



FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

12 May 2020

Dear Health Sciences Student

We hope that you are well considering these uncertain times. We understand and share your anxieties regarding the finalisation of the academic project of the first semester. You would have seen the messages from the VC as well as the communiques from the DVC: L&T regarding the two Pathways. We hope to answer any questions you may have relating to these as best we can by means of this FAQ / Q&A document. If you have any further queries, please contact your lecturer or Academic Advisor and Student Success Coach, who will pass on your concerns to us.

	1. What does Pathway 1 entail?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students have their own devices and can access the zero-rated websites (including Moodle) from home.• These students can start Digital Learning & Teaching (Digi LT) as from 4th of May.• All learning and teaching will take place digitally (using Moodle, zero-rated websites as well as other websites).• Lecturers will make regular contact with students via digital means (using Moodle and other digital platforms like Student Email and WhatsApp).	

	2. What does Pathway 2 entail?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For Students that do not have their own devices and/or do not have Internet connectivity (including Moodle) from home.• These students can start Digi LT as soon as the University communicated the decision to return to campus to make use of the Devices and Connectivity on campus.• The Majority of Learning and Teaching will take place digitally (using Moodle and email).• Lecturers will make regular contact with students via digital means (using Moodle and digital communication platforms).• Limited Face2Face (in Person) contact sessions may be arranged once it is safe to do so.• A limited number of students are due to receive Laptops soon and those Students are encouraged to start with Pathway 1	



3. What is the difference between Pathway 1 and Pathway 2?

- The only difference is the timing of the Digi LT.
- Students will go through the same Digi LT processes covering the same content and being assessed in the same manner, but just at different times.
- Pathway 2 will also entail limited F2F contact (in Person), while adhering to physical distancing regulations.



4. When will Pathway 1 commence?

- Academic staff and students used the time from **20 April 2020**, to prepare for the gradual resumption of academic activities.
 - The lecturers have started connecting with students in their modules to determine what type of learning pathway is possible for each student.
 - Students **should make use of the “how-to” Moodle guides** to familiarise themselves with the workings of Moodle and other forms of Digi LT.
 - Lecturers will continue to place learning material on Moodle.
- Academic activities will started gradually from **Tuesday, 28 April 2020**, meaning that students should start engaging with the material placed on Moodle for each module.
- As from **Monday, 4 May 2020**, the Digi LT will be intensified.
- The Digi L&T process will run for a period of six weeks from 4 May 2020.



5. When will Pathway 2 commence?

- This Pathway can only commence once there has been a national directive that it is safe for students to return to campus.
- To reiterate the VC’s message, no student will be left behind and the same Digi LT process will be followed for the Pathway 2 students once students are safely back on campus:
 - One week to prepare for the gradual resumption of academic activities.
 - A second week for students should make use of the “how-to” Moodle guides to familiarise themselves with the workings of Moodle and other forms of Digi LT.
 - Thereafter, the Digi LT will be intensified, and assessments will commence thereafter.
 - The Digi LT will be for the same duration as for the Pathway 1 students.



6. What do Pathway 2 students do while at home before they can get back to campus?

- While at home, students are encouraged to continue with any pre-reading based on material that they may have in their possession.
- Additionally, Lecturers are encouraged to distribute printed learning materials to students. Please contact your Lecturer to inform them of your Learning Needs.



7. Will there be face-to-face (F2F) contact?

- Unfortunately, we doubt that it will be business as usual after the lockdown has been lifted, even when students can safely return to campus.
- Pathway 1 students might not have physical F2F contact with their lecturers.
- Pathway 2 students may have limited F2F contact (physical distancing regulations dependent) with their lecturers.



8. When will students need to decide on their Pathways

- Students are strongly encouraged to use Pathway 1.
- Students are strongly advised to work through the preparatory online learning module on Moodle!
- If Students have challenges with Pathway 1 (No appropriate Device and/or Connectivity Issues, Living Conditions) they can choose Pathway 2.
- Students can change from Pathway 1 to Pathway 2 during the 6 Week Digi-LT process.
- Students currently without a Laptop are still able to start Pathway 1 if they have been allocated a Laptop via the Student Laptop initiative.
- Please see all Info regarding the Pathways on <https://www.mandela.ac.za/News-and-Events/Coronavirus-Information/Academic-Research-Activities-during-COVID-19>.



9. How many assessments will there be?

- Each student will be required to complete a **minimum** of two assessments.
- All assessments will be compulsory.
- The lecturers will communicate the form and quantity of assessments applicable for each module and HoDs or DoSs are also available to address further queries.



10. What happens to the Term 1 mark if students wrote Term 1 before the lockdown?

- The Term 1 result will be regarded as the result for the first of the two compulsory assessments referred to in Q9 above.
- Only students who opted not to write Term 1 and those who achieved less than 50% will then be required to attempt assessment 1.
- All students must attempt assessment 2.
- Lecturers should be contacted for more Information.



11. What happens to Work Integrated Learning

- Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is currently suspended until further Notice.
- Work-integrated (WIL), clinical training and other experiential learning requirements will be finalised at a faculty level and guided by the adjustments approved by professional bodies, where relevant. Lecturers will communicate directly with students about changes to the requirements and how these will be achieved.



12. Will there be examinations at the end of the modules?

- For this semester only, the Faculty has changed most modules to **Continuous Assessment**.
- In some cases, Continuous Assessment might not be possible, and alternative Assessment methods will be communicated by the respective Module Lecturer.
- This means that there might not be the same number of written examinations this semester.



13. What is a zero-rated site?

- Students who are Vodacom, MTN, Cell C and Telkom subscribers and make use of their networks to access specific URLs will be zero-rated. This means that subscribers will not be charged when they visit the specific sites.
- Important is that Moodle (<https://learn.mandela.ac.za>) is included as a zero-rated site. Please see <https://www.mandela.ac.za/News-and-Events/Coronavirus-Information/Academic-Research-Activities-during-COVID-19> for an up-to-date list of zero-rated URLs.
- Additionally, Students received a Data Bundle on their Cellphones. Please see <https://www.mandela.ac.za/General/Mobile-Data-Query> for details.

The Faculty Management strongly advises Students to **regularly check their emails for Memos and Updates**.

We wish you all the best for the completion of your semester one modules. Take care and stay safe as you are all very important to us!

FACULTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE