January Exams - Student FAQs

1. Which courses will be examined in January 2018?

The list of courses that will be examined in January next year can be found here.

2. When will the January 2018 exam schedule be available?

1st December 2017

3. If you need to Defer your January Exam

Before the School Closure

If you wish to apply to defer a January exam before the School closes on Wednesday 20 December 2017, please follow the normal process outlined at Ise.ac.uk/deferral

During the School Closure

Please complete the deferral form and collate the evidence as soon as possible. After this make contact with the relevant person in your Department to arrange authorisation. You may be required to bring the form into LSE, in person, on 2 January 2018. If you are unsure of who to contact within your Department please contact sc.advice@lse.ac.uk

After the School Closure i.e. during the January exam period

Please follow the normal deferral application process.

If you are seeking to defer a January exam, please be aware of the following:

- If you are taking an exam for a full-unit course with exams in both the January and Summer term exam periods, you can only apply to defer the January exam at the time proximate to your January exam. If you wish to subsequently apply to defer the ST exam, you must do this at a time proximate to the ST exam.
- If you miss a January exam (absent or deferred) this could result in non-progression. 'Non-progression' means that you would not be able to advance from year one to year two for example, or from year two to year three, and you would instead have to wait until the following January to resit the exam you had missed. All usual criteria for applying for exceptional progression apply and can be found here.
- If you do defer the January exam for a course and there are other assessment elements you will still need to complete these unless you arrange further deferrals. However when your results are released, it will show that the whole course has been deferred. Any pass marks you obtain in other assessments will be 'banked' and you will not need to re-take these assessments.
- If you think you need to defer both the January and ST exams you may want to instead consider interruption.

4. If you have received Repeat Teaching

If you receive repeat teaching for a course, you are examined on the syllabus for which you last received the teaching. So, if you are receiving teaching in 2017/18, you will be examined on the 2017/18 syllabus. It is not possible for you to be examined on any other syllabus. This means that if the course(s) you are having

repeat teaching in is now assessed using a January exam you will need to take that exam in January.

You may only receive repeat teaching for the courses that have been formally agreed by the Repeat Teaching Panel. Further information about Repeat Teaching can be found here.

5. If I fail/bad fail or defer a January exam, can I re-sit or make the deferred attempt in the Summer Term?

No. The absence of autumn re-sits would make it inequitable for students who fail January exams to re-sit in the Summer Term (i.e. because students who fail in Summer Term have no equally proximate re-sit opportunity). School regulations state that re-sits or deferred attempts can only be made in the equivalent exam period the following year.

Resits/Deferrals/Interruptions

Scenario 1: All assessment for the course remains the same and the exam is the same format and is worth the same % of the final mark as the previous deferred/failed version:

Your Department will set a paper or papers that match the previous exam timings. If you previously took an exam in January, you will resit the exam in January with all other students. It will not be possible for you to take the January exam in the Summer Term. Similarly, you will resit Summer exams in the Summer Term.

e.g. AC411 was assessed 70% by a two-hour exam in January, plus an essay (15%) and project (15%) and the assessment is unchanged. So as a resit student you will sit your exam in January (2-5 January 2018).

e.g. MA100 was assessed 25% by a one-hour exam in January and 75% by a three-hour exam in Summer Term. So as a resit student needing to resit both exams, you will sit your January exam in January (2-5 January 2018) and your Summer Term exam in Summer Term.

Exams that fall into this category in 2017/18 are AC411, AC416, EC100, EC102, EC402, EC411, EC413, EC417, EC419, EC421, EC423, EC426, EC427, EC428, EC453, EC465, EC475, EC476, EC484, EC485, EC487, EC4B6, EC518, EH401, EH402, EH413, EH414, EH481, FM437, GV443, GV467, GV4C9, GV4G4, MA100, PH228, PH428, PS400, PS404, PS429, PS465, ST102, ST226, ST302, ST306, ST425, and ST435.

Scenario 2: Your exam is moving from January to Summer Term and nothing else is changing i.e. all assessment for the course remains the same and the exam is the same format and is worth the same % of the final mark as the previous deferred/failed version:

You will take the exam in Summer Term with all other students. It will not be possible for you to take the exam in the January.

e.g. GV441 was formerly assessed 100% by a two-hour exam in January. It will now be assessed by assessed 100% by a two-hour exam in Summer Term.

The exam that falls into this category in 2017/18 is GV441.

Scenario 3: Your exam is moving from Summer Term to January and nothing else is changing i.e. all assessment for the course remains the same and the exam is the same format and is worth the same % of the final mark as the previous deferred/failed version:

You will take the exam in January with all other students. It will not be possible for you to take the exam in the Summer Term.

e.g. ST429 was formerly assessed 75% by a two-hour exam in the Summer Term and a 25% project. It will now be assessed by 75% by a two-hour exam in January and a 25% project. So as a resit student you will sit your exam in January (2-5 January 2018).

The exam that falls into this category in 2017/18 is ST429.

Scenario 4: The exam element of the course was previously held in January, or both in January and the Summer Term, and other changes have been made to the course i.e. the exam comprises a larger or smaller proportion of the overall assessment for the course, or additional assessment methods are being used, or the syllabus has changed:

If the syllabus (teaching material) for the course has changed, your Department will set a paper appropriate to the material you studied and this will be worth the same % of the final mark as the previous deferred/failed version was at the time you studied. However, the exam will take place at the same time in January or in Summer Term as previously. It will not be possible for you to take the exam at a different time.

If the syllabus (teaching material) has not changed (i.e. just the assessment methods have changed) your Department will set a paper appropriate to the assessment methods in place when you received the teaching on your course. This may mean that you sit a longer or shorter paper than other students sitting the exam at the same time as you. However, the exam will take place at the same time in January or in Summer Term as previously. It will not be possible for you to take the exam at a different time.

e.g. EC201 was formerly assessed by a two hour exam in January (50%) and a two hour exam in Summer Term (50%). It will now be assessed by a one hour exam in January (25%) and a three hour exam in Summer Term (75%). So as a resit student you will sit your January exam in January (2-5 January 2018) and your Summer Term exam in Summer Term.

Exams that fall into this category in 2017/18 are EC201, EC202, EC210, EC220, EC221, EC230 and EC424.

Scenario 5: Your exam was previously held in January, but the course assessment has now changed and no longer includes an examination, or the course has been withdrawn.

Your Department will set a paper or papers that match the previous exam timings. If you previously took an exam in January, you will resit the exam in January. It will not be possible for you to take the January exam in the Summer Term.

e.g. PH230 was formerly assessed by a two hour exam in January (100%). It will now be assessed by one essay in the Michaelmas Term (50%) and one essay in January (50%). So as a resit student you will sit your exam in January (2-5 January 2018).

e.g. ST427 was formerly assessed by a two hour exam in January (100%). This course has now been withdrawn. So as a resit student you will sit your exam in January (205 January 2018).

Exams that fall into this category in 2017/18 are PH230, PH430 and ST427.

Scenario 6: You last received teaching in the course prior to 2016/17 and the exam element of the course has since been split between the ST and January exam periods.

In these cases your Department will set a paper that matches the previous exam timings. You will sit one exam in Summer Term to reflect the previous timings.

e.g. you last received teaching in EC210 in 2015/16 and are due to re-sit in 2017/18. As a resit student who last received teaching before the exam element was split, you will sit one exam in Summer Term.

6. Visa Enquiries

The International Student Visa Advice Team (ISVAT) has extensive information on its webpages for students re-taking assessments:

http://www2.lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/ISVAT/currentStudents/RetakeExams.aspx

If you have enquiries regarding the visa implications of re-taking or having deferred assessments, please see the above page.

7. What if I miss a January exam? Will I still be able to progress?

You will receive a '0 Incomplete' or '0 Absent' mark for the course in question, depending on whether the exam is the sole piece of summative assessment for the course. If you are on a degree programme (i.e. not a General Course student), progression will depend on your overall results at the end of the year, to which the normal progression rules will apply, e.g. an undergraduate student may progress to the next year of his/her programme if she/he is carrying no more than 1.0 failed units.