

Announcement on Winter / Spring Term Arrangements

Thursday, Oct 21, 2021, 10:33AM

Dear Members of the University,

Protecting the health and safety of our members has always been our top priority. As the current pandemic situation has not yet stabilized, the University has decided to continue / update our plans for the Winter / Spring Term as follows:

Teaching and Learning Arrangements

- The arrangements for Winter and Spring will in general be similar to the Fall Term. The default for all undergraduate (UG) classes will be delivered face to face on-campus. Some classes will be held in real-time online mode, and any class with an approved Not In Hong Kong (NIHK) student will be held in mixed-mode. Some taught postgraduate programs and lab classes may make their own arrangements.
- While we recognize the compulsory quarantine requirements for inbound travellers, all UG students are encouraged to make their best effort to return to HK and make applicable quarantine arrangements by themselves. Students who are currently NIHK-approved will be contacted for renewal of their NIHK status for Spring, and all cases will be vetted by the relevant School / Interdisciplinary Programs Office (IPO) for confirmation as done before.
- All students who are currently in HK should be aware that circumstances and government policies may change. Re-entry to HK may be difficult. If travel is inevitable, please plan ahead with buffer time to ensure you can return to HK in time for Spring.

Vaccination / Regular Testing Reporting

- The [vaccination / regular testing requirements](#) will continue to be in place.
- Members are required to present a valid Campus Access Pass (CAP) for accessing campus until the end of Spring Term.
- For members who are fully vaccinated and have already reported on the Vaccination / Testing Reporting System (VTRS), the validity of their CAPs will be automatically extended to 31 May, 2022.
- The University will continue to provide rapid test kits for free to staff / students who cannot take vaccine due to medical reasons, and 50% reimbursement will be offered to staff in band 1 & 2 and students requiring financial assistance.

Health and Safety Measures

- Members are reminded to continue protective measures to minimize the risks of contracting COVID-19, such as mask-wearing, observing social distancing, and maintaining personal and environmental hygiene. Anyone who has developed flu-like symptoms should seek medical attention as soon as possible, and take a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test if so advised.
- Members who are asked by a medical doctor or required by the Government to take a COVID test should stay home until a negative test result is available.
- To better protect the health and safety of members, all staff and students who will be travelling outside HK on University-organized business / activities in the Winter / Spring Term are required to be fully vaccinated before their departure. Relevant proofs will need to be provided when applications for travels are made.
- It has been brought to our attention that some event organizers did not comply with the [rules on using common areas for organized events / activities](#) issued by the Campus Management Office. Follow-up actions have been taken by the University. We would like to remind members that violations of the rules may lead to curtailment

of the activity and / or suspension of the right to use communal areas in future. Members should also adopt other [preventive measures for campus events](#).

The above arrangements will be reviewed and adjusted as needed in response to the pandemic situation. We sincerely thank you for your continued cooperation.

Best regards,

TC Pong, Vice-President for Administration and Business

Anirban Mukhopadhyay, Associate Provost (Teaching and Learning)

Andrew Cohen, Acting Dean of Science and Director of HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study

Tim Cheng, Dean of Engineering

Kar Yan Tam, Dean of Business and Management

Kellee Tsai, Dean of Humanities and Social Science

Huamin Qu, Director of Interdisciplinary Programs Office

King Chow, Acting Dean of Students

Charles Ng, Dean of HKUST Fok Ying Tung Graduate School

Samuel Yu, Director of Health, Safety and Environment