



IMPORTANT UPDATES: ONLINE LEARNING

8th April 2020

Dear Students,

As you are aware the Malaysian Government had extended the Movement Control Order (MCO) until 14th April 2020. This means the earliest that we may be able to start operationalising the campus is on 15th April. A decision is expected to be announced after 10th April.

However, for everyone's safety, we believe that there will still remain the possible need to exercise social distancing perhaps for another week or two weeks. This together with the time needed for students to return from their hometowns and home countries coupled with the challenges of transport and flights, we anticipate it may take a minimum of 4 weeks from the time of lifting the MCO for all students to eventually return to campus.

1. Online Learning

We commenced Online Learning for all students from 23rd March 2020 as an interim solution to ensure students who are already enrolled in APU/APIIT are able to complete their studies in a timely manner. A lot of effort has been put into preparing for and delivering these online sessions. Feedback received thus far has been positive from the vast majority of students whilst we do recognise it may not have been worked well for a number of students for a variety of issues.

This was an effort which APU and APIIT had not ever undertaken to such a full scale and it had its challenges. Nevertheless, we are grateful to the vast majority of students who have enthusiastically adapted to and participated in online learning. We also thank all students who have provided constructive feedback on various teething problems during the first week. Our academic and support teams have been working hard to address these issues. We are into the third week of Online Learning and there are far fewer technical issues/problems now.

At the same time, we are also aware of students who – for various reasons – still face difficulties in adjusting sufficiently well to online learning. We fully empathise that this shift may be difficult to adapt to, compounded by possible issues related to connectivity that might exist in your hometowns or countries.

As such, in light of the extended MCO period, we are now providing the opportunity to these students (of applicable intakes) to Opt-Out of Online Learning, and defer their studies to a future date with face-to-face learning. The tentative date for your specific intake will be indicated once you go into the Opt-Out Form as explained below.

Should you decide to Opt-Out of Online Learning and defer your studies, the following will apply:

1. Your studies will recommence only when **face to face learning** on campus is permitted, with the next earliest possible intake of your programme and level of study.
2. Your progression to the next semester (or level of study) will be **delayed**.
3. The completion of your programme of study will therefore also be **delayed**.
4. At this stage, we are not aware of the impact to your **Student Visa** status (for international students), as we have not received advice from the authorities in this regard. We will work with the authorities to try to resolve this.
5. The **Online Alternative forms of assessments** replacing examinations (applicable only for students on Online Learning mode) will no longer be applicable to you as you restart your studies, and you will go through the normal examinations and assessments as defined in your programme, after you return to campus for face to face learning.

How do you Opt-Out?

If you are keen to Opt-Out of Online Learning and come back later to campus for face-to-face classes, please fill up the Online Form by clicking [HERE](#). The tentative start date for your next Semester will be displayed in the form for your confirmation.

Note that students in intakes that have almost completed the semester will not be able to Opt-Out, and as such your intake may not appear in the form.

If you would like to Opt-Out from Online Learning, please fill in the OPT-OUT Form latest by Wednesday, 15th April 2020 by 5pm.

If you have any queries on this Opt-Out option, please email to optout-admin@apu.edu.my.

Important Information for Students on PTPTN Loans

Students on PTPTN loans are bound by the terms of their Loan Agreements that do not allow deferment of their studies. Any variations to your study programme may impact on the status of your PTPTN Loan.

As such, until such time that we receive further guidance from PTPTN, you are advised not to Opt-Out of Online Learning at this time.

2. Examinations and Assessments – for Online Learning

We would also like to provide important information on Examinations and Assessments to all students who are waiting for your examinations to be held, or who are presently attending Online Learning classes.

The Malaysian Quality Agency (MQA) has recently issued new guidelines and revised rules for online learning and assessments. Our staff are now taking the next step by devising **alternative methods of assessment** to replace the conventional examinations in accordance with these revised guidelines from MQA – these may take the form of remote Examinations, Online Tests, Expanded Assignments or Case Studies.

These Alternative Methods of assessments are applicable only to students who:

1. are attending Online Learning classes, and
2. have already completed their semesters but waiting for examinations (which were scheduled in April and May 2020)

These are aimed to ensure that students participating in online learning will be able to progress through their study programme. **As announced previously, information on your examinations and alternative form of assessments will be issued within the next one week.**

Our goal in APU/APIIT is to serve you, the students, to meet your objectives of having enrolled in our Institutions. The online learning with alternative assessments is to ensure that you complete your studies in a timely manner.

It is a difficult and challenging time for all. We trust you are staying safe and healthy. We look forward to seeing you in person in the Campus as soon as the situation is back to normal.

Stay Safe and Take Care!

APU & APIIT Group Communications