# Library & Reading Room Opening Hours

1. **Introduction:**

There are over 10,000 students studying at the University of Essex Colchester campus and the Students’ Union has been approached by students who are unhappy with the opening hours of the Library. The University has always promoted and recognized independent learning which is why the Albert Sloman Library is known as a space where students can study however they want. In the past and recently[[1]](#footnote-1) the students have campaigned for a 24/7 library given that most institution of this size have either a 24/7 library or study space. The Sabbatical team are requesting a review of the current opening hours of the library and reading room. Given that the reading room is the only large study space we need to look into reviewing the timings as well as the library, specifically weekends.

**1.1 Current Hours (Main Library):**

The current opening hours of the library are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday | 8am-10pm |
| Tuesday | 8am-10pm |
| Wednesday | 8am-10pm |
| Thursday | 8am-10pm |
| Friday | 8am-10pm |
| Saturday | 9am-6pm |
| Sunday | 2pm-7pm |

The Sabbatical team has felt that particularly Sunday’s hours are not student friendly and in the case of part-time or mature students they would not be able to benefit from the library given they may only have Saturday & Sunday as their study day. However we should also consider that UG student would use the library if it was open.

**1.2 Current Hours (Ready Room):**

The current opening hours for the reading room are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday | 24 hours |
| Tuesday | 24 hours |
| Wednesday | 24 hours |
| Thursday | 24 hours |
| Friday | Until 10pm |
| Saturday | 9am-6pm |
| Sunday | From 2pm |

Given that the only large study space on the Colchester campus is the reading room students strongly feel that it remains open 24 hours throughout the week for students to use.

**1.3 Suggested Opening Hours:**

1.3.1 Albert Sloman Library (main library)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday | 8am-10pm |
| Tuesday | 8am-10pm |
| Wednesday | 8am-10pm |
| Thursday | 8am-10pm |
| Friday | 8am-10pm |
| **Saturday** | **9am-8pm** |
| **Sunday** | **12pm-8pm** |

1.3.2 Reading Room

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday | 24 hours |
| Tuesday | 24 hours |
| Wednesday | 24 hours |
| Thursday | 24 hours |
| **Friday** | **24 hours** |
| **Saturday** | **24 hours** |
| **Sunday** | **24 hours** |

*The Students’ Union is willing to discuss the concerns the University staff (or Library Committee) have surrounding the suggest opening hours.*

**1.4 Exam Term:**

The Library & reading room are open 24/7 during most of the exam term however students have shown a lot of disappointment that the last week of exam term the library reverts back to the usual hours of the other terms. There have been numerous students who have suggested that the library remain open 24 hours for the last week of exam term (summer term) too. There are many[[2]](#footnote-2) students who take their exams during this last week and would make use of the library if it were open 24 hours during that week.

**1.4.1 Resolution:**

*The Albert Sloman library must remain open for 24 hours during the last week of the exam term (summer term).*

Vice President Education

Zain Yaqoob Kukaswadia

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1. There was a lot of discussion at Course Rep Training 27th October 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Exact number will be confirmed at the meeting which will be given by the Examination Office. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)