

From: President
Sent: Monday 18 January 2021 09:58
To: 'allstudents20202021@umail.ucc.ie' <allstudents20202021@umail.ucc.ie>
Subject: Semester 2 update
Importance: High

Dear students,

Now that examinations for Semester 1 have been completed, we wish to provide you with information in relation to Semester 2 learning and teaching activities.

As we communicated to you before Christmas, we were hopeful that we would be able to expand in person teaching and other activities on campus, during Semester 2. Presently however, the public health challenge facing our society is more severe and Government advice remains that universities should further restrict on campus attendance, only allowing the most essential work to take place. While these current Government restrictions are in place until the end of January, and will be reviewed then, we are keen to provide you with an update on teaching and campus activities for Semester 2. The following will apply for Semester 2:

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- All Semester 2 teaching in the form of lectures, small group classes and tutorials will continue online.
- There will be some limited exceptions for face to face based essential practicals/tutorials. The decision on this will be taken by your School/Department and will be based on local conditions and requirements. Your programme/module co-ordinators will communicate with you separately about these sessions.
- Based upon evolving Public Health Advice, additional face to face tutorials/small group classes may take place on campus later in the Semester. These will be determined by individual Schools and Departments and will be communicated to you by your programme/module co-ordinators.
- Every effort is being made to ensure scheduled placements will go ahead, and arrangements are being put in place so that students required to be in clinical settings receive priority access to vaccination.
- Supports for teaching and learning are available at the [Success Zone](#)

Semester 2 Assessment/Examinations

- Considering current public health guidelines, Semester 2 assessments will be run remotely/online. There will be limited opportunities to run on-campus invigilated assessments in exceptional cases only.
- Your programme and module co-ordinators will communicate further details of your assessments to you. We have also recently

re-instated the COVID19-No Academic Disadvantage measures which were in place last year. These measures take account of the exceptional circumstances in which you are studying <https://www.ucc.ie/en/exams/mitigation/>

All other student activities will remain as they were for Level 5 in Semester 1.

We understand that these arrangements will be disappointing, but they reflect national health advice and current Government policy. We have to ensure you and our society is protected, but we are also deeply conscious of the need to support you. We have increased [our student supports](#) and **reach out to us if you need any help** at this time.

We will continue to work closely with your Student Union to ensure you are supported to obtain the best possible educational experience for you under the current, difficult circumstances. We continuously monitor the public health situation and government guidelines and will be flexible in adjusting our plans where possible under prevailing national health advice.

Thank you for your support and co-operation as together we continue to implement the latest public health advice and play a role in protecting each other and our community.

Best wishes,

Professor John O'Halloran
Interim President

Professor Stephen Byrne
Interim Registrar