



College of Human Sciences & Education
School of Kinesiology

DATE: March 18, 2020

TO: Athletic Training Students and course instructors of ATRN 2201, 2505, 2507, 3201, 4201, 4505, 4509, and 4700.

FROM: Ray Castle, PhD, LAT, ATC, NREMT
Program Director – Athletic Training
RCASTL1@LSU.EDU

RE: Coronavirus 2020 Continuity Instructional Plan - Policy on Evaluating Clinical Skills in Spring 2020 Semester Coursework

As you are aware, the transition of all courses to 100% online format for the remainder of the semester is requiring all courses you take to make appropriate adjustments in content delivery and assessment. The athletic training program is required by CAATE accreditation standards to ensure that students receive formal instruction, hands-on practice, and formal evaluation of clinical skills taught within designated courses in a consistent manner. Due to the elimination of the face-to-face (F2F) format to accomplish the skills instruction and evaluation, we have to establish and document a continuity instructional plan of how the program has modified its normal instructional and assessment plan to maintain CAATE accreditation standards. Below is the action plan that will be implemented immediately for all courses in which clinical skills are formally taught and evaluated in the Spring 2020 semester, including practical simulation examinations in ATRN 2201, 2505, 2507, 3201, 4201, 4505, 4509, and 4700:

- A. The course instructor will publish in the course syllabus a list of all hands-on skills/techniques, including any practical examinations evaluating skill performance, that were scheduled to be graded in the course but not able to conduct practice and/or evaluate via physical skills performance due to F2F restrictions.
- B. A copy of the list from each course from "A" above will be provided to Athletic Training Program Director by each course instructor. This list will be compiled for all courses and distributed.
- C. Since the hand-on skills/techniques are not able to be visually evaluated and graded for skill competence, the student will receive an "incomplete" grade for that component of the course. A written or oral examination, or other examination cannot and will not replace the physical demonstration of required skills performance in a course. The issuance of the "I" grade at the end of the semester will not negatively impact a student's grade as the skills have not been assessed thus no grade will be issued at this time for uncompleted coursework; given the unusual circumstances of the university closure warrants additional considerations for students to successfully complete course requirements.
- D. Once LSU administration establishes a date when students and faculty can safely return to the campus, the program will identify a time window that the student will be required to complete the necessary skills practice and physical evaluation of the remaining clinical skills in the course. The time window will work within the University's policies for completing any course with an "Incomplete" ("I") grade.
 - o Since all F2F instruction was eliminated for the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester, at this time it is not possible to determine a definitive time window for students to complete the remaining course requirements involving clinical skills performance.
 - The F2F clinical skills instructional and evaluation time window with your course instructor will occur prior to the last date to complete a Spring 2020 course with an "Incomplete" grade.
 - If the last date occurs after the start of the Fall 2020 semester then the F2F skills instruction/evaluation session will occur before the start of the first day of Fall 2020 semester.
 - Assuming the LSU campus will resume full operations for the Summer semester, the earliest potential time window to complete the course requirements will not occur until after the start of your assigned Fall 2020 clinical assignment in-service report date.

The transition away from face-to-face and clinical coursework for the remainder of the semester has been and will be challenging for everyone involved. With that said, it is of utmost importance that the program ensure that each student has the ability to obtain the necessary skills taught and evaluated in the course this Spring semester. By doing so the program can continue to maintain CAATE accreditation compliance and progress each student in their skills and abilities toward becoming a competent athletic trainer upon graduation.

All questions regarding the action plan above need to be directed to Ray Castle by email (RCASTL1@lsu.edu) with your questions or to request a phone or video call.

Sample Calculator – Prorating Your Student’s Clinical Experiences

SAMPLE SCENARIO #'s

H = 200 (hours)

X = 105 (days)

Y = 50 (days)

Z = 10 (days)

E = 2 (days)

A = 15 (days)

T = 41 (days)

STEPS

1. # of minimum clinical contact hours required for the student to complete in the semester for course
 - EXAMPLE: 200 clinical contact hours = H
2. Determine # of days in term (1st to last clinical day)
 - EXAMPLE: Jan 13 – May 2 = X days
3. Add up # of days between 1st clinical day to your University’s closure/end of clinicals due to COVID-19
 - EXAMPLE: Jan 13 to Mar 14 = Y days
4. all approved school holidays (e.g. Spring Break, Good Friday, etc.)
 - EXAMPLE: 10 days in the term = Z days
5. and university/school/clinical site closures due to weather, etc. PRIOR TO ANY COVID19 CLOSURES
 - EXAMPLE: closed 2 days due to severe storms = E days
6. # of week in the term X one (1) calendar day off per CAATE Standards
 - EXAMPLE: # weeks x 1 day/week = A days
7. # of clinical contact days from 1st day of term to COVID-19 Closure Date (end of clinicals) and subtracting total value of days from Z, E, and A that occurred during the “Y” period
 - EXAMPLE: Y – 9 days (Z+E+A between Jan 13 to Mar 14), or “T” days

CALCULATIONS:

Contact hours/day Normal Term:

X – Z – E – A = Clinical Contact Days

105 – 10 – 2 – 15 = **78 days**

Contact Hours/Day (CHD):

H / Clinical Contact Days = ___ hrs/day

200 / 78 = **2.56 CHD**

Prorated Completion Based on Clinical Contact Hours:

T x CHD = Total Prorated Hours

41 x 2.56 = ~~104.96~~ **105 clinical hours**

- Any student with at least ~~104.96~~ 105 clinical hours in the semester would receive a 100% grade for that component of the course
- Any student not achieving 105 clinical hours prior to COVID-19 closure of clinical activities would receive an “incomplete” or “I” grade and complete when able to by university and clinical site policies