Using the Exam USB stick

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Fontys takes no responsibility on booting your laptop from the provided stick or for the provided procedure below. It has been tried and tested, but your machine may not be compatible with this mode of operation.

It is the student's responsibility to attend the exam with a working laptop and to know how to boot that laptop from the provided USB-stick. You have been given plenty opportunities to verify that.

Boot Assessment Stick

To be able to boot your laptop from the exam USB-stick provided to you, you should instruct the bios of you laptop to start from USB. This is done by entering into the bios setup. How you do that, depends on the laptop brand and bios. On many systems that is pressing the `F2` button or the `F9` button. Yours may be different. On HP laptops you can select the Boot menu by pressing `F9` when the bios screen appears.

Boot a PC (windows compatible)

The USB stick is a USB-3 Super Speed stick and can work on both USB 2 and USB 3 ports.
- Note that the best booting speed is obtained by putting it into a USB-3 socket. But also: Not all systems will be able to boot from such a USB-3 sockets. In that case switch to a USB-2 socket.
- You must also turn off the **fast-boot** option as well as the secure boot option. Fast-boot actually means that the previous standard OS (Windows) will be loaded from the mass storage device in the state in which it was put to sleep. So choose **shut down** (or your language equivalent) and NOT restart or sleep, otherwise the bios does not come into play. If you do it otherwise, the exam session will be unstable.
- The stick you received is able to boot your system in legacy bios mode (sometimes called compatible mode or CMS) **and** in UEFI mode, *including*

secure mode in that last case. UEFI with secure mode has been tested on an 2013 Acer consumer laptop (with) and a HP workstation (without secure mode). The software running from the stick **cannot access and will not access** data on your local hard disk or sdd drive, however, if you do not follow the instructions above and boot via Windows, all bets are off.
- When booted, you will be presented with a blue box with several boot options. The default works in most cases. If that does not work, and you have an nvidia graphics card, you may have success by trying on of the other boot options. In particular, choose to disable or blacklist the nouveau driver (2nd option, the open source nvidia driver which may not be able to work with your (modern) graphics card.

Mac users

Modern Macs (in particular retina) should simply boot from the stick. To make that happen, shutdown your mac first and the power it up again while holding the alt key `⌥`.
If the resolution of your screen is to high or the characters too small, you can change the apparent resolution with the `retina`. For instance `retina 1` selects the next lower resolution.

Older Macs (pre retina, production year < 2013) might be boot-able by using the menu entries for **MacBook Pro 8.x**.