TO: Second Year and Third Year Students
FROM: Academic Affairs
SUBJECT: Taking an Elective Course for Credit/No Credit
DATE: September 20, 2012
cc: Office of Registration & Student Records Management, Faculty

Our grading policy permits a student to take up to four CUNY School of Law elective courses Credit/No Credit. ISD, Moot Court and Law Review are all Credit/No Credit courses and count towards the limit of four. (Please note that transfer credits do not count towards the four.) To exercise this option, please return the attached form to elect Credit/No Credit for any elective courses for which you are registered this semester. Submission period: Thursday, September 20, 2012, through Monday, November 26, 2012 to the Office of Registration & Student Records Management (Room 4-109) by 4:30 PM.

The Credit/No Credit Option

• After completing the first year, a student may elect to take up to 4 elective courses including ISD, Moot Court, and Law Review for Credit/No Credit.

• A student taking a course for Credit/No Credit who receives a grade of A through C+ will receive a “CR” for the class and the grade will not be calculated into their GPA. A student taking a course for Credit/No Credit who receives a grade below C+ will receive a grade of “NCL (No Credit-Law)” and 1.00 quality point towards the GPA calculation.

• Students on probation will not be allowed to take courses Credit/No Credit.

• You may choose Credit/No Credit only for elective courses. Thus, the Credit/No Credit option cannot be exercised for Constitutional Structures, Lawyering and the Public Interest (Evidence), Public Institutions, and Property or repeated first-year courses, which are all required courses. Similarly, the Credit/No Credit option will not apply to your fourth semester Lawyering Seminar or your Concentration or Clinic in your third year.
Mastery & Application of Core Doctrine is a mandatory course (effective as of the Spring 2012 semester.) Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher at the end of their 5th semester may opt out of this requirement. However, because Mastery & Application of Core Doctrine is now a mandatory course, students are not permitted to take the course Credit/No Credit.

Once you have elected the Credit/No Credit option, you may not undo it for any purpose. Thus, you must think carefully and strategically about whether and when to exercise the option. If you do not turn the completed form in by 4:30 P.M. on Monday, November 26, 2012, you will not be able to exercise the option for courses you are taking this semester.

How to Decide Whether to Elect the Credit/No Credit Option

Keep in mind your individual career goals. Consider whether you want your transcript to show an “A” or a “B” in an elective course in a subject matter related to the area in which you want to practice. Transcript information provided to employers will include a description of the “Credit” grade as encompassing all passing work.

Assess your total workload for the semester to determine whether electing the “Credit/No Credit” option for a particular course is likely to enhance the picture presented on your transcript or to detract from it. If “Credit/No Credit” in one course gives you the space you need to do very well in all your other courses, this is a relevant consideration. On the other hand, if you are likely to do well anyway, you may want to take the course for a grade.

Think about whether there is a particular semester over the next two years in which you will have a very heavy workload—either in courses, extracurricular activities, job search activities, or in outside employment. You may want to be sure to save your Credit/No Credit option for that semester.

If you are considering electing Credit/No Credit for a bar-related course, you may want to think seriously about whether you will be motivated enough to have your work in that course translate into adequate preparation for the bar exam. The bar-related courses that are not required courses include Business Associations, Criminal Procedure, First Amendment, New York Practice, Real Estate, UCC Survey, and Wills.

If you are uncertain about whether to take a course Credit/No Credit, please come by the Academic Affairs Office—Room 4-106—to make an appointment. You may also consult your faculty advisor for guidance.
Credit/No Credit Form
Fall 2012

DEADLINE: Monday, November 26, 2012– 4:30 PM

Return this form to the Office of Registration & Student Records Mgmt. (Room 4-109).

NAME_____________________________________________

COURSE__________________ FACULTY______________

COURSE__________________ FACULTY______________

COURSE__________________ FACULTY______________

COURSE__________________ FACULTY______________

I wish to take the course(s) listed above on a Credit/No Credit basis. I understand that if I achieve a grade of C+ or above, my transcript will reflect a grade of “CR” for each of the courses listed above. The grade of “CR” will not be included in the calculation of my grade point average. However, I understand that if receive a grade below a C+ in a course taken Credit/No Credit, a grade of NCL (No Credit-Law) will appear on my transcript and 1.00 quality point will be calculated into my GPA. I understand that once I file this form, “CR” or “NCL” are the only two grades that I can receive for these courses.

Signed_________________________________________

Dated___________________________________________

Received by ____________________on ___________, 2012.