Covid-19, Responsive Blended Learning (RBL), Temporary Suspension of Studies (TSS), and Mitigating Circumstances (MC):
Academic Year 2021/2022, Semester 2 (January to May 2022)

University response to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis
As a global University, we are very aware that Covid restrictions have, and will continue to, affect our student community and our campuses in different ways, often at short notice, as governments around the world lift or impose restrictions.

In response to Covid-19, the University introduced Responsive Blended Learning (RBL), an innovative approach which has enabled students to study on-campus or remotely in response to tightening or loosening of Covid-19 restrictions.

No student will be academically disadvantaged by this approach to learning.

Further details available here: https://lta.hw.ac.uk/resources/responsive-blended-learning/.

RBL and Covid-19 have had implications for Temporary Suspensions of Study (TSS) and Mitigating Circumstances (MC) applications as follows:

RBL and Temporary Suspension of Studies
1. Campus-based students who are prevented from returning to on-campus study by Covid restrictions will not be expected to submit a TSS application, if they are able to study and complete their assessments off-campus (remotely) via RBL.

2. TSS applications will not be accepted for any taught students who do not wish to return to, or continue on, their studies in the academic year 2021/2022 due to their courses being taught in an RBL format; unless under exceptional circumstances.

3. It is understood that some students will be impacted by Covid-19 to the extent that they should consider a TSS; but, as with any TSS application, this would need to be accompanied by evidence of circumstances to support the student’s application.

4. TSS should be applied for before the start of the academic session.

5. Students who seek to apply for a TSS should be aware of the potential consequences of their decision on their current and future studies, and the status of any visas that they hold.

6. For more information on TSS and how to apply see: https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/studies/leaving/temporary-suspension-studies.htm.
RBL, Covid-19 and Mitigating Circumstances

1. Campus-based students who are prevented from returning to on-campus study by Covid restrictions will not be expected to submit an MC application, if they are able to study and complete their assessments off-campus (remotely) via RBL.

2. Students cannot choose to avoid studying, or participating in, any of their courses – including assessments – in academic year 2021/2022; due to their courses being taught in an RBL format – unless under exceptional circumstances.

3. Like any illness, Covid-19 can impact a student’s performance in a course.

4. If this is the case, students can apply for an MC. You will need to provide:
   - Correspondence from a health professional confirming your diagnosis; and/or,
   - Evidence of a positive Covid-19 test – this can take the form of a screenshot or email from your health authority that a positive Covid test has been logged clearly showing your name, the date, and the confirmation.

5. For more information and how to apply see: https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/studies/examinations/mitigating-circumstances.htm.

Registry and Academic Support
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