credits. Students can replace the research and writing seminar II with extra credits in a seminar course of same specialisation in order to obtain the necessary 18 credits.

9. MODERATION OF RESULTS

Moderation of results shall be done by the Academic and Examination Committee in consultation with the faculty concerned. The Academic and

Examination Committee may award 'grace' marks to a student who has obtained a score of less than 50% in order to enable him/her/them to pass the course.

Provided that in no circumstance shall a student be granted more than five (5) grace marks in a semester across all subjects.

10. REEVALUATION OF ANSWER SCRIPTS

A student who wishes his/her/their end-semester performance in mandatory or elective (in-house) to be re-evaluated may do so by submitting a written request along with the prescribed fee within 7 days of the commencement of the new semester.

Provided that a delay in submitting a re-evaluation request may be condoned by the Vice-Chancellor.

Provided further that the Vice-Chancellor may, in deserving cases, permit waiver or reduction in the prescribed fee.

The Vice-Chancellor, on receiving such a request, shall constitute a Committee consisting of three instructors in the university suitable in his/her/their opinion to evaluate a paper in a course to re-evaluate the examination answer script of the applicant. The result of this re-evaluation should ordinarily be announced no more than seven days after the constitution of the Committee.

A change in the original score shall be made only when, upon re-evaluation, the change is 5 marks or more after taking the average of the three re-evaluators. The Fee shall be refunded in case of such an increase.

Choice between improvement and re-evaluation

A student cannot opt both for re-evaluation or improvement for a given result.

10. UNFAIR MEANS AND MALPRACTICES

Unfair Means and other academic misconduct shall be dealt as per the University Academic Misconduct Regulations. Plagiarism in seminar paper shall constitute a serious academic malpractice which shall be dealt with as per the University Academic Misconduct Regulations. Plagiarism shall mean and include as is defined in the University Academic Misconduct Regulations.

11. AWARD OF GOLD MEDALS

11.1 Gold Medal/s shall be awarded in the respective course/s on the basis of their highest grades/marks obtained.

11.2 Student who has been found ineligible as per the University Academic Misconduct Regulations shall not be eligible for award of gold medal/s.

12. AWARD OF THE DEGREE

Candidates who have completed all the courses cumulating to requisite credits and dissertation obtaining at least a “B’ grade in all the courses and dissertation and Secured Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 5.5 out of 10 shall be awarded the LL.M. (Master of Laws) Degree.