

LL.M. REGULATIONS, 2017

(ONE YEAR LL.M. DEGREE PROGRAMME)

Regulations for the one year LL.M. programmes]

1. ADMISSION PROCEDURE:

Admission to this programme is based purely on merit through the Common Law Admission Test CLAT conducted by the National Law Universities (NLUs) or by any other test as may be decided by TNNLS, Tiruchirappalli.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: *(for both all India and Tamil Nadu seats)*

Three / Five years B.L. or LL.B. or B.L. (Hons.) or LL.B. (Hons.) or its equivalent with not less than fifty five percent (55%) marks in case of candidates belonging to Unreserved / OBC / Specially Abled Persons (SAP) and other categories, and fifty percent (50%) marks in case of candidates belonging to SC/ST category.

3. STUDENTS INTAKE:

The TNNLS shall decide the streams to be offered as well as the total student intake for the one year LL.M. programme every academic year. The University reserves the right to fix the minimum number of students required for each specialization to be offered every academic year.

4. FEE Structure:

The course fee for TNNLS one-year LL.M. programme shall be decided every academic year.

5. TEACHING METHOD:

Classroom lectures, tutorials, seminars, discussions etc. shall form part of the teaching method. Students' are also encouraged to develop self-learning skills to carry out independent research. Project writing and presentation of the research findings will also form part of the teaching methods. The TNNLS shall determine each year the specializations as well as the compulsory/elective courses offered.

6. CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chancellor shall constitute the following Committee:

The Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies Committee: 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.

7. CLASSES

(1) Attendance rules

- a) The attendance status of every student shall be duly notified by the Academic Office every month, both on the Notice Board, indicating the total number of classes held, attended and absent.
- b) Every student shall attend a minimum of 75% of classes held in every course, including optional, elective and seminar courses in a Semester. Failure to put in the minimum required attendance in any course in the Semester will lead to automatic disqualification for appearance in end-semester examination of the particular paper and compulsory re-registration of the said course or its equivalent in the subsequent (immediately following) academic year on payment of fees prescribed.
- c) In the re-registered course, the student shall compulsorily attend a minimum of 75% of the total number of classes.
- d) The students who have been granted Medical Leave as per the Rules of the University shall be eligible to appear for the end semester examination provided there is a minimum of 70% attendance in all the courses.
- e) The Academic Office shall declare the final attendance status of every student as well as the list of eligible candidates to appear in the end Semester examinations, at least three days before the commencement of the end Semester examination.

(2) Academic Leave

- a) Academic leave to a student shall be considered subject to the prior approval for participation in Seminars, Conferences, Exchange programmes or any other academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- b) Invitation for participation in any of the activities should have been received by the University or addressed to the University. Invitations addressed to individual students will not be considered for academic leave.
- c) Academic leave shall not exceed 10 days in a given semester.
- d) Academic leave shall not be granted for participation in Summer University Programmes, private exchange programmes, internships, job interviews outside the campus, passport / visa interviews, etc., under any circumstances.
- e) Academic leave shall not be granted during the examinations. No rescheduling / special examination / enhancement of end semester marks in lieu of mid semester examination etc. shall be considered by the University. No application from any student shall be entertained in this regard.

(3) Medical Leave

- a) Request for medical leave from students shall be considered only against Hospitalization for any treatment or investigation or isolation of student(s) required for

any contagious diseases. Such requests shall be considered by the University provided the student has secured at least 70% attendance in all the courses in a semester.

- b) All the medical records, investigations etc., done during admission in a Hospital / Nursing Home along with the request should be submitted to the Academic Office immediately on reporting back to the University and in no case within one week of resuming the classes after the discharge from the Hospital / Nursing Home concerned. No Medical certificate shall be entertained by the Academic Office thereafter.
- c) In all cases of hospitalization, medical leave shall be granted only for duration of stay in the hospital for treatment. If the doctors advise the student for additional rest after discharging him / her from the hospital, the Committee constituted by the Vice - Chancellor shall duly consider such requests for medical leave. However, on any account in any event, the total medical leave shall not exceed 30% of the total number of working days in a given semester. If the student has prolonged illness or treatment beyond 30% of the working days in a semester, the student shall not be permitted to appear for the end semester examinations.
- d) Where the student is not admitted to any Hospital / Nursing Home, but isolation of student is required from the Hostel in the larger interest of other students, the same has to be certified by the University doctor, supported by the reasons, causes, investigations, lab-reports etc.
- e) Submission of improper Medical Certificates or Fake Certificates by any student (Parent/Guardian) shall result in mandatory disciplinary action by the Academic Office. If proved, student is liable to be terminated with Transfer Certificate (TC) immediately.
- f) Any student who has been granted Medical Leave, subject to the conditions mentioned above, shall be allotted proportionately reduced marks for class participation.
- g) The decision of the Committee constituted by the Vice - Chancellor in accepting or rejecting the application for medical leave shall be final.
- h) The decision in rejecting should be in a speaking order.

(4) Condonation on Medical Grounds

Shortage of attendance on medical grounds shall only be condoned when a student falls short of attending 75% of the classes in a particular course but, has still attended at least 65% of the classes in the same course. Students seeking condonation of shortage of attendance on medical grounds shall submit the application in the given medical proforma, duly signed and sealed and supported by a certificate from the Doctor, or in cases of hospitalization - from the Hospital authority, along with the discharge summary. The condonation on medical grounds shall be granted only when the student is hospitalized or incapacitated, such that he/she cannot attend classes. The University shall verify the same. No condonation will be granted if the Doctor / Hospital fail to certify such illness. The application for condonation shall be submitted to the Academic Office as soon as he /she is fit enough to attend the classes.

(5) Unauthorized exit from the class

If a student walks out of a class without the permission of the faculty, after having obtained attendance for that hour, the student may lose attendance for that hour in that particular

course. Repeated violation will result in disciplinary action by the University. The concerned faculty shall inform the student of such loss of attendance.

(6) Access to Attendance Register

A student shall be allowed to view the Attendance Register with the permission of the concerned faculty, as and when required, at the faculty's convenience, to check the number of classes they have missed. The Academic Office shall put up the status of attendance of all students at the end of every month during the semester.

8. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The evaluation of this one year LL.M. programme is as per the UGC guidelines of evaluation where 'continuous evaluation' and 'end term examination' carries 50% marks each. The continuous evaluation will include class participation in a given subject, assignment writing, project writing / term papers, presentation of the project / term paper and viva voce or any of them. In all *taught courses*, the continuous evaluation component shall carry a total of 50 marks and the end term exam component shall carry 50 marks. The course faculty / examiner shall set the question paper for end term examination and also evaluate the same.

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor on recommendation of Centre of Post Graduate Legal Studies (CPGLS) may allow any of the course under any stream of LL.M. programme as *seminar course*. A course faculty may propose a seminar course under any stream of the post graduate courses through CPGLS. The evaluation criteria for such seminar papers may be determined by the CPGLS on recommendation of the concerned course faculty with the approval of Vice-Chancellor.

Provided that the University may permit a student to be a Teaching Assistant in any one of the undergraduate programme i.e. B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) / B.Com. LL.B. (Hons.) programme in lieu of any one of the elective paper under respective streams subject to the recommendation of the CPGLS with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

(1) Dissertation:

The Dissertation will be evaluated out of 200 marks. Of which 50 marks is for presentation and viva voce. The final written draft of the dissertation will be evaluated for 150 marks. The dissertation shall be evaluated by the designated 'guide' and another examiner from within TNNLS or an external examiner, as shall be decided by the Vice Chancellor. The average of two scores shall be considered for grading. *As far as possible, the post graduate students are expected to register their dissertation topic in the areas of their respective specializations.*

(2) Award of Marks for Class Participation

The maximum marks for class participation per course is five (5) per paper per semester, which shall be the discretion of the concerned subject faculty based on the performance of the students in the classroom.

(3) Project Assignments / Term Papers

a) Announcement

The project / term paper topics for an optional / elective course shall be chosen by the student after consultation with the concerned course faculty in the beginning of the every semester. No change of topic shall be permitted by the course faculty after one month of commencement of the semester and any change of topic must be in writing with the permission of the course faculty. A copy of this letter must be submitted to the Examination Department.

b) Last Date for submission

The last date for submission of Project shall be notified in the Academic Calendar at the commencement of every semester. No student may be permitted to write the end-semester examination without the submission of the project / Term papers.

c) Submissions

- i) The project shall be submitted in hard copy to the subject faculty by the concerned student, or an authorized person, by signing for the same in the concerned Register. Soft copy of the project should also be submitted by all the students to the Examination Department, for checking plagiarism, if any.
- ii) The student shall not be allowed to access his/her project once the same has/have been submitted to the Examination Committee. Students are therefore advised to keep a photocopy of the project before submission.

d) Plagiarism

- i) Any evidence of plagiarism, if found by the subject faculty, in the form of non-citation of sources or copying from another student's project or from his / her own earlier project without acknowledgement of the same, will result in the matter being referred to the Vice-Chancellor by the subject faculty in writing together with written intimation to the concerned student in this regard by the faculty.
- ii) If the matter is referred to the Vice-Chancellor by the faculty, he/she in turn shall look into the matter and decide at the earliest whether to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for disciplinary action.
- iii) Pending the decision of the Vice-Chancellor, if referred thereto, viva-voce for the project shall be conducted.
- iv) If the student is found guilty of plagiarism, he / she shall be penalized as per the TNNLS Rules from time to time.

e) Penalty for late submission of Project Assignments

If a student does not submit the Project on the notified date for submission, the following penalties will be levied:

- i) Half a mark for each day of delay, including holidays (excluding public holiday when the library is closed) shall be deducted from the total marks scored by the student in the concerned course. For the purpose of deduction of marks, the date and time (5.00 P.M.) of submission of the hard copy of the project shall be taken into account.

- ii) No Project shall be accepted after the sixth day from the notified date for submission, and the student shall receive no marks for both project and the viva-voce in the concerned course.

f) Viva-voce

- a) Every Course shall have a subject Viva-voce conducted by the concerned faculty member at the end of each semester as prescribed by the Examination Department. All viva-voce shall carry 5 marks.
- b) In case a student fails to attend a viva-voce on the scheduled day, without prior written permission of the course faculty, the student will be awarded zero marks for the viva-voce in the concerned course.
- c) All Viva-voce shall be completed at least seven days before the commencement of the End-semester examination

g) Exemptions

A student’s representation for project exemption shall be considered in cases of his/her participation in the National & International level Moot Court Competition or representing the University in any other activity as may be permitted by the faculty and as approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

9. EXAMINATION

(1) Examination Scheme

- a) The total marks for every course is 100. The internal assessment carries 50 marks and the external written examination (end semester examination) carries 50 marks.
- b) Internal assessment is a continuous evaluation / assessment done by the concerned course faculty.
- c) The external written examination question paper shall be prepared and evaluated by the concerned course faculty or by any faculty internally within the University.
- d) For every examination Vice-Chancellor will constitute the Examination Committee for moderation of results. The Examination Committee shall consider any grievances raised by a student and make suitable recommendations for the consideration of the Vice Chancellor.
- e) The end-semester results shall be announced on the Notice Board and on the TNNLS Website within 10 days of the concerned examinations.

(2) Marking Scheme for Continuous Evaluation:

| Continuous Assessment Components | Total Marks |
|---|--------------------|
| A. Class Participation | 5 |
| B. Assignment Writing* | 5* |
| C. Project Writing / Term Paper* | 25* |
| D. Project / Term Paper Presentation | 10 |
| E. Viva-Voce | 5 |

Note: The course faculty of the respective post graduate courses under any specialization with the prior approval of the CGPLS may alter marks or propose alternative components

for continuous evaluation for the above mentioned marked (*) components 'B' and 'C' only based on the requirement of the subject.

(3) Schedule of Examinations

The schedule of examination for each semester shall be notified in the 'Academic Calendar' at the commencement of each semester.

(4) Changes in Results

Ordinarily, no changes shall be permitted in the results of examination once they have been announced. Further, there shall be no re-evaluation of marks in any course, however in the event of any change the faculty concerned shall record the reasons in writing before carrying out the corrections in the marks so awarded.

(5) Passing Criterion in Courses

In order to pass a course, a candidate must score a minimum of 50% of marks in aggregate in each of the specified courses. There is no separate minimum passing marks in the continuous evaluation and end term written examination.

(6) Malpractice

The examination malpractice shall include the following:

- a) Possession of mobile phones or any other electronic gadgets inside the examination hall;
- b) Possession of any materials not permitted except that allowed in the course of an open book examination by the course faculty;
- c) Not maintaining silence from the commencement till the end of examination;
- d) Taking the examination answer script outside the examination hall at any time during and after the examination;
- e) Any misconduct in the Examination Hall;
- f) Use of any special marks in the Answer Paper;

Necessary Disciplinary action will be taken if any student found indulging in any kind of examination malpractice.

(7) Copy of Answer Scripts

Students may take a photocopy of the answer script from the Examination Department upon payment of Rs. 500/- per answer script

(8) Repeat Examination

- a) For students who obtain "F" grade in a course, a repeat examination shall be conducted on payment of Rs. 1000/- per paper along with an application to examination department.
- b) The repeat examination shall be for 50 marks and the remaining 50 marks obtained for the continuous evaluation shall remain the same. If a student fails in a seminar course which is an elective course, then such student may re-register for another elective course in the next academic year.

- c) The repeat examination for odd semester courses shall be conducted along with the end semester examinations of even semester whereas the repeat examination for even semester courses shall be conducted in next academic year as decided by the examination department with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
- d) The repeat examination question papers in every academic year shall be prepared only on an updated syllabus.

(9) Declaration of Results

The continuous assessment, end-semester and repeat examination results shall be notified on the Notice Board of the University.

10. Evaluation Scheme:

(1) Grading System:

Students shall be evaluated by grading system, Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) as recommended by the UGC as indicated below:

| S. No | Percentage of Marks | Letter Grade | Grade Point |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. | 80% and above | “O” [Outstanding] | 10 |
| 2. | 75% and above but below 80% | “A+” [Excellent] | 9 |
| 3. | 70% and above but below 75% | “A” [Very Good] | 8 |
| 4. | 65% and above but below 70% | “B+” [Good] | 7 |
| 5. | 60% and above but below 65% | “B” [Above Average] | 6 |
| 6. | 55% and above but below 60% | “C” [Average] | 5 |
| 7. | 50% and above but below 55% | “P” [Pass] | 4 |
| 8. | Below 50% | “F” [Fail] | 0 |
| 9. | Absent | “Ab” [Absent] | 0 |

The successful candidates will be awarded grades only, on a 10 point scale. The number of credits required to complete the programme is 26 and any additional credits earned by the students by opting for additional courses shall be treated as extra credit courses. The University reserves its right to offer single credit seminar courses for every stream in each semester subject to the availability of faculty/external experts.

(2) Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA)

SGPA is the ratio of sum of the product of the number of credits with the grade points scored by a student in all the courses undergone by a student and the sum of the number of credits of all the courses undergone by a student.

(3) Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

CGPA is also calculated in the same manner taking into account all the courses undergone by a student over the two semesters of a post graduate programme. The SGPA and CGPA shall be rounded off to 2 decimal points and reported in the transcripts.

(4) Maximum Duration for passing the Post Graduate Courses

The maximum duration for passing the postgraduate courses offered by the TNNLS as “1+2 = 3” (Three Years) from the academic year in which the student registered for the course. The Executive Council may extend the span period by additional one year in exceptional cases. The maximum duration is subject to change as per existing UGC guidelines in any academic year with the prior approval of Executive Council upon recommendation by the Vice Chancellor.
