



COVID-19 UPDATE: EXTENSION OF MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER

25th March 2020

Dear Students,

The Prime Minister has earlier this afternoon announced that the Movement Control Order (MCO) which was originally supposed to end on 31st March 2020, will now be extended for a further 2 weeks, until 14th April 2020.

Based on this latest announcement, we would like to inform you of the following:

1. Online Learning

All learning activities will continue to be conducted via Digital Online Learning which commenced on Monday 23rd March during the MCO period. Your lecturers are presently working out alternative arrangements - wherever feasible - with regard to practical hand-on sessions, which they will inform you during class, where possible.

2. Examinations and Assessments

In view of the extended MCO period, all final examinations scheduled to be held in April 2020 can no longer be held as originally planned and announced. Alternative arrangements would be made for all these examinations. Announcements in this regard will be made as soon as possible within the next 10 days. This also applies to students appearing for resit examinations.

In developing these alternative arrangements, a primary consideration at all times is to ensure that you are able to progress in your programme of study.

At the same time, we have to ensure that you achieve the Learning Outcomes that have been set out for your programme of study, and in the case of programmes that involve Professional Bodies we are engaging with the relevant authorities to ensure that can be preserved as far as possible.

Meanwhile, please continue to work on in-course assessments that have been assigned to you, and please do seek your lecturers' guidance in this regard.

3. Progression

Since the global situation is uncertain, we will continue to review progression dates and we will keep informing you on a continuous basis if this needs to be revised. As it stands, based on the latest MCO announcement and the global pandemic developments, there will be no progressions into new semesters or into a new level in April 2020.

We are working rapidly to respond to the extreme and unprecedented circumstances. It is vital that all the necessary implications regarding changes to assessments are fully considered and that you receive the necessary support and are not unduly disadvantaged.

4. These are challenging and unprecedented difficult times

Most universities world-wide are switching to online mode for teaching and learning. Whilst this poses a cultural shift in learning, we, at APU, are taking gradual steps to ensure students' achievement of learning objectives is not unduly compromised.

We have provided extensive guidance for students to come on board the online system we have in APU. We are continuing to provide updates as when necessary to the students and staff. Our staff have also been requested to provide flexibility to students where needed. For example, if a student is unable to attend a scheduled online class or has difficulty in the rare case of limited connectivity, the staff have been advised to ensure the student is aided after the lectures to meet the learning objectives. Staff are also requested to be on standby and dedicate time for students to receive additional support.

Our main objective is to serve our students as best as we can to and ensure that you meet your objectives.

We acknowledge the switch from physical classrooms to virtual classrooms (online learning) can be challenging for students and staff alike. We are nearing one full week of online teaching and learning. We have received very positive and constructive feedback from the vast majority of students, and are continually reviewing the feedback and making the any necessary adjustments where needed.

It is likely that online learning may be here for the foreseeable future, not just in APU but across many universities all over the world. We want your feedback for continuous improvement.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy. Stay at Home, Stay Connected.

APU & APIIT Group Communications