

9 August 2021

Dear All New and Current Students,

Arrangements for the New Academic Year 2021/22

On behalf of the University, Vice-President (Academic and Research) and Vice-President (Organisational Development) would like to welcome you back to campus and wish you a successful year.

We would like to update you on the following arrangements concerning the commencement of the new Academic Year 2021/22.

Teaching and Examination Arrangements for Undergraduate Programmes

1. In view of the latest improving situation of COVID-19, all classes and examinations will resume normal face-to-face on campus. Teachers will conduct face-to-face classes in the scheduled classrooms according to the assigned timetables. No online classes will be available. Students who are outside Hong Kong should plan your trip as soon as possible by observing the *latest Quarantine Measures for Inbound Travellers* imposed by the HKSAR Government via the link: (https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#quarantinemeasures).

2. Special learning support will be provided to NEWLY admitted non-local students if they cannot come to campus on time due to visa issuance delay and/or compulsory quarantine requirements during the first month of Semester 1 (i.e. from 8 September to 7 October 2021). Real-time non-interactive live broadcasting of lectures will be provided for pre-approved students. No recording of classes will be available after the lectures. Students have to seek prior approval by applying for Leave of Absence (REG Form 02) of extended leave for 5 consecutive days or more with valid reasons. Registry will provide a list of pre-approved students (if any) to individual module teachers. Teachers will send the Teams/ Zoom links to pre-approved students only for the live broadcast.

3. As stated in the previous email, the special learning support will be provided to those unable to come to campus on time due to visa and/or compulsory quarantine requirements. The above arrangement will NOT apply to CURRENT non-local students with a valid student visa unless they are not allowed to leave their hometown by the authority and thus, not able to return to campus on time.

4. The University will stay vigilant to the pandemic situation and if it worsens, classes may be supplemented with live broadcast or conducted solely online and examinations may be held in other formats. Students are advised to stay alert from time to time to the University announcements via email and eCampus.

5. Students should also take note that there may be modules with practice elements that require on-campus classes regardless of the University-wide teaching mode adopted. Remarks of such will be made on the respective modules in the Module Planner.

Taught Postgraduate Programmes

6. This update is only applicable to undergraduate programmes. Teaching and examination arrangements for TPG programmes will be announced by respective Programme Offices, Departments or Schools.

Campus Hygiene and Precautionary Measures

7. Please refer to the <u>University's announcements on COVID 19</u> for latest updates and the <u>Policy</u> <u>Guidelines for Handling COVID-19 Cases</u> at HSUHK from CDMO.

8. All staff, students, residents and eligible personnel are required to complete a one-time online health declaration prior to their first campus entry in the beginning of the teaching period of the new Semester (i.e. before 8 September 2021; for RC residents, before check-in date on 7 September 2021). The updated <u>Health Declaration Form</u> (already available since 1 August 2021) will include a section to indicate and upload any of the following:

- Proof of a negative test result for COVID-19 or
- Proof of completing a vaccination course (i.e. completing two jabs) against COVID-19 or
- Reason for not being able to provide either of the above.

All information submitted via the Health Declaration will be handled in strict confidence and according to university data handling guidelines.

9. Residents of Residential Colleges (RCs) will be requested to provide a negative test result or a full vaccination proof prior to move-in. For details, please refer to RCU announcements sent directly to residents.

10. The campus community is reminded to maintain responsible personal hygiene and health practices to help safeguard personal and public health. If you are not vaccinated, you are also encouraged to take the COVID-19 tests regularly during the semester.

The University will continue to monitor the latest situation of the pandemic and make appropriate changes and announcements in a timely manner.

Vice-President (Academic and Research) Vice-President (Organisational Development)