



## COMPARISON OF MASSACHUSETTS & NATIONAL LAW SPRING 2021

### DEALING WITH COVID-19

- (1) Because of lessons learned as the pandemic has extended to more than two academic semesters, the structure of this course continues to evolve to deal with the pandemic. It therefore is essential that you read and continue to refer to this memorandum throughout the course. It constitutes the rules and expectations of the course. Please do not rely merely on what you've heard about the way this course was taught in the past.
- (2) Because no one can predict the course of the pandemic, it is possible that the structure and rules of the course will be modified again on short notice. We will communicate any changes via TWEN email blasts, but you will need to routinely check the TWEN site for changes in case you miss any of the notifications.
- (3) We are working on the assumption that classes will begin live and continue in-person for those able/willing to attend. It is possible, however, that one of three additional situations will occur: (1) classes will start live but change to virtual if the scientific/medical information suggests we should no longer meet live, (2) by the beginning of the semester, we will not be able to conduct any live classes for the entire semester, or (3) we will not be able to start live, but may be able to shift to live classes later in the semester. The three possibilities involve markedly different approaches to learning and teaching, so your professors are preparing for all of these possibilities.
- (4) Some of you may have medical conditions or be responsible for the direct care of those who have medical conditions, which makes it unsafe for you to come to the building for live classes. In such a circumstance, you should choose Option 3 on the Registration Document entitled "Spring 2021 Class Registration Course Attendance." If you have already registered and would like to change your option, please contact both Dean Kaldis and Registrar Rosa Figueiredo.
- (5) If you do not return the Community Contract for the Spring 2021 semester, you will not be able to take any classes live. In such case, you will not be allowed in the building and will take the classes remotely. For now, you will take all exams

remotely, as will the other students. The administration will provide further instructions on how section final exams and the final multistate exam will be handled in regard to your status.

- (6) At this point, it is the goal of the administration that everyone will take the multistate final exams (scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2021) on campus rather than online. The administration understands that the course of the pandemic is unpredictable and will continue to monitor the science/medicine with the health and safety of our students foremost in its thoughts. You will be notified if and when these circumstances change.
- (7) Please immediately check that you are still registered with TWEN and that your current email address is listed. If you are not registered or have changed your email address, please reregister (see Mick Coyne) or change your email address on the TWEN platform, as the case may be. This is important because for most Comparison professors TWEN is the primary method of communication with the students.
- (8) This memorandum supersedes any conflicting standards or representations made orally or in writing by any individual professor who teaches any section of Comparison.
- (9) The Course Calendar and Class Syllabus are being posted and distributed with this memorandum.
- (10) Although we have given a comprehensive six-hour assessment test in the past, because of the pandemic there is no live assessment test at the beginning of the course this semester. You will see from the Syllabus, however, that there will be a 10-question subject-specific Assessment Quiz given prior to the beginning of each of the seven sections of Comparison.

Thank you and good luck.