

Item for Agreement of Class Rep Council

ITEM NO. 2313-04 LAW EXAMS

Proposed by

Ellie Brennan (BAJP3), Conor Brennan (BCL3), and Glen Scanlon Tims (Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Rep).

Issue Definition

Council notes that the vast majority in the current cohort of law students in DCU have been assessed by the following methods during their studies here:

- 24-hour take-home typed exams.
- Continuous Assessment.

Council also notes that law students' degrees are weighed completely on their final year, and that law students have come under tremendous pressure in recent weeks and months due to anxiety over the unknown format of these exams and the lack of exam preparation as students have never been assessed in a manner outside of COVID-19 regulations and policies.

Council is disappointed and angered by the fact that tutorials have not been occurring as frequently as previous years and have been subject to cancellation, timetable changes, and general inconvenience and inconsistencies for students.

Issue Action

Council observes that law students would be better facilitated in their studies by the proposed in-person exams being moved to an online 24-hour take-home format.

Council also notes that all students should be provided with the necessary supports prior to them being assessed.

Alternative arrangements should be made for students affected by the lack of tutorials.

Issue Mandate

Council mandates that the DCUSU Executive support the VP Academic Life, and the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Representative to lobby the School of Law and Government to introduce exam and assessment support for students.

Council further mandates the Executive to lobby the School of Law and Government to move any law exams to a 24-hour take home exam format taking place during the 2022/2023 Academic Year.

This motion shall expire if the criteria outlined in the mandate is fulfilled, or otherwise under the conditions outlined in DCUSU Constitution.