

Issued: Monday 29 November 2021

To: All students

Title: Policies to Mitigate the Educational Impact on Students of UCU Industrial Action

Dear Student,

I am writing to outline plans to minimise the disruption of your learning experience.

As a reminder, the University and College Union (UCU) has called for strike action 1 – 3 December. The dispute is national, and affects universities throughout the UK. Information is available on our dedicated [industrial action web page](#).

Students have a reasonable expectation that the University will enable them to progress in their studies and complete their awards. This policy's objective is to find a pragmatic means to enable students to fulfil the learning opportunities and outcomes specified by their programmes of study. The full policy, which addresses assessments and examinations as well as classes cancelled due to strike action, can be viewed [online](#).

The period of strike action spans three days. Not all academic staff are members of UCU, and those who are may not strike all three days. Staff intending to strike may choose to inform their students of their intentions. They are not, however, obligated to inform the University in advance. Therefore I ask all students to **act on the assumption that classes will be held as scheduled, and that assignments may be submitted as usual, on each day of the strike.**

Whilst opinions across our community will vary on these complex national issues, we hope that we can all remain united in a common respect for all our community members throughout this time.

I will provide updates on a regular basis. All messages, policies and answers to frequently asked questions will also be posted [online](#).

All the best,

Alan Houston
Vice-Provost (Education)