

adress Samhällsvetarhuset s 415, S-901 87 Umeå

phone +46(0)90 786 76 78

web www.hhus.se

Shout It Out – Responses

HELLLLOOOO HHUS MEMBERS!

Summer holidays are here... finally, right? We, the Education Committee at HHUS, felt that it was about time to let you all in on what it is that we have been doing for you. Recently, we have been receiving a lot of feedback on our online forum Shout It Out. We are so pleased that you are using [Shout It Out](#) to contact us, and giving us the chance to help you with your education. We have been dealing with everything that we have received, and are happy to report back to you! As most of the [Shout It Outs](#) we receive are anonymous, we have decided to publicly tell what it is we have done about your feedback. Once again, thanks for using [Shout It Out](#), and trusting us to help you. Never hesitate to contact us, or of course, [SHOUT IT OUT!](#) So, no more boring you, here's what we have been solving:

What you said:

Class: CEP2

- En sak i samband med examinationerna, det har hänt att det har varit dåligt med papper (!) kladdpapper (!) och miniräknare i examinationssalen vilket känns hur löjligt som helst. Det har hänt att man bara fått något papper per person. Kanske skulle vara något att kolla på?

English: One thing in relation to the exams, it has happened that there has not been enough paper, scrap paper and calculators in the exam rooms, which feels ridiculous. It has happened that we have only received a few pages per person. Perhaps something to look into?

What Umeå Studentkår did:

- Forwarded all information to those responsible for examinations. They have reported back that they are now conscious of this and are making sure that there is enough of every resource, for every student. This problem was fixed immediately when the feedback was received. If you as a student do not feel that it has been solved, do not hesitate to contact us again.

What you said:

Class: IBP1

- The grading of assignments and the seminar in Management Accounting A was a joke.
- As a student in IBP1, I find the way our module "Management Accounting A" was handled horrible and the grading was tedious! Did the teacher read the reports/listen to the seminars before or was it a game of Eenie Meenie Moe? (I did NOT receive a bad grade so this is not a bitter student complaining about her/his grade!).

What USBE said:

- First and foremost, USBE are aware of the issues surrounding this module and did not in any way want the students to experience any distress related to the course. Furthermore, they would like the students to be aware then in relation to the responsible teacher leaving, they had a plan in place. It was something that came to them quite late notice, so they came up with a plan to push MOST of the lectures before the break when the teacher would leave. They also put in other qualified teachers to take his place. They did not however anticipate the issues that arose when the students did no longer have a teacher *responsible for the course* to contact on campus. This will be solved in the future that no matter what the circumstances may be, there will be a teacher responsible for that individual course, on campus and contactable. In relation to the grading of the seminar, it was extremely unfortunate, however the teacher who graded this also has left the university. Therefore, although no longer possible to get the motivation behind his grading, the staff at the department stand behind his grading and trust that there was a method to it, perhaps just not so obvious to us as students. The reports were graded by the responsible teacher, and despite no longer being in Umeå, he stands behind them being graded correctly and thoroughly. Although unfortunate, the faculty would like to express their awareness of the problems, but as well that they have seen the exam and results and it is visible that the class have left with the

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required knowledge from the course. For any further concerns and comments regarding this course, please contact giulia.giunti@umu.se

What you said:

- Hej, vet inte om ni kan göra något åt detta men, luften i den tysta datorsalen på UB (våning två) är fruktansvärt dålig. Det verkar inte finnas någon ventilation och man blir otroligt trött när man sitter och studerar där en längre tid. Att man har valt att sitta där beror på att man vill ha det tyst och lugnt runt sig och därför är det ett ganska dåligt alternativ att sätta sig i de pratiga delarna av UB. Kanske kan ni höra med någon om det finns förbättringsmöjligheter?

English: *Hey, not sure if you can do anything about this but the air in the silent computer room at the university library, UB, [level 2] is terrible. It seems there is no ventilation and you get unbelievably tired when you sit and study there for a long period of time. The reason you choose to sit there is because you want it silent and calm around you, and that is why is it a bad alternative to sit in one of the non-silent areas of UB. Maybe you can see if there are any possibilities for improvement?*

- Arbetsmiljöfråga: Alltid riktigt kallt i S104. Svårt att fokusera på föreläsningen när man fryser hela tiden.

English: *Work environment question: It is always really cold in S104. Hard to concentrate on the lectures when you are freezing all the time.*

What we did:

- We have teamed up with Umeå Studentkår to tackle this one. We have been present at the "campus rounds" that the union and school do with an environmental team, and have taken up both issues. Both rooms have been reported, looked into and fixed. So cool to see that you guys turn to us even for such issues! OF COURSE we can help with even these issues!

What you said:

Class: SM3 – Praktik/Internship

- Few issues surrounding our internship:
 1. The information the "Main Project" was unclear.
 2. We would like to have a responsible supervisor from the university for communication, both for the student and workplace.
 3. We would like the "Internship Report" to have a more theoretical connection to previous courses and literature.

What USBE said:

- It is hard to give out specific information in regards to the "Main Project" as all students are at very different places and branches etc. The possibilities for both workplaces and projects are extremely broad. More thought into the project as a whole will be given.
- In the future, supervisors will be assigned, in one way or another, for the benefit of all. How and when are however not yet decided 100%.
- The "Internship Report" will be both edited and reduced in size. Furthermore, an obligatory reflection log will be completed during the time of the internship to ease the final report.

What you said:

- Idag, den 11 Maj ca 3 veckor kvar tills terminsslut. Så ändrar de "Thesis Manual", det som vi ska sitta och använda som bas för våran uppsats. Detta är ANDRA gången de ändrar den under kursens gång. Får universitetet verkligen hålla på och ändra sånt mitt i kursen? Det som det har under kursens gång ändrat är betygssättningen samt hur man ska skriva en opposition. Får universitetet hålla på så? Mitt i kurser!? Speciellt när thesis manual omfattar ALLA som skriver uppsats just nu (C-uppsats, D-uppsats, Master, etc.)?

English: *Today, the 11th of May, around 3 weeks until the semester end, they have edited the "Thesis Manual", which we will sit and use as the base for our thesis. This is the SECOND time that they have made changes during the course. Can the university really do this, in the middle of the*

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course? That which has changed during the course is the grading system as well as how you write an opposition. Can the university do this? In the middle of the course!? Especially when the Thesis Manual involves ALL writing their thesis right now [C level thesis, D level thesis, and master level thesis, etc.]?

What USBE said:

- The changes in the thesis manual all relate to the grading of theses. This section was updated to better explain the grading process (starting from the spring semester). Instead of a grading committee, grading is done by a grading teacher and an examiner (the examiner is ultimately responsible), quite like a mini committee. There is no impact for the students.
- In relation to the changes regarding the WIP seminar/opposition, A document separate from the Thesis manual was posted on the Cambro site with the intention to further clarify the instruction of written opposition. This should not be viewed as changes, more provided greater understanding on what to consider when writing the opposition.
- USBEs ambition is to avoid frequent changes and to communicate them timely. They apologise for what seems to have been bad communication, as their only intention was to help by providing more clear and concrete written instructions.

What Umeå Studentkår said:

- Really, there are no rules saying that they university are not allowed to make the changes that they did. If it were so that they had made changes such as due dates, number of page requirements, etc., there would be rules against it. However, the severity of the changes, which USBE assure aren't really changes at all, are okay to make. Furthermore, as a Thesis Manual is a GUIDELINE, changes can be made.

NOTE: CEP2 had some issues with a specific teacher. This has been dealt with internally, with cooperation from USBE, HHUS, and Umeå Studentkår. With any further comments or questions regarding this, do not hesitate to contact us.

If you have any further questions, or anything new to add, please contact us. We would like to thank you once again for trusting us to help your education. We wish you all the best summer and can't wait to see you all again in Autumn.

Warm regards,
The Education Committee, HHUS
utbildning@hhus.se