

# **Why has Malmö Art Academy decided to close most of their premises when other facilities at Lund university are still open?**

The University has decided that education and examinations should be conducted using online alternatives (distance education). You can read more about the general decision at:  
<https://lunduniversity.lu.se/article/the-university-makes-a-transition-to-distance-education>

*On 17 March, the Government recommended that universities and university-colleges switch to distance education from 18 March, due to the rapid spread of the novel coronavirus.*

*The University has been preparing for the transition of educational activities for some time and preparedness for this is generally very good. The conditions look different at each faculty due to the methods and characteristics of various education programmes. In the main, however, there will be no campus-based teaching or examinations. This represents a challenge but is also an opportunity for strengthening the digitalization of education.*

Different conditions require different actions! Various faculties, departments may need to take local decisions that serve their programmes best.

*The University is now focused on securing its operations and ensuring that community healthcare resources are safeguarded. University facilities are not closed and can be used. Libraries and common study areas will remain open. However, opening hours may be affected.*

Keeping premises open still means that the department needs to take measures to reduce the spread of the coronavirus – the premises have to be safe to visit. If a department can't do that for certain reasons then they have to be closed. We have taken a local decision to close most of our premises both because most of them are education rooms and because we don't have the means to keep them open in a safe way.

## **Our decision is based on:**

- Almost all our premises are classified as education rooms “utbildningssalar” – this includes workshops, project rooms and your studios. They are not common study areas. This means that continuing to work in the premises actually is campus- based eduction. We have to switch to online alternatives (distance).
- Using the workshops means in many cases need for tutoring in person
- Many of our premises are surrounded by safety and security regulations which means that we need staff on site.
- Many students are already locked out for various reasons which makes it impossible for us to offer education in a fair, equal way

We are a very small department with a low number of staff and all our resources have to be focused on the transition to digital education.

## **When will the academy open again?**

As soon as we can! We will of course continuously consider the possibility of opening up certain sections. The situation is changing every day and we can't give any answers today.

## **Will there be...**

### **Studio visits online?**

Absolutely! But we need time to adjust for that. You will receive more information further on.

### **Course seminars online?**

Same answer as above – it's an obvious possibility but the teachers need time to adjust for this. It can't be done in 1-3 days. Consider that we had a full curriculum for the spring, everything scheduled and planned. Half of it has to be transformed to digital education with accurate quality. Again this requires some thinking and planning.

## **Is it possible to postpone the graduation projects?**

That's a decision to be made by the professors since they are the examining part. However, both teachers and the administration has to follow decisions by the government and Lund university. We, and all other higher educations are obliged to switch to digital teaching and examinations. BUT we are also obliged to examine as many students as possible within the spring term or with a minimum of delay. This is not free of choice! Around the universities there will of course be situations where it's totally impossible to examine on time but our professors have reached the conclusion that we can do it. The new examination model has been discussed, worked out and agreed upon by all professors.

## **How to study from home without workshops, equipment and books from the library?**

Again – we need time for the transition and you will be informed as soon as possible. The teachers have to get together and discuss further actions but you count on online studio visits, perhaps some online courses and there are some ideas about an online yearly exhibition etc.

## **How to use the library during lock-down?**

Please notice that ALL fees from the libraries within LU University is suspended from 18/3. Don't worry about the books from our library, you can just keep them until further notice.

BUT, the libraries at CRC and the Music Academy are still open so if you have books from Lund that are due before we open our library again – please return them there OR email me so that I can renew the loans in the system (if nobody else has requested them).

You can still order books from Lund and pick them up at CRC and the Music Academy as well. You find addresses to all LU libraries here: <https://www.lub.lu.se/en/our-libraries>

Madeleine will work on sharing great online resources to use as soon as she get the time, and you can still reach her at any time via email. She can help you out with searching for information and finding things online.