



Ref: nCoV-36

To: **All Students**

From: Registry

Date: 24 February 2020

Subject: Learning, Teaching and Assessment Arrangements Update

As previously communicated on 10 February 2020, we have to be careful in managing the considerable uncertainties related to Covid-19. Accordingly, all the teachers have been working hard to adjust the learning and teaching activities, to make it possible to keep the learning schedule in this academic year, and **real-time teaching online will replace face-to-face classes on campus until further announcement.** In short, disruptions by the Covid-19 situation have been prevented from halting progress of our learning and teaching activities, and the uncertain situation has been kept under regular review, with the aim of giving you an update now, and again on or before 16 March 2020.

1. Assessment Results of Semester One Courses

For the Semester One courses whose assessment has been completed, we are now arranging for their discussion and approval. The final results of these courses will be announced by the Registry in two rounds, on 6 and 23 March 2020, respectively. If you have questions on the arrangement for any specific courses, please check with the course teachers.

2. Time for Revision and Skill Practice before Next Round of Assessment

Please be reassured that sufficient time for your revision and skill practice will be provided before the next round of course assessment. After the resumption of face-to-face teaching, for the Semester One courses whose assessment have not yet been completed, the plan is for at least one week of revision time to be provided before their examinations. For the Semester Two courses, at least three weeks of revision time will be provided before their examinations. Again, if you have questions on the arrangement of revision and examination for any specific courses, please check with the course teachers.

3. Avoiding Delays to Progression of Study or Graduation

We understand the importance for students, especially final-year students, to avoid delays to their progression of study or graduation, and would be striving for this goal. Subject to the Covid-19 situation, we anticipate at present that the Summer Semester of this academic year does not need to be delayed if face-to-face teaching can be resumed by mid-May 2020. Moreover, there is a good chance for not having to extend Semester Two if



face-to-face teaching can be resumed between late March and the beginning of April 2020.
We shall keep you updated as the situations stabilise.

4. Exploring Suitable Flexibility in Assessment and Graduation Requirements

We have also been exploring means to exercise suitable flexibility in the assessment for different courses, and in the final-year students' fulfillment of graduation requirements for the respective programmes. In particular, we have been actively discussing with the accreditation/professional authorities on exercising special flexibility in students' course attendance, and alternative arrangements for some students' practicum/placement, with the aim of reaching an agreement in the near future.

It is worth noting that with the extra precautionary health and quarantine protocol established, students can continue to use the campus facilities, e-resources, and enhanced student support, notwithstanding the suspension of face-to-face classes. Please refer to the webpages of the respective learning support units on the institute website / emails for these units' operation hours and the relevant arrangements of their services during this period.

When it becomes clear for the safe resumption of face-to-face teaching, hopefully in a little while around 16 March 2020 or not too long thereafter, we would like to seize the opportunity to announce the resumption date at least 14 days in advance. Should this proves not feasible because of the ongoing health concerns or other reasons, please do not be anxious as the impact on student progress has been minimised by the extra efforts and alternative arrangements already put in place.

You are also welcome to contact the course teachers and/or programme leaders on any needs or questions which you may have in the meantime. As stated before, please stay vigilant with hygiene practices and keep your health a top priority.

Thank you for your kind attention.

