

Information on Courses in Department of Management

Following the [recent communication from Professor Dilly Fung](#) on 24 March, we wanted to reassure you that we are working hard to plan for the upcoming Summer Term assessments. Staff across LSE are doing all that they can to create a balanced assessment schedule in response to these unprecedented circumstances. You will be informed about the date and timing for your assessments on 3 April 2020. This note provides general information on the main types of online assessments that would apply differentially across the different courses that you would have taken. Information / instructions specific to the assessment for any given course will be given in the assessment script for that course.

Across the Department there will be three main approaches to online assessments: 1) open book take-home exams undertaken over a 24 hour period; 2) timed exams that must be started and completed in a fixed time interval but available for download over a stated 24 hour-period; and 3) coursework assessments.

The most common approach for qualitative courses will be open book take-home exams. Within a specified 24-hour period you will have to download your exam from Moodle and upload your answers. The 24-hour period will most likely be the day of the published exam timetable (though conflicts for certain students may require some changes). The 24-hour window is designed to accommodate different time zones and those who may face disruption of various kinds. The effort expected to complete each exam will, on average, only be a few hours and will be specified, typically in line with the timing of the original assessment. The detail of what "open book" means will be given in the examination instructions for each course. Some quantitative exams will be timed, in the sense that you will have to upload your exams within a specified time after downloading it from Moodle. In a minority of courses, exams will be replaced by coursework. The exact details of the timings and form of each assessment will be communicated to you on 3 April.

In most cases there will be no change to the basic format of the exams. We recognise that the online exams will allow you to have access to books or materials, and examiners may therefore replace simple bookwork questions that can be easily looked up with alternative questions. Be assured, however that the difficulty level will be the same as in previous years. Your lecturers will give you more specific information for each course. It is our intention to make our exams fair and suitable for an online setting. Thus, you should prepare for the upcoming exams in the usual way.

You are required to complete the exam by yourself using only the material that is allowed for the exam. The instructions for each examination will specify what is permissible and what is not. At all times, we expect you to subscribe to an Honour System. We do have experience with take-home assignments and expect to be again successful using a range of safeguards in detecting those who, by cheating, put their degree at risk. We will have safeguards to ensure that your work is your own. Mark distributions might be different than usual in these circumstances, as exams might be open book and because the timeframes are different. We do not expect to

see lower average marks than usual, and it might even be that students do better than usual. You are part of the cohort that had to study and take exams under unusual and challenging circumstances and you will be recognised for that in better days to come.

We recognise that for everyone in our community this is a challenging time, with personal circumstances possibly impacting your studies, as well as concerns for friends and loved ones too. We would like to reassure you that our priority in the Department is to support you in whatever way we can. Assessments are designed to help you show your learning rather than undermine your achievements, and the Department will take the current situation into account during the entire assessment process, including when marking.

Deferrals, support and additional information

We understand that you may be facing personal challenges that are impacting your studies. Our priority is to be flexible and understanding of individual circumstances. As outlined in [previous communications](#), you will be able to defer assessments to the next appropriate assessment opportunity on self-declaration. More information on the process will be communicated on 6 April, but please do talk to us if you have concerns.

We would also like to reiterate that we are here to advise and support you. LSE's campus may be closed but we are still open, and as well as your classes and revision sessions running as planned, there is a range of support available, from one-to-one sessions with [LSE LIFE](#), guidance from the [Student Services Advice team](#) on regulatory matters, learning resources available on Moodle and [suggestions on how to stay connected while studying remotely](#).

LSE is committed to your wellbeing, both physical and mental. Balancing your studies and monitoring your health are important, especially if you are in an area with restricted movement such as the UK or elsewhere. We've set up [new pages on our website](#) to bring together coronavirus resources, FAQs, guidance, and support to make it easy for you to access help from LSE and keep in touch, no matter where you are.

Finally, we would like to thank each and every one of you for accepting in the spirit of the exigencies of the situation the changes that we had to make to the delivery of your educational experience brought about by events that were entirely beyond our control. Once that is all over and we return to a sense of normality, we will find ways to celebrate that with you. Thank you!