

**From:** [AS00](#) on behalf of [Academic Senate](#)  
**To:** ["AS00@uci.edu"](mailto:AS00@uci.edu)  
**Subject:** Final Exams & Flexibility (Updated Guidance)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020 9:56:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.txt](#)

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Dear Colleagues,

We recently sent you a message about remote proctoring and the importance of flexibility with respect to final exams. The context of our message was, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past several days, we have witnessed events that have added further stress and anxiety to the lives of our students. As with the pandemic, such stress and anxiety, while widely shared, is also unevenly distributed.

Once more we ask you to consider what flexibility and accommodations you might offer your students during the final exam period. Course content, including exams, essentially belongs to you. However, the Senate does have regulations stipulating how exams are scheduled and the use of alternatives to exams. These regulations have been temporarily eased so that you may provide flexibility and options without undue restrictions. Keep in mind that these regulations are primarily intended to protect students and to help ensure academic quality; please aim to do no unintended harm in these regards.

We realize that providing flexibility for our students translates into an increase in workload for the instructor. We trust that you'll agree that the circumstances warrant the added effort. Finally, you may wish to remind all of your students of the mental health services that are available to them (<https://counseling.uci.edu/> or by phone at 949-824-6457).

Yours,

James Steintrager  
Chair, Academic Senate

Michael Dennin  
Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning