TO: Second-Year, Third-Year and Fourth-Year Students  
FROM: Academic Affairs  
SUBJECT: Taking an Elective Course for Credit/No Credit  
DATE: February 26, 2020

Our grading policy permits a student to take up to four CUNY School of Law elective courses Credit/No Credit. 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: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 through Thursday, April 23, 2020.**

**Meeting with the Academic Dean**

- All students who are in their graduation term and wish to take a course Credit/No Credit and need the course credits to graduate, must speak with the Academic Dean or Assistant Academic Dean before submitting the form to the Registration Office. You need not meet with the Academic/Assistant Academic Dean if you do not need the course credits to graduate.

Please email academicdeanoffice@law.cuny.edu to schedule an appointment.

**The Credit/No Credit Option**

- After completing the first year, a student may elect to take up to 4 elective courses Credit/No Credit. This includes courses that are the graded on a Credit/Fail basis: Academic Legal Writing, ISD, Law Review Editing, and Moot Court. (Please note: transfer courses do not count towards the four.)

- 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)”, a 1.00 “quality point” towards the GPA calculation and the student will not receive credit for the class. This means that the class will be calculated into your GPA as a D (1.0) if you get between a C and a D.

**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 Lawyering Seminar III or your Clinic.
Mastery & Application of Core Doctrine (“Core”) is a required course. However, students with a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher at the end of their fifth semester (or the seventh semester for students in the part-time program.) may opt out of this requirement. Any student who is able to opt out of Core Doctrine may elect to take it Credit / No Credit. Pro Bono Scholars may not take Core Doctrine Credit/No Credit.

***Since “Core” and Applied Legal Analysis (“ALA”) are co-requisites, if you opt to take “Core” on a Credit/No Credit grading basis, you are opting to take ALA as Credit/No Credit since the same grade is received for both courses.***

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 submit the completed form by Thursday, April 23, 2020, 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 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 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-electives that are not required courses include Advanced Evidence, Core Doctrine (taken with Applied Legal Analysis, Business Associations, Criminal Procedure I, Criminal Procedure II, Federal Courts, First Amendment, New York Domestic Relations, New York Practice, Real Estate, UCC Survey, and Wills & Trusts).

- Finally, make sure that for whichever course you are considering taking Credit/No Credit, you will be motivated enough to receive a C+ in the course. Otherwise you will not receive any credit and may jeopardize your ability to graduate on time.

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: Spring 2020

DEADLINE: Thursday, April 23, 2020

Return the completed form to the Office of Registration & Student Records Mgmt. (Room 4-109) or place it in the mailbox on the office door. You can also submit the completed form the Academic Affairs Office (4-106) Monday through Thursday up until 8:00 p.m.

CLASS YEAR: 2LFT ☐ 2LPT ☐ 3LFT ☐ 3LPT ☐ 4LPT ☐ Exam Number ______

NAME __________________________ CUNYfirst ID ______________________

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.

________________________________________ Date____/___/________
Student’s Signature

________________________________________ Date____/___/________
Signature of Academic Dean/Ann Cammett

________________________________________ Date ____/___/________
Signature of Assistant Academic Dean/Ryan Dooley

(You only need permission of the Academic Dean if you are in your final semester and would not be able to graduate without the credits awarded for this class).

Registration Office/Academic Affairs Office:

Received by _________________________________ Date ____/___/________