

# Jawaharlal Nehru University

## Press Note

09 May 2021

The JNU Administration highly appreciates constant efforts by the faculty, students and staff in continuing their academic and administrative activities to maintain a broad academic calendar despite the tremendous physical and emotional strains caused by Covid-19.

The 155<sup>th</sup> Academic Council in its meeting held in November 2020 had adopted a resolution to keep the academic calendar dynamic in view of the uncertain evolution of the pandemic and made it flexible for schools and special centres of the university to shift or modify the teaching and evaluation processes as and when required. JNU runs BA, B.Tech, MA, MCA, MPH, M.Tech, MPhil and PhD programmes in its various schools and special centres.

In a number of his meetings with the Deans of the Schools and Chairpersons of the Special Centres, the Vice Chancellor has repeatedly advised them to be compassionate, empathetic and flexible towards the students and use the available technology to impart online classes and hold online examinations.

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Given the huge diversity of programs, courses and areas of specialization, JNU does not have a centralized examination system. The Schools and Special Centres are responsible for the conduct of the examinations in their respective programs conforming to the broad outline of the academic calendar. Individual course instructors in JNU have the freedom to chart out their own methods of pedagogy and patterns of evaluation.

It is an enormous satisfaction to the JNU community to note that majority of the Schools and Special Centres have managed to complete their courses as per the academic calendar and have either completed their end semester examinations or are in the process of concluding the end semester examinations. However, in some cases, where an extension in conducting the academic activities was sought, the same was approved by the administration.

The Dean of the School of Arts and Aesthetics reported that some of his faculty members and students were infected by COVID-19 and sent a recommendation from the Board of Studies of his School for extending the deadline of holding the examinations and starting the classes for the next semester. The recommendation of the school has been approved by the Administration and the same will be reported to the Academic Council. Similar recommendations were made by the Centre for the Study of Regional Development and Centre for the Study of Economic Studies and Planning of the School of Social Sciences, and approval has been given to them as well.

The Deans of the Schools and Chairpersons of the Special Centres will make every effort to help the students in completing their academic requirements. During the pandemic, if any course instructor is unable to conduct the examination in time or any student is unable to write the examination, the university has adopted a very flexible approach to accommodate changes and allow the students the opportunity to complete their degree programmes. In addition, hundreds of students have been able to take the viva voce tests and complete their requirements for doctoral degree.

The students, who have gone back to their respective homes due to the pandemic, are advised to stay in touch with their respective teachers and make requests, if needed, for rescheduling the dates of their examinations.

The rumours spread by some people that JNU administration is inflexible to the needs of the students are completely wrong. All students are, therefore, advised not to give credence to social media postings and get confused. They should directly contact their respective teachers or school offices for any clarifications.



Rector