



UNIVERSITY of the  
WESTERN CAPE

## From the Office of the Dean: Faculty of Arts and Humanities



### **Arts & Humanities communication to staff and students (current and prospective) concerning Faculty's Learning and Teaching Plan**

Dear staff, current and prospective students

Following the Senate Executive Committee's (SEC) approval of the recommendations made by Senate Academic Planning (SAP) in relation to the Faculty's approach for the 2022 Learning and Teaching Plan, the Faculty's Learning and Teaching Plan entails the following hybrid approach:

OPTION 1 – Lectures, tutorials and practicals online, with face-to-face consultations with lecturers and tutors by appointment.

OPTION 2 – Lectures online, with face-to-face tutorials, practicals and consultations.

OPTION 3 – Some lectures and some tutorials face-to-face.

Most modules will follow Options 1 and 2. Option 3 is mostly for exit level and high priority modules.

Note: All students in the Arts & Humanities (with the exception of students registered for the modules listed below in Library and Information Science (LIB) and Geography, Environmental Studies and Tourism (GES) will be able to complete their degrees fully online for the first semester of 2022 (i.e. Option 1). However, all departments will also make provision for some face to face contact during this time. Departments will inform registered students of the arrangements that have been made for face-to-face and online in the first weeks of the semester (14 Feb onwards).

These academic decisions are informed by, amongst others, The "INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE FOR 2022" which was approved by the Council of the University of the Western Cape on 25 November 2021. The Policy became effective on 3 January 2022.

## **Policy mandates, campus access and attendance**

In terms of this policy, a general 'soft mandate' applies where students who are unvaccinated may register for their relevant degree or module but may not enter campus or attend university events. In this case, these unvaccinated students will need to study completely online.

In some cases, a 'hard mandate' will be required where certain modules or programmes require face-to-face and/or clinical or laboratory work. In such cases, staff and students that return to campus will need to be vaccinated.

To date, the faculty of Arts and Humanities has hard mandates on selected modules and for one programme. SEC has approved hard mandates for the following modules/programmes:

### **Undergraduate modules** (those requiring access to departmental GIS labs)

(Department of Library and Information Science)

**LIB402      Library Science 402 module (Practicum)**

(Department of Geography, Environmental Studies and Tourism)

**GES323      Geographic Information Systems**

**GES330      Introduction to the Principles of Remote Sensing**

**Postgraduate module** (part of BA Honours – Geography & Environmental Studies)

**GES738      Advanced Geographic Information Systems**

The BA Honours module(s) will primarily use a combination of face-to-face and online teaching and learning. Students should contact their departments for details. Departments will endeavour to accommodate, where reasonable, any registered student who cannot come to campus due to vaccination-related reasons.

Students, staff, service providers and visitors may apply for exemption from the Policy if such application is based on verifiable medical, constitutional and/or religious grounds. The University has established a Vaccination Exemption Committee (VEC), as referred to in Section 11 of the Policy.

The application form is available on the UWC website:

<https://form.jotform.com/MyUWC/vaccination-exemption-application>

Sincerely

**Prof. Monwabisi K. Ralarala (Dean)**  
**Faculty of Arts & Humanities**