

KEY CHANGES TO REGULATIONS AND POLICIES FOR 2020/21

Standard Assessment Regulations 2020/21

What's changed?

The interim measures that were temporarily put in place for 2019/20 in response to the pandemic situation have been removed apart from the revisions below which are for **continuing students only**:-

- If you are trailing referrals into 2020/21, the marks for [continued reassessment tasks](#) will not be capped at the minimum pass mark.
- If you are retaking previously failed modules in 2020/21, the overall module mark will not be capped at the minimum pass mark.

Do I need to do anything?

You need to be aware of this revision and engage in your reassessment and retake modules.

Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedure

What's changed?

Extensions

- As from 1 October 2020, the ability to grant a 20 working day extension for dissertations and other large projects is removed. Instead, extensions will be for **5 working days** in line with all other assessments.
- [Extensions](#) are intended to allow you to complete an assessment, rather than start it. Therefore, you are required to submit your work in progress to support your request for an extension.
- You are no longer automatically required to submit medical evidence to support the circumstances you are reporting, although you may be required to subsequently provide such evidence upon request. If you require more than 5 working days you should engage with the [Request to Repeat an Assessment Attempt](#) (RRAA) process.

Late submission of RRAAs

- You are no longer able to submit late RRAAs beyond the publication of your results on My Student Record.
- You should always aim to submit RRAAs within the specified timeframe in the Extenuating Circumstances Policy which is within 5 working days of the assessment affected by your circumstances.

- RRAAs submitted late, but prior to the publication of your results on My Student Record, may still be considered by the Extenuating Circumstances Panel if you have demonstrated a valid reason for lateness.
- If you want to submit a claim regarding extenuating circumstances **after the publication of your results on My Student Record**, you can submit an appeal under the [Appeal Policy and Procedure](#) stating why you were incapable of engaging with the RRAA process at the time of your assessments.

Break in Study

- Taking a break in study option is removed from the reformatted [Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedure](#) and incorporated into a separate [Break in Study Policy and Procedure](#).

General principles

- You are expected to take responsibility for your individual situation and to make judgements about your ability to balance studies against any difficult circumstances you are experiencing and the support the University can offer you.
- Extenuating circumstances relate only to new or escalating life circumstances that occur or escalate during the academic year. They do not relate to long-standing circumstances of which you are aware when you enrol at the start of an academic year.

Do I need to do anything?

You need to be aware of the revisions, manage your studies and submit work in line with published deadlines on your Assessment Statement.

Break in Study Policy and Procedure

What's changed?

- The break in study process is removed from the Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedure.
- The [Break in Study Policy and Procedure](#) incorporates both the break in study process if you have extenuating circumstances and breaks in study for issues unrelated to extenuating circumstances.
- The definition of a break in study is that you are temporarily halting your studies with the intention of resuming studies in the next academic year (usually within a 6-18 month period).

Do I need to do anything?

You need to be aware of this option if you are struggling to continue with your studies. As it is not possible to agree a break in study within the final 4 weeks of teaching on your course, you must speak with a Student Support Adviser to request a break in study as soon as possible during the academic year.

[Assessment Support for Student Carers](#)

What's new?

- We have a new process to support students who have caring responsibilities.
- This process outlines the additional support you can access if you are registered with the University as a student carer.

Do I need to do anything?

If you have caring responsibilities which meet the University definition of a student carer, you need to contact your Student Support Adviser or register directly with the [Inclusive Support Team](#).

[Student Attendance and Engagement Policy](#)

What's changed?

The existing policy has been updated to reflect the University's move to blended learning and the extended campus.

Do I need to do anything?

If you are struggling to engage or attend please let us know through either your Student Support Adviser or your Academic Adviser,

[Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures](#) - Student Code of Conduct

What's changed?

- The Student Code of Conduct in the Disciplinary Regulations has been updated and is also published separately on [My Hallam](#).
- Examples of behaviour which breaches the code of conduct is included in point 7 of the Disciplinary Regulations.

Do I need to do anything?

You need to be mindful of the expectations in relation to your behaviour and conduct both in relation to your engagement with University activities and your behaviour as a member of the local community. Information about behaviour to protect our community in light of the Covid-19 pandemic is also available on [My Hallam](#).

Student Pregnancy and Maternity Policy and Procedure

What's new?

- We have a new Student Pregnancy and Maternity Policy to support the continued engagement of students during pregnancy and maternity and return to studies.
- The new policy outlines support arrangements for students and links closely with the revised Break in Study Policy.

Do I need to do anything?

If you are pregnant or you are returning to study following maternity absence, please access this new policy and speak with your Student Support Adviser in order to access appropriate support.

Student Policy and Compliance

September 2020