May 26, 2020

This letter describes the grading policy that was enacted by the University of Alabama School of Law in light of changes to instruction and examinations during the Spring 2020 semester. These changes were instituted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that forced many schools, including ours, to implement distance learning in the middle of the semester. Because the Law School building remained closed during the exam period, all exams were conducted remotely on a self-scheduled basis. As a result of these unanticipated changes to both the classroom experience and to the structure of exams, the following grading system was adopted for the Spring 2020 semester only.

All students enrolled in the JD program at the Law School were graded on a Pass/D/Fail basis for all courses taken within the JD program. JD students taking courses outside the JD program (including in the Tax or Business LLM programs) were allowed (and in some cases required) to receive letter grades in those courses under guidelines set by those programs. Grades received in classes taken outside the Law School are not factored into a student’s Law School GPA.

Any questions regarding this grading policy should be directed to Grace Lee, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who can be reached via e-mail at glee@law.ua.edu or via phone at 205-348-7190.

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