



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN, POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES



Dear PGR Students,

Welcome to the 2022 January term. I hope you had a restful break with family and friends. For those starting their programme in January, a warm welcome to SMU.

Face-to-face Instructions

I have previously advised that classes will be conducted face-to-face on campus during this January term. We will continue to operate on this basis as the default. With the prevailing safe management measures (SMMs), face-to-face classes will remain capped at a maximum of 50 persons (including teaching staff and teaching assistant) per venue. Given the safe distancing requirements, many seminar rooms will need to be capped at 42 students, with the remaining rooms capped at 49 students (or fewer if a Teaching Assistant and/or co-instructor need to be present). If your class is within the safe capacity limit, classes will take place fully face-to-face with fixed seating arrangement throughout the term.

Rostered Remote Attendance of Livestreamed Classes

If the class enrolment exceeds the assigned facility's safe capacity, the majority of the class up to the safe capacity of the assigned facility will attend the class on campus, with the remaining students attending classes remotely via livestream. Your instructors are given the flexibility of designing an appropriate rostering scheme for the class and will communicate specific class plans to you soon.

Please take note that students will not be allowed to take classes entirely remotely online unless approval is granted by their respective Programme Director. All exams will continue to be conducted on campus.

If you need a quiet space to attend a class remotely, note that in addition to using study spaces on campus for this purpose, you may also head to the "Learning Lab" at Li Ka Shing Library or at Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, which have been designated as spaces reserved exclusively for that purpose.

Milestone-based Assessments

These refer to the PhD Qualifying Exams and Master thesis or PhD dissertation proposal/final defences. Such assessments, which generally involve small groups of faculty and students, will be conducted on campus.

Open-door sessions for final thesis/dissertation defences or pre-conference talks should be conducted online unless otherwise informed.

If you have other queries, please reach out to your respective Graduate Programme Office (GPO) for further advice. I wish you a safe and great term ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

Professor WANG Heli
Dean, Postgraduate Research Programmes
Janice Bellace Professor of Strategic Management
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