Supplement decision in reference to STYR 2020/251 regarding Undergraduate and Master’s teaching at LUSEM in preparations for the autumn-20 semester

In this document, a framework for LUSEM’s teaching activities during the autumn of 2020 is set out. The guidelines define the implications of the overall decision by the Vice Chancellor of Lund University STYR 2020/251 regarding LUSEM’s teaching and examination activities.

In addition to the decisions made by the Vice Chancellor, Lund University School of Economics and Management (LUSEM) follows the guidelines from the Swedish Government and the Public Health Agency of Sweden (FHM).

On May 29, the Government announced that universities can initiate plans for going back to campus-based teaching starting June 15. This is to be carried out in a manner that promotes the health and safety of all employees and students. Further, Lund University, and hence LUSEM, are to act in a responsible manner that avoids potential spreading of the corona virus.

In order to comply with the above, the following two constraints put limitations on teaching and examination at LUSEM, until further notice:

- gatherings of more than 50 people are not allowed
- social distancing should be observed and enforced

Decision

*The general implication of this decision is that teaching and examination is to be conducted online for the initial ten weeks of the autumn semester of 2020 with some hybrid exceptions.*

Below, the various student categories will be commented on in terms of how the initial ten weeks of the autumn semester 2020, and onwards will be organised.
Undergraduate studies

All undergraduate teaching will start online with the aim to move to campus-based teaching as soon as possible. For most courses this implies that the earliest possibility for when campus-based teaching may start is around November 1.

All undergraduate students are welcome to Lund for the autumn semester 2020. LUSEM aims at opening its premises in mid-August, but the School cannot guarantee that students will have access to our premises. Opening hours will be decided and communicated in mid-August at the latest. Opening hours regarding the School’s premises may also change at short notice. The above includes LUSEM’s Library and LUSEM Learning Hub.

All undergraduate students will receive more detailed information from either their programmes, or course-based information from departments. Newly accepted undergraduate students will receive special information in order to make sure that the start of the autumn semester runs as smoothly as possible.

The above applies to both national and international students. Special arrangements will be carried out for incoming international undergraduate students who require a residence permit to be able to study in Sweden.

Master’s level studies

All master level teaching will start online with the aim to move to campus-based teaching as soon as possible. For most courses this implies that the earliest possibility for when campus-based teaching may start is around November 1.

All Master’s students are welcome to Lund for the autumn semester 2020. LUSEM aims at opening its premises in mid-August, but the School cannot guarantee that students will have access to our premises. Opening hours will be decided and communicated in mid-August at the latest.

For newly accepted students to year 1 of LUSEM’s MSc programmes the following will apply:
- the autumn semester will run online from August 31 to November 1.
- on campus activities and some format of hybrid teaching will be carried out at the discretion of each host department. Admitted students will receive more information from their programmes.
- students who start their Master’s studies online will have to meet certain criteria in terms of technical equipment, see below.
- LUSEM cannot guarantee (with a few exceptions that will be communicated at the programme level) to run an entire MSc programme digitally.
- LUSEM does not offer deferred admission, but will treat accepted students favourably, if they decide to re-apply for the academic year 2021/22.
- LUSEM will re-fund all fee-paying students asking for a refund before the semester starts August 31.

For students already enrolled in LUSEM’s 2 yr-long MSc programmes the following will apply:
- the autumn semester will start out in a hybrid teaching model, in which on campus teaching will be combined with online modules. LUSEM will pay close attention all the rules and regulations from the Swedish Migration Agency as well as from the Public Health Agency of Sweden.
Prerequisites for being able to follow LUSEM’s courses online – applicable for all students

While LUSEM welcomes all students to Lund in mid-August, no one can tell at this stage if it will be possible to use the computer facilities or not. Regardless if students start out their online studies at home, or in Lund, the same demands apply in terms of computer facilities.

Hence, each student has to ensure access to stable and good computer-based internet connection is available. This is mandatory since teaching will be carried out by streamed videos, online live broadcasting, seminar participation etc. It is crucial to have a stable and fully functioning computer-based internet connection. Online teaching also requires access to fully functioning microphones and fully functioning cameras. LUSEM’s online teaching model is based on interaction, and students will not be able to receive a passing grade unless they have participated (student are to be present both with audio and camera on).

All of LUSEM’s online offerings will be run over the learning platform “Canvas”; therefore, being able to access Canvas is crucial. In addition, access to articles from Lund University Libraries’ databases is imperative.

While LUSEM plans to run all online teaching with as much flexibility as possible. All online activities, for example: streamed video lectures, seminars and other synchronous interactions, will take place during LUSEM’s office hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (approx.), Central European Time (CET). No exceptions. For live activities Zoom will be used in most cases.

This decision applies as of 15 June 2020 until further notice.

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Dean