

Posted by u/motherthrowee 1 year ago

has anyone been told something rather alarming about the final exam policy on Internet outages?

So we recently found out in one of my classes that the policy in the event that you lose your Internet connection during your final would be that you will be considered to be done with the final, and presumably only graded on what you completed. I have a couple of questions about this:

1. Have others been told this? Is this department-wide or university-wide at your school? CUNY-wide?
2. Am I right to think this is absolutely bananas? It seems incredibly backward that the college is implementing what I think are a bit extreme accommodations -- going to pass-fail, adapting exams to be multiple-choice and/or open book, generally making things easier -- only to introduce the possibility of failing, even if totally prepared, via pure random chance. I know it's plausible some people might open the exam, decide it's too hard, quit, and say their Internet went out... but it's also plausible people's Internet might go out, particularly when they can't go anywhere reliable.

(To be 100% clear, this was not my professor's decision, nor did they seem AT ALL pleased about it either. I don't want to come off as the entitled snowflake student. But I have unreliable Internet access, and I'm sure I'm not the only one.)

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FavMascot 1 year ago
I had a professor let my friend retake an exam after this happened to her and same with another professor of mine. I am on the same boat with bad connection we called and the response was that they were redirecting WiFi to people who need it more which I found to be crazy, but maybe you can make an appeal or something if this were to occur while you were taking a final.

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motherthrowee 1 year ago
I just hope it doesn't happen. The advice we were given was to "look for a better connection," but how exactly am I supposed to do that? Businesses are closed. Libraries are closed. War-walking would probably get me in trouble with the proctoring system (which, so would businesses and libraries). A mobile hotspot is expensive and puts me at the mercy of the package delivery at my apartment (I've had two packages lost in the past two weeks alone). I've had a technician look at the connection, but the nature of an Internet outage is that it is unpredictable. You don't know when or if it's going to happen until it happens.

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thetwentiethyear 1 year ago
I have extremely unreliable internet access. I was presenting two separate times when my internet went out and I had to reset my wifi, the whole process takes about 5-6 minutes. My professor was not understanding about the presentation, so I am praying that I can just get through the exam without the internet going out because she doesn't seem to care or get it. Hope your connection doesn't fail either. It's ridiculous how some professors have used this time to make things harder for students.

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motherthrowee 1 year ago
Just to clarify again, this doesn't seem like it was the professor's fault.

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imisspelledcuny 1 year ago
This isn't true. This actually happened to me twice during my final today. My professor reuploaded the exam twice for me and told me to start where I left off. Blackboard isn't that reliable as it crashes for me out of the blue even though I have a reliable laptop and WiFi.

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motherthrowee 1 year ago
It seems like it might not be CUNY-wide then, we were definitely told it would be the case for ours

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imisspelledcuny 1 year ago
I think it depends on the professor because it happened to me with two different professors and both of them let me retake it. It doesn't seem like a Cuny-wide policy at all not college even. What college are you referring to by the way?

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ProfBird 1 year ago
It is definitely not a CUNY wide policy. You should complain to your school dean if this happens. Not fair.

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throwaway59423 12 months ago
You are NOT an entitled snowflake. During my 4 hours final on Monday, I was dialed in to Blackboard Ultra for 2 hours through my phone b/c the professor was available for half the finals to answer questions. Students were endlessly disconnecting, even losing their exam answers. Luckily the professor has a record of all *saved* answers, but the unsaved answers? Bye bye. He specifically said students can email in answers just to be safe.

COMPLAIN COMPLAIN COMPLAIN. This situation is pathetic and ridiculous. Sounds like my school (City College, smh).

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motherthrowee 12 months ago
Well this doesn't bode well (my exam is today).

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throwaway59423 12 months ago
Good luck. Sucks such policies are in place 😞
Sending all my positive thoughts and luck your way.

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