

LSBU COVID-19 No Detriment Policy

Frequently Asked Questions for Students

Where can I find LSBU's No Detriment Policy?

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have developed a set of Exceptional Academic Regulations, which should be read alongside our existing Academic Regulations. When we talk about our No Detriment Policy, we are referring to the Exceptional Academic Regulations.

What does a 'No Detriment Policy' mean?

Our No Detriment Policy will ensure that, if you have satisfactorily completed all of your assessments, there will be no specific detriment to your progression or award as a result of COVID-19. We will consider your performance individually because we know that you are facing a unique set of circumstances and challenges.

Wherever possible, our exam boards will be using a minimum benchmark to produce your mark for this year or for your degree classification. We will do this by calculating the average mark for this academic year from all your assessments up to 20th March 2020.

You'll need to have submitted all summative assessments including resits for this academic year. We may offer exceptional resit opportunities if appropriate in your individual circumstances. Your average mark will then be used as a benchmark against which we will determine if your performance has been impacted by the current situation.

Does that mean I'm guaranteed not to fail anything this year?

In short, no! We are trying to ensure that the final decision we make for each student this year (whether you are finishing your course this year, or continuing with us as a student next year) is made as if there had been no major disruption. We do expect you to submit all of the assessments that you're set, but we will also look at your previous marks, so that we can take account of the impact of Covid on your performance.

Does this mean that any work submitted after March 20th doesn't really count?

Absolutely not! To be very clear, if you submit all of your work between now and the end of the academic year, and you get grades which are in line with what you have been getting throughout your studies, then the likelihood is that those marks will stand and count towards your final qualification. Your post-Covid assessments will of course give you the opportunity to improve your overall grade. You should continue engaging and seeking support with your studies and submitting all of your work as before.

Will I get another chance to submit anything I have failed or not submitted from the last semester?

As far as possible, and in line with guidance issued to all universities, we are trying to avoid asking students to complete more work to progress to the next stage of their course or receive a qualification. However, there may be some circumstances where it is necessary to offer an exceptional extra attempt.

This might occur, for example, where an external professional body who accredit your course require specific things to be assessed.

Have there been any changes to how degree classifications are calculated?

No, we have not changed the way in which we calculate degree classifications.

What about my course? Will all of the exceptional regulations apply to my course?

We will communicate wherever there are course specific exceptions, and explain what alternative actions we will be taking to support you. On most of our courses, the exceptional regulations will apply. However, because so many of our courses are externally accredited, there may be some specific modules, or even specific assessments, where we cannot apply these regulations in full – this is because if we did, your qualification might not be externally recognised, and this might prevent you progressing in your future career.

Can I speak to someone to find out exactly what will happen to my marks this year?

We do appreciate that not knowing what might happen to you as an individual can be worrying.

It's always the case that our Exam Boards take decisions about award or progression with the complete student profile available containing all the results for the academic year.

The decisions will be for the boards and it will not be possible to tell any student earlier than this definitively how your case will be decided. However, we will be able to give students general advice about how particular types of circumstances are treated so staff can explain generally how compensation works and where resit opportunities are given.

When will I hear about my final degree classification or if I can progress to next year?

As per the existing Academic Calendar, ratified results for courses which started in September are expected to be released on 10th July, but if we cannot do so on this date we will let you know of the revised release date. For courses which started at other points in the academic year, you will be informed of the release date for your results.

What is going to happen next semester?

The exceptional regulations here cover the marks related to this academic year. However, we know that most students will also be wondering what will happen when the academic year starts again. We are working on options, taking account of public health messages and student interests. We intend to set out clear information as soon as possible.

Where can I get additional support?

Our Student Services team are here to provide advice and support for students on a wide range of non-academic and educational needs including financial advice, mental health, disability and dyslexia support,

employment and career advice, wellbeing, in fact, anything not related to the curriculum but about student and university life in general. You can contact the team by emailing studentlife@lsbu.ac.uk and find out more on [MyLSBU](#).

Emotional support

You can contact the university's Mental Health & Wellbeing team via email studentwellbeing@lsbu.ac.uk. They are working remotely, offering a full range advice and support. This includes appointments, [online resources](#), and of course don't forget [SilverCloud](#) – online advice and support available 24/7.

Student advice and financial support

The [Student Advice team](#) is running a virtual service to support LSBU students at this difficult time. From providing practical financial guidance and referrals to specialist debt advice, through to offering **emergency hardship funding** for students who have been most affected by COVID-19 and need support for essential things like purchasing food or key resources needed to complete their studies (like laptops, books, or wi-fi). Even though the Student Life Centre is closed, you can still speak with a member of the Student Advice team online. Please email them at Studentlife@lsbu.ac.uk to book a confidential 1-2-1 appointment.

Employability support

Our Employability service is running a complete virtual service for students and graduates including workshops, placement advice, CV help, interview preparation, online events with employers, and support applying for work including temporary work. You can reach the team through [LSBU Careers Hub](#).