

DECISION

Reg. No. STYR 2021/295

Date 21 June 2021

Education Board

Exemptions from specific points in the List of Rights – Lund University Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Background

The List of Rights – Lund University Students' Rights and Responsibilities (2017/249), was approved by the vice-chancellor on 10 September 2020 and serves as a support for students, departments, faculties and students' unions to clarify what first and second cycle students are entitled to and in certain cases also what responsibilities they have. The List of Rights entered into force on 18 January 2021.

According to point 8.3 of the List of Rights, exemptions from the List of Rights can be granted by the chair of the university-wide Education Board following a request from a Faculty Board.

Request for exemption

The Faculty Board for the Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (HT faculties) has decided to request an exemption from five points in the List of Rights. A two-year exemption has been requested for all points except point 5.4, with a planned evaluation in the autumn of 2023. Regarding point 5.4, an exemption has been requested for the academic year 2021-2022.

List of Rights 3.9: The University is responsible for ensuring that teaching is not timetabled on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays in the Swedish calendar or after 18:00 unless the course was advertised during the application period as an online or evening

course. Teaching may be timetabled on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays in the Swedish calendar, or after 18:00, if the teaching is conducted at places that are only accessible on these days or after 18:00, such as at museums and on excursions.

The HT faculties request an exemption from this point based on the following: part-time courses are offered at the faculties. Many of the students on these courses are employed, and it would be considerably more difficult for the student groups in general if the exemption regarding evenings and weekends for distance and evening courses, did not also apply to part-time courses.

List of Rights 3.10: The University is responsible for ensuring that exams are not to be timetabled to end later than 19:00 on weekdays, with the exception of online or evening courses. Regular exam instances are not to be timetabled on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays in the Swedish calendar.

The HT faculties request an exemption from this point based on the following: exams are normally timetabled on weekdays, but for courses with large student groups, invigilated exams may need to be scheduled on Saturdays for reasons related to booking premises. There may also be occasions when it is necessary for exams to be held outside of the set parameters for students with learning support.

List of Rights 3.11: The University is responsible for ensuring that exams and compulsory components are not to be timetabled later than one week after the end of the spring semester or earlier than three weeks before the start of the autumn semester, unless the students and examiner agree on another solution. Exceptions may be made for summer courses.

The HT faculties request an exemption from this point based on the following: the faculties consider that point 3.11 is in conflict with point 5.1, which states that re-sit exams must take place five to seven weeks after the regular exam. For a student who has failed a regular

exam at the end of the spring semester on a qualifying course for the autumn semester, the resit may need to be scheduled more than a week after the end of the spring semester if the interval specified in 5.1 (at least 5 weeks) is to be maintained.

List of Rights 5.1: The University is responsible for ensuring that for every course/module the following are organised in addition to the regular exam:

- re-sit five to seven weeks after the regular exam and
- one further exam session for courses completed in the past academic year (catch-up exam).

The HT faculties request an exemption from this point based on the following: the faculties consider that it can often benefit the students if a re-sit exam takes place sooner than five weeks after the regular exam. The faculties also point out that a student who fails an exam at the end of the autumn semester on a qualifying course for the spring semester may need to be offered a re-sit exam earlier than five weeks after the regular exam.

List of Rights 5.4: The University is responsible for ensuring that the student, if the form of examination allows it, is to be anonymised in exam assessment in relation to the teaching staff member conducting the assessment. Written invigilated exams are to be anonymised. However, the examiner must have access to the names of the examinees during the grading procedure before the grading decision is taken.

The HT faculties request an exemption from this point based on the following: the faculties will carry out a development project during the academic year 2021–22 that aims to ensure anonymised marking is introduced for all invigilated exams and other forms of examinations where possible. As it is not currently possible to ensure that all examinations are anonymous, an exemption is requested from

point 5.4 in the List of Rights for other forms of examination other than invigilated exams.

Decision

The chair of the Education Board has decided to grant the HT faculties an exemption from points 3.9, 3.10, 3.11, 5.1 and 5.4 in the *List of Rights – Lund University Students' Rights and Responsibilities* as specified above. Regarding point 5.4, an exemption is granted for the academic year 2021-2022. Exemptions for the remaining points are granted up to and including the autumn semester of 2023.

The decision on this matter was taken by the undersigned chair of the Education Board following a consultation with a representative from Lund University Students' Unions and a presentation by coordinator Hanna Björklund, Student Affairs. The decision replaces the previous decision of 27 May 2021, Exemptions from specific points in the *List of Rights – Lund University Students' Rights and Responsibilities*.

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