

Interim regulations of 1 August 2020 concerning studies and examinations in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and as a supplement to the Regulations for admissions, studies and examinations at Volda University College, of 04.12.2014 no.1697

Approved on behalf of the Board of Volda University College by the Rector on 1 July 2020 pursuant to the Act relating to universities and university colleges (UH-lova) of 1 April 2005 no.15, §3-9.

These regulations come into force on 1 August 2020 and apply until 20 June 2021.

From the same date, the *Interim regulations of 19 March 2020 no.365 concerning studies and examinations due to the SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) outbreak - a supplement to the Regulations of 4 December 2014 no.1697 for admissions, studies and examinations at Volda University College*, will be annulled.

## § 1. Purpose and scope

These interim regulations shall ensure that students at Volda University College are able to complete their course of studies and be awarded degrees and diplomas without delay/with the least possible delay as a consequence of circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

For circumstances not associated with the above purpose, the *Regulations of 4 December 2014 no.1697 for admissions, studies and examinations at Volda University College* continue to apply.

## § 2 Announcement of grades

Rector may extend the deadline for the announcement of grades due to circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic. An eventual extension of this deadline shall not normally exceed two weeks over and above the ordinary deadline for the assessment of the course in question.

## § 3. Rules for approval of compulsory activities on a specific course

(1) Requirements related to attendance at teaching sessions (in person/digital) shall be stated in the course plan or programme description.

(2) Teaching that requires attendance in person may, for autumn 2020 and spring 2021, be replaced by digital forms of instruction. The Dean of the Faculty in question authorizes such changes.

(3) If a student - due to circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic – does not have the opportunity to complete and gain approval of compulsory activities on a course, hereunder compulsory attendance, the said student may nevertheless be offered the chance to sit for the

examination on the course in question. The Dean may in that case require the student to complete activities by a given deadline in order for the exam result to be deemed valid.

(4) A student who is subject to the circumstances and requirements described in subsection three above, may apply to the Dean for exemption. Particular emphasis must then be placed on avoiding delays to the course and programme of study. The application must be supported by a doctor's certificate or other relevant documentation.

(5) A student who is in a risk group will, on the basis of an application accompanied by valid documentation, be offered special individual teaching arrangements. The academic administration at Volda University College will handle the application in accordance with the UUC Act (UHlova) § 4-3, subsection 5.

#### § 4 Alterations to the form of the examination

(1) Examinations which, according to the course plan, require attendance in person at Volda University College, may, due to circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic, be replaced by alternative digital forms of examination. This amendment may also include an alteration to the grading scale (Pass/Fail or letter grade scale (A-F)).

(2) All alterations to examinations shall be approved by the Pro-Rector (chairperson of the Education Committee).

(3) All alterations to the form of the examination made pursuant to these interim regulations will apply both to ordinary examinations and to all re-sit examinations in the following semester.

#### § 5. Exemption from required prerequisite knowledge

A student who lacks the required prerequisite knowledge for courses in the academic year 2020-2021, for reasons associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, may be granted exemption from these prerequisite knowledge requirements for admission to the course in the following semester. The Dean may then require the said student to meet the prerequisite knowledge requirements by a given deadline in order to be permitted to continue the course of studies.

#### § 6. Duration

These interim regulations will take effect as of 1 August 2020, and apply until 20 June 2021.

From the same date, the *Interim regulations of 19 March 2020 no.365 concerning studies and examinations due to the SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) outbreak - a supplement to the Regulations of 4 December 2014 no.1697 for admissions, studies and examinations at Volda University College*, will be annulled.