

**Action points arising from the meeting of the  
Student Staff Liaison Committee  
on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**First year matters**

- Can we have access to last year's PX101 webpage?  
Students have already been notified that this webpage is now viewable – search for PX101 in the Moodle search bar, or type in the URL <https://moodle.warwick.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=28864>
- How will progression from year 1 to year 2 be decided?  
The criteria that must normally be satisfied before progressing into the second year of study for most courses have been relaxed slightly. The expectation is that 95% of first-year students will automatically progress. While the basis for considering incomplete sets of first year marks have not yet been announced in full by the University, we expect to use existing marks - January examinations, physics coursework (marks from weekly examples, Mastering Physics, Moodle quizzes, worksheets and programming assignments) and Mathematics coursework for Maths/Physics students - to identify any students who appear not to be ready to progress. For those students, further assessments will be set during September.
- What are the plans for teaching in 20/21 and will we be expected to pay tuition fees in 20/21 if there is no face-to-face teaching?  
The University are developing plans for a safe return to campus working over the coming months. The University will follow Government policy and Public Health England advice. Currently they are working through a number of options. The University will continue to support students achieve their desired learning outcomes in 20/21, whether online or face-to-face or a mixture of the two. As such, we anticipate that tuition fees will be charged for 20/21.
- What will be the weighting of year marks when calculating the overall degree mark?  
We anticipate that your year 1 mark will be down-weighted to 0%, and the relative weighting of the year 2, year 3, (and where appropriate year 4) marks will remain unchanged.
- When will the progression decisions be announced?  
The date for releasing these decisions will be confirmed in due course.
- Will any material from the Electronics Workshop be released?  
Yes, study material is being prepared for a provisional release date in Week 6, and practical aspects will be introduced into the second year lab.

**Second year matters**

- The 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June are busy days in the exam timetable.  
The 24 hour window for MA250 opens at 0900 on 6<sup>th</sup> June and for PX263X at 1400 on the same day. Note that PX263X is one paper, not two. Due to the 24 hour window, PX263X could be attempted on the 7<sup>th</sup> June if desired. PX264X is scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> June. In normal years this is one paper. This year you have

more flexibility, because the sections can be attempted separately during the 24 hour window.

- How will the PX263X and PX264X examinations be structured and administered?

An announcement will be made at [www.warwick.ac.uk/px\\_covid](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/px_covid) before the start of the main season examination period.

### Third year matters

- Third year examinations start earlier than in previous years.  
The University decided to start the examinations one week earlier than usual to provide extra flexibility. As all assessments had to be open for 24 hours, the examination timetable (even without any first year assessments) was significantly more congested than usual.
- Some students are disappointed that the Project vivas have been cancelled and are unsure about how the CATS will be redistributed.  
We regret that we have had to cancel the vivas. The details of the CATS redistribution has been outlined at [www.warwick.ac.uk/px319](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/px319). In brief: the relative weighting of project components will remain unchanged, with the viva (6 CATS) dropped. The absolute CATS weight for the whole project will be kept at 37.5 for BSc.
- What is the rationale for the split between FBOBE and Moodle quizzes?  
Online assessments can only be within a restricted range of formats approved by the University. While aiming to stick as closely as possible to the External Examiner approved examinations, we chose a mixture of two assessment methods: Moodle quizzes and FBOBEs. We believe the use of two methods will allow all students to demonstrate what they have learnt. Some may adapt better to one format and some to the other. Having two formats should also help make for a more robust system. Where it was relatively easy to convert a paper which did not require candidates to submit diagrams, and/or it did not assign a large number of marks to showing mathematical working, the Moodle platform was more likely to be chosen.
- Typing mathematical expressions on Moodle takes longer than writing them by hand. There are few examples of Moodle quizzes provided.  
Yes, but you have 45 minutes extra to account for the online format. Bear in mind that, unlike with FBOBEs, none or almost none of this time is required for file upload/download. We intend to release a further (PX3) example very shortly.

### Fourth year matters

*None*

### Mathematics matters

- Will we be sitting the same version of the MA papers that were written pre-Covid?  
Yes, as announced at <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/math/undergrad/coronavirus/exams>.