

Brief Legislative History on University Senate Policy on Length of Final Exam

1918 First Edition of University Senate Rules (printed in same handbook as BoT's GRs)

- Final exam '**shall not be longer than 3 hrs,**'
- Shall be held 'as scheduled'; Final Exam schedule is published separately from UK Bulletin
- Morning final exam 'shall be completed by noon'

1927 Second Edition of University Senate Rules (printed in same handbook as BoT's GRs)

Verbatim same as 1918 policy

1936 Third Edition of University Senate Rules (printed in same handbook as BoT's GRs)

Verbatim same as 1918, 1927 policy

1941, 1943 BoT abolishes, then reinstates, University Senate, stops printing Senate Rules

1943-1964 No compendium of current University Senate Rules is published

1964 Updated Senate Rules are published, but no copy exists in University Senate Archives

1969 For first time Final Exam schedule is published in UK Bulletin; **exam has become only 2 hrs long**

1972 Updated Senate Rules are published; no policy is stated on a (maximum) length of final exam nor any reference to Registrar's scheduling of maximum length (for classroom management)

2000 Not later than 2000, Senate Rule on final exam comes to have its present form

Present language:

"If a final examination is to be given, it will be administered during the examination period as scheduled by the Registrar for the semesters of the regular school year."

Note: The current Rule does not contain a pedagogical educational policy statement for faculty on maximum final exam length, nor any statement for Registrar to follow in scheduling classroom space on the maximum length of final exam

5.2.4.7 Final Examinations

If an instructor is administering a final examination [~~is to be given~~], and he or she is requiring students to take the exam in a particular place at a particular time, then he or she must [~~it will be~~] administer[~~ed~~] the exam during the examination period [~~as~~] scheduled by the Registrar [~~for the semesters of the regular school year~~].

~~[These examination periods will utilize the last 5 days of each semester and will be preceded by a study day or weekend on which no classes or examinations for weekday classes will be scheduled].~~

A. The Registrar shall schedule two-hour periods for final examinations for courses offered during the fall and spring semesters. The faculties of colleges that have Senate approval for their own special calendars may instruct the Registrar to schedule final examination periods of a different length. The Registrar shall schedule spring and fall semester final examination periods during the last 5 days of the semester; that 5-day period shall be preceded by a study day or weekend on which no classes or examinations for weekday classes will be scheduled. Final examinations for weekend classes will be administered the weekend before this 5 day period and need not be preceded by a study day. [US: 4/9/01]

~~[Final examinations, where appropriate, will be administered during the last class day of the summer session/term].~~

B. The Registrar shall schedule final examinations for courses offered during the 4-week summer term, 8-week summer session, and winter intersession for the time of the last scheduled class period.

C. An instructor may allow students less than the full period scheduled by the Registrar to complete the final examination, but he or she must inform the students at least two weeks before the start of the examination how much time they will have to complete the examination (one week in advance for winter intersession, 4 week summer term and 8 week summer session) .

In cases of take-home final examinations, students shall not be required to return the completed examination before the end of the regularly scheduled examination period. [US: 4/28/86]

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Recommendation: that the Senate approve the proposed changes to Senate Rules 5.2.4.7, effective immediately.