

Commencement of Spring Term 2021-22 – Academic Arrangements

Sunday, Jan 29, 2022, 17:24PM

Dear Members of the University community,

Spring classes will commence on Friday, 4 February 2022. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to the Spring Term 2021-22. At the start of the new term, we are writing to wish you all the best and provide a few important reminders.

Academic Arrangements

The proposed class arrangements for the Spring will be as follows:

- 1) During the Add/Drop period (i.e., 4 to 17 February 2022), all classes will be held in real-time online mode, as stated in [the announcement dated 23 January 2022](#).
- 2) Any undergraduate students outside Hong Kong should contact their advisors to obtain approval for **Not In Hong Kong (NIHK)** status if they expect not to be able to return to HK before or during the add/drop period.
- 3) After the Add/Drop period, if the pandemic situation allows (currently 22 February as announced by the HK Government), the default mode for classes will be [mixed-mode / mixed-mode lite](#). We will encourage students to come to classes on campus, while being fully prepared to support those who can't come to campus due to their current whereabouts (NIHK students) or prefer to attend online due to the concerns of the state of the pandemic in HK.
- 4) Our intention is for all final exams (i.e., during the period 17 to 28 May 2022) to be on campus.
- 5) Lab classes, language classes, and TPg programs will make their own arrangements.

We recognize that on-campus activities are our desired goal as a community, but health and safety are paramount. Therefore, the above plans may need to change as the situation evolves. If the plans change, we will make an announcement when appropriate and endeavor to provide sufficient lead time.

Access to Research Facilities and Laboratories

Faculty members and laboratory supervisors should restrict laboratory operations to time-critical work only, and follow pandemic restriction and prevention measures. Undergraduate students taking lab courses should contact the relevant instructors if they need any clarification.

Preventive Measures in Using On-campus Facilities and Catering Services

As the pandemic situation ebbs and flows, a kind reminder to all members to please be vigilant in observing the relevant preventive measures while using the different on-campus facilities-- classrooms, canteens, laboratories, Library, and other spaces. Up to date details are provided at <https://covid19info.ust.hk/campus-facilities>.

Social Connections Despite Social Distancing

Various social distancing regulations have been in place for nearly two years now, and on-campus activities allow us to create different sorts of connections amongst ourselves. Continuing initiatives started last Fall, the Dean of Students' Office, the Center for Language Education, the Schools, IPO,

Departments, and Divisions will organize different kinds of extracurricular and social gathering activities, some virtual and some on-campus as the situation allows. Let's all join these activities, reach out to each other, and help ourselves by just connecting with others.

We wish you all a rewarding Spring term. Take care and stay healthy. All the very best for the Year of the Tiger. Kung Hei Fat Choi!

Best,

Prof. Anirban Mukhopadhyay
Associate Provost (Teaching & Learning)

Prof. Jimmy Fung
Associate Provost (Teaching & Learning) Designate

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Enquiries:

Student records, registration, examinations and graduation:

ARO <https://registry.hkust.edu.hk>

Specific programs and courses including laboratory courses:

Respective Schools/Departments and Program Directors

Student Housing: SHRLO shrlo@ust.hk

<https://shrlo.ust.hk/news/faqs-covid-19-housing-arrangement>

Quarantine Arrangements: <https://covid19info.ust.hk/quarantine-arrangements>

Campus Health and Safety: HSEO safety@ust.hk