January 4, 2022

Dear Students,

Subject: Exam policy for fall semester due to Covid-19

Further to my letter of December 29, 2021, and with the spike in Covid-19 cases, the Bar-Ilan University administration has decided to activate the contingency plan in which some exams will be moving to the Tomax online exam platform. Although official guidelines requiring this have not yet been issued, we cannot wait for such instructions; in our experience, they are often imposed at the last minute, leaving insufficient time for preparation. The decision was made after consultation with the Student Union and with their consent, out of commitment to the health of our students, faculty and staff.

All final exams in the following faculties and units will thus be conducted by the Tomax platform:

- The Faculty of Jewish Studies;
- The Faculty of Humanities;
- The Faculty of Social Sciences;
- The Faculty of Education;
- The Faculty of Law;
- The Faculty of Life Sciences (only some of the courses, to be announced by the faculty itself);
- The School for Basic Jewish Studies.

Please note that in all quizzes held online this semester, there was not a single claim of damage to a student’s computer; if such a justified claim comes up in the future, the owner of the computer will be compensated by Bar-Ilan.

In the remainder of faculties and units (the Faculty of Exact Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering, the Faculty of Medicine, the Center for Designated Programs, the Interdisciplinary Studies Unit, the English as a Foreign Language Unit), exams are scheduled to be held in-person on campus, maintaining distance and masking as required for your health. Since many exams are moving online, we will be able to space out the classrooms in which campus-based exams are to be held. In keeping with government decisions, entry onto campus will only be permitted with presentation of a green pass or a negative valid Covid-19 test result. Students who are sick or in quarantine (with a proof of quarantine by the Ministry of Health) will be eligible for Moed Bet, with the option of an additional special exam this year, if necessary. We implore that anyone who is sick or is not feeling well avoid entering campus so as not to endanger fellow students and university employees.

Students who are scheduled for Tomax exams and prefer to take them on Bar-Ilan computers on campus under human supervision only, are requested to sign up via
an administrative request on the In-Bar portal, so that the Exam Office can prepare sufficient computer stations accordingly. Registration will be open until this coming Sunday, January 9, 2022. Please note: Such registration will not be permitted for one or two exams; if you sign up, it will apply for the entire exam period, and cannot be canceled. Students who wish to take Tomax-based exams on campus and are eligible for exams in a small group must register through the Office of Student Support and Accessibility only, using this link, up to 10 days prior to the exam date.

Please note: Due to the logistics involved in exams this semester, overlapping exams will not be permitted, if one of them is on-line. Students who have exams scheduled in the same window will be eligible for Moed Bet for one of the exams, with an option of an additional special exam period, if necessary.

Students who for any reason have not yet tried out the Tomax platform must take the Tomax simulation quiz, so that they can be prepared for their final exams, too. The simulation quiz is structured as e-learning software, and will guide you through the steps of login and identification to the platform, and will acquaint you with its functions. You must take such a simulation quiz before your actual exams! For your convenience, here’s a link explaining how to do this and here’s one with additional information on these exams.

I wish you all good health and success in your exams!

Sincerely,

Prof. Arie Reich
Vice Rector