Implementing the Exam examination system in the University of Turku and standardising maturity test practices

The University of Turku has used the Tenttis system for electronic examination. The system is renewed starting from autumn 2017 so that the exams in the new curricula will be carried out in the Exam examination system by the autumn of 2018: https://exam.utu.fi

The process of compiling and editing exam questions as well as the evaluation of the exams is easier and more straightforward in the Exam system than in Tenttis. In addition, the Exam system enables a more versatile use of appendices in the exam questions and improves the tools for answering exam questions.

Stages of system implementation

The Exam system has been installed as the platform for electronic examination in the University of Turku. The first Exam computers will be available in the Agora exam room and the computers in the other exam rooms will be renewed in stages during the academic year 2017–2018. Maturity tests in all fields can be taken with these computers and other exams can also be piloted starting from autumn 2017.

The new curricula for 2018–2020 come into effect on 1 August 2018. The electronic exams specified in the new curricula will be carried out with the Exam system. The exams of the curricula period 2016–2018 can be taken in the Tenttis system alongside the Exam system until the end of 2019.

Roles and responsibilities in the Exam system

In order to organise the implementation of the Exam system in the units and support for the teaching staff, Exam support persons are appointed. The support persons’ tasks will be organised on the unit level in a functional way, e.g. in a work pair or a small team.

- The Exam support persons and main user agree on the system’s implementation schedule, piloting and support in each unit.
- The support persons guide and support the teaching staff in the use of the Exam system in a manner and timetable which are suitable for the unit.
- The support persons and main user meet regularly to discuss the system’s needs for development and decide on how the improvements are carried out.

The support persons’ work is supported with training and workshops on the use of the Exam system both during the introduction and production phase. The general Exam manual and other training material, collaboration forum of the support persons, and the
personal support of the main user of the Exam system (email and telephone) are available for the support persons.

The teaching staff draws up and publishes their own exams in the Exam system. The teaching staff can seek guidance and support from the unit’s support person, from the Exam instruction manuals as well as from the system’s centralised support service at exam@utu.fi.

**Standardising maturity test practices**

With this decision on the implementation of the Exam system, the maturity test practices are also standardised at the University of Turku starting from 1 January 2018. If the student has taken the maturity test in their previous academic degree and the maturity test was at the time checked for language skills and knowledge of the field, the student does not have to take a written maturity test for their second academic degree. In these cases, the abstract or another suitable part of the thesis (e.g. summary) will function as the maturity test.

The instructions for written maturity tests appended to this decision are available in each maturity test taken in the Exam system.

**System administration**

The system administration and support is done in collaboration between the Educational Support Services and IT Services. The system administration can be contacted by email at exam@utu.fi.

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Appendix Instructions for written maturity tests

Distribution Faculties and units
Independent units
University Central Services