

Academic Reboot Pack 2.0



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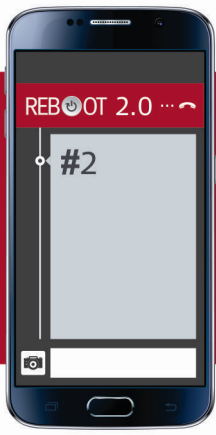
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*Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives.
Inspireer uitnemendheid. Verander lewens*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA



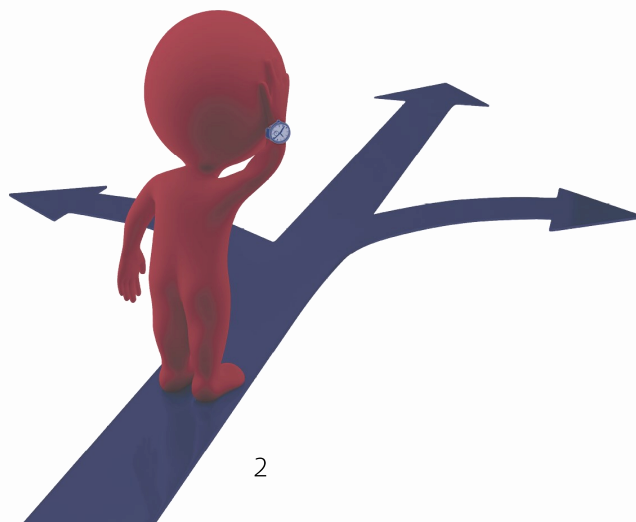
UFS·UV
CENTRE FOR TEACHING
AND LEARNING (CTL)
ONDERRIG-EN-LEERSENTRUM
(OLS)



REBOOT 2.0

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“We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated.”





REBOOT 2.0

Introduction

Welcome to the Academic Reboot Pack 2.0! The pack builds on Academic Reboot 1.0., which was aimed at helping you focus on your academics during the interruption of teaching and learning activities over the past four weeks.

Aim of Academic Reboot Pack 2.0

Academic Reboot 2.0. is aimed at helping you take control, and get you moving towards successfully completing the 2016 academic year. This pack will provide you with information around the carefully-crafted UFS academic rescue strategy and how to go about completing your work.

The re-adjustments in the 2016 academic calendar for the students on the Bloemfontein and South campuses have resulted in the institution adopting a blended approach to teaching and learning; This refers to a combination of printed and recorded/online lectures; study materials and learning aids through BlackBoard; and necessary infrastructure for you to access the necessary learning materials in preparation for the upcoming main examinations.





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Reconnect: What happens now?

UFS information

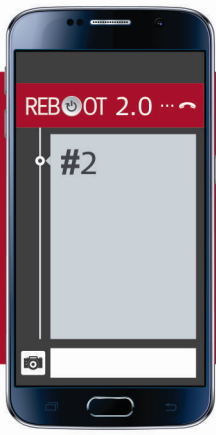
After almost four weeks of student protests about fees at the University of the Free State (UFS) and the subsequent suspension of the academic programme and closing of campuses; the senior leadership announced on 14 October 2016 a strategy to ensure that students will be able to complete the 2016 academic year.

Although a different teaching and learning approach has been adopted by the institution as an interim solution to the current situation, it is crucial to note that in the majority of modules students will sit for the exam on campus.

Faculties have been affected differently by the loss of teaching time. Some faculties, like the Faculty of Law, have completed their curriculum, while other faculties like the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences require more teaching time. On the other hand, faculties such as the Faculty of Health Sciences, cannot do teaching through alternative modes of delivery. Thus it is critical to note that:

- The university is extending the academic year so that lost teaching and learning time can be recovered. The qualifications conferred on the 2016 class will be of the same quality and academic standard as all UFS qualifications.
- Faculties have prepared all the necessary materials and instructions to support student learning. Some faculties require practical laboratory work as part of their curriculum (State of our Campus, 15 October 2016).
- The relevant faculties will communicate all outstanding academic work directly to the students registered in the faculty.
- Students in their final year will complete their studies during 2016. Stay on track, plan for what lies ahead by retrieving your examination timetable via [Student Self-Service](#).

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do. “ -Pelé



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How will these changes affect you?

Practically, the new blended teaching and learning approach will mean that you need to look on BlackBoard for instructions from your lecturer on how to complete the academic year. In some modules you will only be required to submit assessments, while in others you might be required to watch video lectures and then hand in assignments. The majority of modules will continue with exams as scheduled, however, some modules might opt not to have an exam but rather require you to submit a final assessment. To ensure that your chances of success are maximized, we recommend that you make use of the following resources provided in this pack:

- Reconnect: What happens now
- Stay on track (wireless learning options)
- Academic preparation
- Unlocking the keys to good time-management
- Manage stress, and
- Ask for help





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Learning support interventions

The UFS has put together several learning support measures, which include: learning venues, printing support, and providing access to digital learning platforms.

Learning venues

Designated Study venues

The UFS has made 11 study venues available on the Bloemfontein campus for students. The venues will be open from 31 October to 23 November 2016.

Times: 07h00 – 22h00

These venues are listed in the table below.

Start Time	End Time	Venue (s)	Description
07:10	22:00	FGG 169/FGG184	Faculty of Humanities
07:10	22:00	LG 1/LG2/LG3	Faculty of Natural & Agricultural Sciences
07:10	22:00	EBW A103/EBW ALG8	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
07:10	22:00	W 111	Faculty of Education
07:10	22:00	CRS 2/CRS 3	Faculty of Law
07:10	22:00	N 1	Faculty of Theology

The UFS Sasol Library

Study sections and learning commons in the library will be open for study. The library hours will be as follows:

10 October—25 November	08:00–22:00
28 November—2 December	08:00–18:30
5 December—9 December	08:00–16:30
20 December—4 January	08:00–12:30





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Computer labs

The UFS will open all computer labs to allow students to study. The main computer lab will be open until midnight every day, including weekends.

Computer lab hours are as follows:

Main Computer lab (Next to Sasol library)

Days:	Hours:
Monday to Friday	07:00 – 24:00
Saturdays and Sundays	08:00 – 24:00
Public Holidays	09:00 – 24:00
University Holidays	08:00 – 18:00

Media Computer lab (Next to Edu-loan)

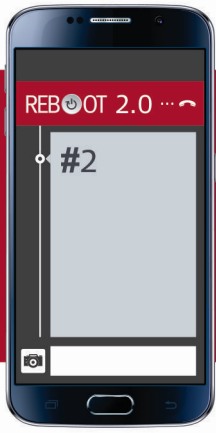
Days:	Hours:
Monday to Friday	08:00 – 18:00

Level 6—Library

Days:	Hours:
Monday to Friday (excluding Wednesdays)	08:00 – 21:00
Wednesdays	09:00 – 21:00

South Campus

Days:	Hours:
Monday to Friday (excluding Wednesdays)	08:00 – 18:00



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Printing support – On demand printing

As part of the Academic Rescue Plan, faculties have prepared written material to help you finish their syllabus and succeed in your exams. This material can be printed on demand.

Additional printing facilities have been arranged for students in Exam Room 7 (EXR 7). Qualifying students will be allocated an amount of R50 on their student card for printing.

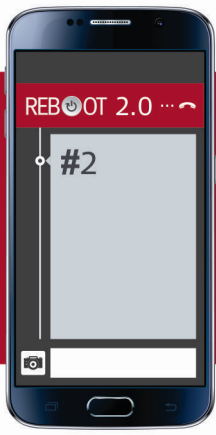


How will it work?

In an effort to support you with the completion of the 2016 academic year, the UFS will provide all undergraduate and honours students on the Bloemfontein campus enrolled for contact (face-to-face) teaching with R50 for the printing of academic materials at designated printing venues. If you qualify, this amount will be loaded directly onto your student card. You can swipe your card to pay for printing at the designated printing venue. Please note that this amount is allocated specifically for printing and will not be transferrable.

What will the printing cost?

From 1 November 2016 to 18 November 2016, printing tariffs will be lowered to 32c per page at the designated printing venues (black and white copies only). After this printing period, standard tariffs at all printing venues will apply.



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Where can printing be done?

You are encouraged to use EXR 7 for printing purposes as it is set up to best support students during the printing period mentioned. Staff will also be on hand to assist you with the printing process should you need assistance. You will be able to access BlackBoard from the EXR 7 printing venue. The computer labs, as well as Xerox on the Thakaneng Bridge, will charge the same tariff for the printing period mentioned but longer waiting periods for printing materials should be expected.

What can be printed?

You are encouraged to only print academic material you require for the successful completion of the 2016 academic year. This includes material made available on BlackBoard in preparation for the final examination.

Printing dates and times:

Dates: 1 November to 18 November

Times: Monday to Friday 08:00–16:30





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Wireless Learning: stay connected

Since you need to complete most of the academic year from home, local libraries/schools, restaurants, and provided study venues, internet connection is the most critical component to the equation. You need to be creative around the way you approach your studies.

The UFS is aware that access to technology, connectivity, and data is not available to all equally, and has thus ensured that you remain connected to important platforms that will support and enhance your learning during this time by centralising loading content on Blackboard. This section provides you with details to help you develop strategies around working online and staying connected to the UFS, and most importantly BlackBoard.

You can make use of BlackBoard materials, while the Reboot pack guides you through the process.

To get more information on how to connect to BlackBoard and Questionmark, refer to the 'MakeTechnology work' feed of Academic Reboot 1.0 (pg. 13).

There are various possible options for one to stay connected, whether on campus or off-campus. Read carefully through this sections to make the most of wireless learning.

On-Campus Data access

Across the Bloemfontein and South campuses, there are LAN and Wi-Fi connection points for you to access the internet.

You can connect to the internet in the labs or via the available connections using your own device (3G/4G cellphone/tablet/laptop). The recommended wireless connection is: UFS_Wireless1.

Student login credentials:

Username: Your student number

Password: Your UFS login password





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Off-Campus Data access

Where to get connected with your device

For some students getting to campus in order to use the facilities may be a challenge. But one should not despair, there are various off-campus public spaces where you can access the internet using a computer or tablet:

- Visit your local library/school/internet café, and/or copy shop for internet and device use.
- Identify local free Wi-Fi hotspots in shopping malls, restaurants and the likes, which will enable you to save on data costs if you have your own device.

The university is part of national negotiations to look at ways of lowering data costs. Students will be updated regarding these efforts.

How to create a personal hotspot with your phone

Firstly, the process involves enabling the hotspot option on your phone. Do this by turning your personal hotspot on, in your phone's settings. Your phone will indicate a Wi-Fi password. Configure wireless security with a password to prevent other people piggybacking on your connection. You will need to enter the password indicated on your phone. Connect your laptop or tablet to the Wireless network, just as you would with any wireless network. Look for the option indicating your phone. You'll have to enter the password the first time you connect, but on subsequent occasions, your tablet should connect automatically. It's the same process if you have a Wi-Fi dongle.

Remember that using your phone as a personal hotspot will use data from your phone. In order to save on data, either disable automatic updates or downloads. Or keep a close eye on how much data is being used by looking in your phone's settings or monitor it by using a dedicated App. On your smartphone, disable the hotspot running when you're not using it as this will prolong battery life.

Students with no personal device

If you do not have a device to access your material online, you will need to make full use of paper-based materials and public internet access facilities to gain access to learning materials. Paper-based materials can be accessed through On Demand Printing and by using the computer labs. Where possible, make use of public facilities (local library/school or copy shop), purchase an affordable device of your own, or try to borrow a device from a friend or family member for the remainder of the academic year, so that you can access your learning material.



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Get ready for exams

It is paramount to constantly check your faculty's BlackBoard organisation, the University's main page, as well as your ufs4life email account in order to keep yourself informed regarding the state of campus.

The UFS has made the commitment to maintain academic excellence and integrity and has thus taken the decision to continue, in the majority of modules, with traditional sit-down examinations as determined by each faculty. In some modules, students will be assessed using alternative forms of assessment.

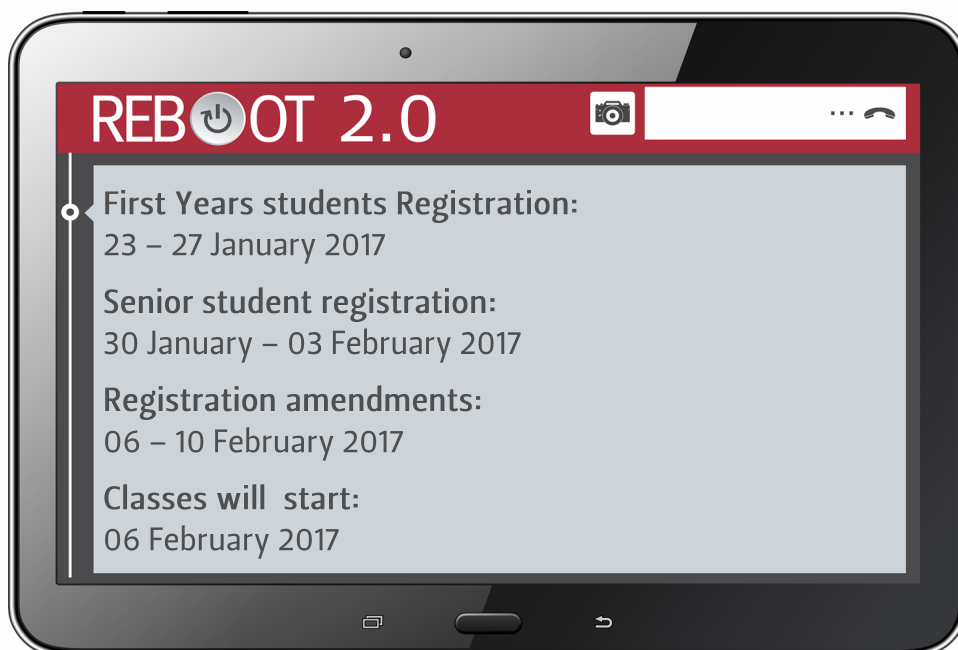
Dates for the final 2016 year-end examinations:

Main examination: 24 November 2016 – 14 December 2016

Additional examination: 4 January 2017 – 16 January 2017

****More information available 'State of campus #19: October 2016'**

UFS Registration dates for 2017:





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Academic Preparation: #8 Habits of highly successful online students

For the remainder of the year, the majority of your work will be completed online. Some advantages of this approach are identified by Pennfoster (2015). These advantages include the convenience of not having to travel to campus and back, flexibility of when, where and how you complete academic tasks, less campus responsibilities, and affordability.

If you seize the moment, you can still achieve your academic goals and be successful. This section will share 8 habits of highly effective online students to help you to achieve your goals through the use of an online medium.

Habit #1: Stay informed

Because you will not have face-to-face contact sessions with your lecturers, you will need to be extra vigilant in your studies. Visit online learning platforms such as BlackBoard on a daily basis, and check all your modules for new announcements and academic information. Make sure you understand exactly what the lecturers want you to do. If you are unsure, contact the lecturer immediately. Important UFS contact details have been shared in the first Academic Reboot pack. [Click here](#) to download the first Academic Reboot pack.

Schedules are especially important in an online environment, because you have more flexibility and power to decide what you will do and when. While going through various modules on BlackBoard, create a to-do list with all the academic tasks that you need to complete. You can make use of the to-do list template provided in the Academic Reboot Pack 1.0., or [click here](#) to download a template from BlackBoard.

Habit #2: Prioritise your work

As there is a lot to do in a small amount of time, you will need to distinguish between important and less important tasks. Academic Reboot Pack 1.0. shares a strategy to help you with this. To refresh your memory on this strategy, [click here](#). To help you think practically about prioritising your tasks, you can ask yourself the following questions:

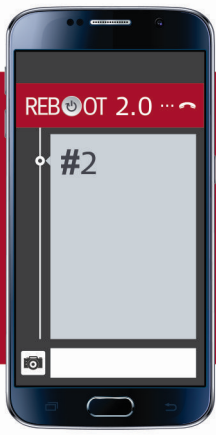
Which tasks are approaching their deadlines first?

Which tasks are more difficult and will need more of my time?

Which tasks will contribute more towards my final mark?

Which tasks are compulsory for completing my academic year successfully?





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If a specific task comes to mind frequently while answering the above questions, it is an indication that you need to prioritise this task. Having an attitude of highest priorities first, will help you focus and be more sufficient.

Now that you know which tasks will require immediate attention, set up a revision plan for the remainder of the academic year. You can use the template provided in the [Academic Reboot pack 1.0.](#) (page 12), or draft your own plan. Remember to schedule all your academic assessments. Also allocate time for research for assignments. Here are some guidelines that might help you with your revision plan:

Task	Tips to Remember
Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule time to look for resources. • Schedule time to write a first draft. • Remember to reference. • Take a break after completing draft 1. • Schedule time to read through and correct mistakes before submission date. • If working on someone else's computer, make sure you save a copy on a memory stick, or email it to yourself before you leave.
Online Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure you know when the test will be available and when it will close. • Schedule time to prepare for the test.
Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count the number of pages in the chapters, so that you have an accurate idea of the amount of time you will need for studying. • Set goals for each study session so that know what should be completed.
Online activities and discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure you know when you need to complete the activity • Schedule time for the preparation of the activity.
Summaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to also schedule time for making summaries.

“Set your intentions for the week ahead. People who plan. Achieve. “

-Anonymous.



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Habit #3: Optimise your environment

Consider what kind of study environment suits you best for different stages of the study process. Be conscious about what enables you to study: do you need silence or background music? Do you need to be at home, or somewhere away from home where you can be productive and study effectively.

In order to help you find a favourable study space, the UFS has allocated eleven (11) study venues where you can sit and study on campus every day. The dates and times for these venues are as follows:

Dates: 24 October until 23 November

Times: 07:10 until 22:00

The study venues are indicated in the table below.

Faculty	Study venue(s):
Faculty of the Humanities	FGG 169 and FGG184
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences	LG 1, LG2 and LG3
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences	EBW A103 and EBW ALG8
Faculty of Education	W 111
Faculty of Law	CRS 2 and CRS 3
Faculty of Theology	N 1

The library will also be open for studying (see page 7). Various levels in the Sasol library have been identified as designated study areas both for individual studying and group discussions (e.g. Learning Commons).

If you are planning to do most of your studying at home, remember to communicate with your family members that you need to study more at home than they might be used to. Ask for their support in making it possible for you to study with the least possible distractions.



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Habit #4: Begin with the end in mind

Decide what you want to achieve daily, and keep working until you have achieved those goals. Reward yourself when reaching daily goals.

Habit #5: Stay organised

Declutter your environment. Create a filing system for your paper-based notes as well as the electronic files on your computer. Always make a backup of your electronic information, especially when working on various computers.

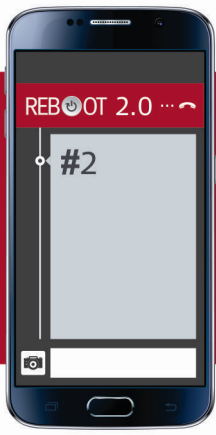
Habit #6: Find study buddies

Study groups provide students with the opportunity to share knowledge with each other, and hold each other accountable for their academics. Study groups can be held at one of the group member's home, in the study commons on level five of the Sasol library (open between 08:00 and 22:00 daily) or at a location that everyone agrees upon. Discussion rooms can also be effective spaces to meet other students in your module.

Habit #7: Ask for help

Do not suffer in silence! Simply put, **no question is a stupid question**. If you are not sure about something, ASK. You can contact your lecturer via email, or on their office numbers provided in the module study guide. Many modules on BlackBoard also have online discussion rooms.





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Habit #8: Keep a healthy body and mind

Successful students know the importance of looking after themselves holistically. Remember that you will need to keep going a little longer than anticipated this year. Thus you need to look after yourself to ensure that you do not burn out. Refer to page 11 of the *Academic Reboot Pack v1.0* for some tips to look after yourself. With exams around the corner, we realise how important it is that you stay focused. In this Reboot pack, we will share information on leading a lifestyle that supports your brain.

Firstly, don't forget that as well as a healthy diet, *exercise* helps to keep your brain sharp. Research suggests that regular exercise improves cognitive function, slows down the mental aging process and helps us process information more effectively.

Another way of making sure that your brain stays strong is by adding brain foods to your diet. There are many foods that hold various benefits for mental fitness. Visit the next page to learn more about these foods.



Healthy choices for LIFE

Vitamin C



Vitamin C has long been thought to have the power to increase mental agility. One of the best sources of this vital vitamin are blackcurrants. Others include red peppers, citrus fruits and broccoli.

Brain Foods

Whole Grains

Wholegrains with low GI will release glucose slowly into the bloodstream, keeping you mentally alert throughout the day. Opt for 'brown' wholegrain cereals, granary bread, rice and pasta.



Dark Chocolate

Cocoa contains polyphenols that increases blood flow to the brain.



Broccoli

Broccoli is a great source of vitamin K, which is known to enhance cognitive function and improve brain power. Steam it, cook it, or enjoy it raw in a salad.



Freshly Brewed Tea

Natural ingredients such as the amino acid E-thiamine found in a cup of tea can improve brain power and increase alertness.



Blackberries and Blueberries

Dark red and purple fruits such as blueberries, raspberries and plums contain a protective compound called anthocyanins which is effective in improving or delaying short term memory loss. Helps encourage communication between neurons, improving ability to soak up new information.

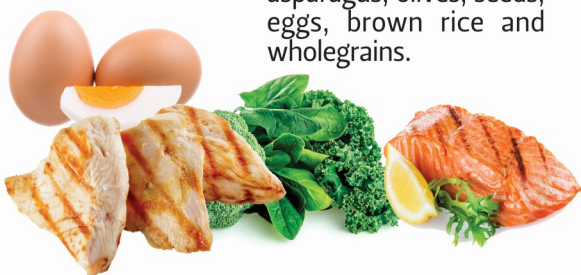
Nuts

Nuts are a great source of vitamin E along with leafy green vegetables, asparagus, olives, seeds, eggs, brown rice and wholegrains.



Omega-3 rich foods like salmon

Oily fish contains essential fatty acids (Omega 3 fats) which cannot be made by the body. You can get the Omega-3 fats you need from salmon, trout, sardines, pilchards and kippers. Plant sources of Omega 3 include linseed, soya beans, pumpkin seeds, walnuts.



Vitamin B Rich Foods

Add vitality with vitamins. Certain B vitamins (B6, B12, and folic acid) are known to add vitality and strength. Opt for B-rich foods like chicken, fish, eggs, and leafy greens.

Avocado

Improves blood supply and oxygenation to your brain



Oatmeal

The primary fuel for your brain is glucose, which comes from carbohydrates such as oats. Since your body breaks down the carbs in whole-grain oats very slowly, oatmeal keeps you sharp for several hours.





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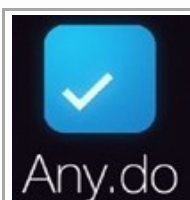
Unlocking the keys to good time management

Eat the frog

Mark Twain once said that if the first thing you do each morning is to eat a live frog, you can go through the day with the satisfaction of knowing that that is probably the worst thing that is going to happen to you all day long. Your “frog” is your biggest, most important task- the one you are most likely to avoid because you don’t know how to start it. The key to reaching high levels of performance and productivity is to develop the habit of tackling your most important task first thing every morning. You must develop the routine of “eating your frog” before you do anything else, without taking too much time to think about it. [Click here](#) to view a short video on this strategy.

Helpful time management apps

Although there are many apps that can help you manage your time, we recommend the following two:



Any.do App

This app is compatible with IOS and Android. It allows you to organise your day by allowing you to create reminders, to-do lists and notes All of your plans are saved on Any.do’s clean user friendly interface. This app allows you to switch from your phone to your laptop without missing anything on your schedule.



MyHomework

This helps you to manage your school life. It has a modern design and is easy to use. Its reliability and simplicity makes it highly rated as a good student planner.

For more information on time management strategies, [click here](#).





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Managing stress: deal with anxiety

In the first Academic Reboot Pack, we provided you with important information concerning stress as well as tips to help you deal with stress. It is important to remember that all of us respond to stress in different ways and in some cases stress can lead to high levels of anxiety. Thus, in this Reboot 2.0, we will provide you with some information and helpful resources to help you manage anxiety.

Overcoming high levels of anxiety

Keep the following in mind when you are feeling anxious:

1. Realise that anxiety is an amplified response to stress.
2. Face your anxiety head-on.
3. Do not add to your anxiety by thinking about what "might" happen. If you find yourself asking "What if?" tell yourself "So what!"
4. Label your anxiety level from zero to ten and watch it fluctuate. Notice that it does not stay at a very high level for more than a few seconds.
5. Notice that when you stop thinking about frightening scenarios, your anxiety begins to fade away.
6. When you have to complete a task that makes you anxious, take a deep breath and give the feeling time to pass. Don't try to suppress your anxiety since it will increase the level of your anxiousness.
7. Be proud of yourself for the progress you have made thus far, and imagine how good you will feel when you accomplish your final goal.

(Adapted from http://www.sadag.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9&Itemid=112)



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Who to contact, when

In some cases you might feel that your anxiety is affecting you physically. We would like to recommend that you make contact with the following departments:

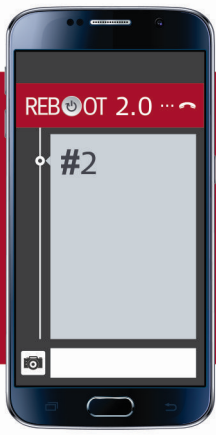
Department	Contact number:
Medical Practice	+27 51 401 2603
Qwaqwa Campus Clinic	+27 58 718 5210
Sports and Exercise Medicine Clinic	+27 51 401 2530
First Aid	+27 51 401 3325
Emergencies (After hours) - ER 24	0800 051 051 or 084 124

If you feel that you are managing your anxiety, but would like to develop your skills further, please make an appointment with Student Counselling and Development at:

Email: HerbstP@ufs.ac.za or phone 051 401 2853.

You can also call a 24-hour helpline. The South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) has various helplines that can help you to deal with anxiety and depression. [Click here](#) to connect to their website.







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UFS Support Network

At the UFS, we offer a range of support services that can help you achieve your academic goals and succeed in your studies. Here is a reminder that all UFS support services were shared with you in Academic Reboot Pack 1.0. [Click here](#) to view all UFS support services. Do not hesitate to email or call should you need support.


	<i>Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences</i>		
<i>Faculty Advisor / Contact Person</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>		<i>Programmes / Responsibilities</i>
Mrs Lizette Pretorius	LPretorius@ufs.ac.za	051 401 2173	Faculty Manager
Dr Corlia Janse van Vuuren	JanseVanVuurenEC@ufs.ac.za	051 401 3691	Teaching and Learning Manager


	<i>Faculty of Education</i>		
<i>Faculty Advisor / Contact Person</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>		<i>Programmes / Responsibilities</i>
Mrs Charmell Cardoso	CardosoC@ufs.ac.za	051 401 9264	Faculty Manager
Prof Adri Beylefeld	BeylefeldAA@ufs.ac.za	051 401 3125	Teaching and Learning Manager

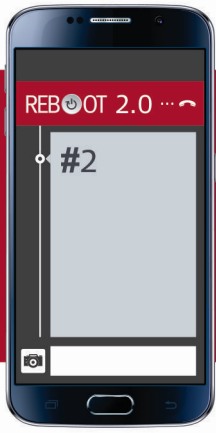


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	<i>Faculty of Law</i>		
<i>Faculty Advisor / Contact Person</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>		<i>Programmes / Responsibilities</i>
Mrs Adri Kotze	Kotzea@ufs.ac.za	051 401 2735	Faculty Manager
Dr Manie Moolman	MoolmanHJ@ufs.ac.za	051 401 7084	Teaching and Learning Manager

	<i>Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences</i>		
<i>Faculty Advisor / Contact Person</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>		<i>Programmes / Responsibilities</i>
Mrs Lee-Ann Frazenburg	DamonsLE@ufs.ac.za	051 4013199	Faculty Manager
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	<i>Faculty of the Humanities</i>		
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Mrs. Marica Coetsee	coetseem@ufs.ac.za	051 401 2369	Faculty Manager
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	<i>Faculty of Theology</i>		
<i>Faculty Advisor / Contact Person</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>		<i>Programmes / Responsibilities</i>
Mrs Ingrid Mostert	MosterIE@ufs.ac.za	051 401 9079	Faculty Manager
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“Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do.”

-Nelson Mandela



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Frequently Asked Questions

Is the university shutting down for the remainder of 2016?

No, the university will not be shutting down for the remainder of 2016. Staff are currently busy putting crucial and complex arrangements in place to readjust the academic calendar and ensure that all students can complete their studies.

Will students resume their classes after 1 November 2016?

Yes, the university will restart teaching and learning at undergraduate and honours level in the first week of November 2016.

However, teaching and learning will not take place in the classroom during November 2016. However, it will occur through a different mode of delivery that consists of a combination of printed and recorded lectures, study materials and learning aids that will be provided by the university and delivered through BlackBoard.

In this manner, no attempts at disrupting the rest of the academic year will affect our students' academic programme.

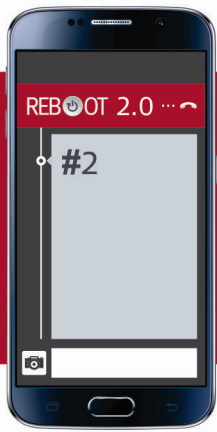
How will this alternative method of teaching and learning affect the quality of education?

The quality of education will remain the same as if students were attending classes.

The qualifications conferred on the 2016 class will be of the same quality and standard as all UFS qualifications.

How will this different method of teaching and learning make provision for students who need to complete lab work as part of their curriculum?

Some faculties require practical laboratory work as part of their curriculum. The exam timetable has been adapted for these students in order to complete their practical work when academic activities commence in November 2016. The relevant faculties will communicate the schedule of practical work directly to students.



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Will all students need to come back to campus to write their exams?

Some students will be writing exams on campus. However, some students will write their exams online. Students need to contact their respective department/faculty or the South Campus administrative office to find out where/how they will write exams.

Can students who are staying in residences return after 28 October 2016?

Students in residence accommodation can return to campus as of 29 October 2016. It is recommended that students who do not have off-campus Internet access return to campus in order to access study material to complete the academic year.

Does the university have safety and security measures in place on the three campuses during exams?

Yes. The necessary safety and security arrangements have been made to ensure that the examination will continue without disruption.

Will final-year students complete their studies during 2016?

Yes. The graduation ceremonies, which were originally to be held in April 2017, have been postponed to June/July 2017 (specific dates will be confirmed once arrangements have been finalised).

What measures does the university have in place in order to ensure that students with bursaries or committed employment in law firms/other businesses are not impacted negatively by the late graduations?

The university will provide the necessary academic transcripts as proof of the completion of the relevant qualifications.

How will these academic changes impact postgraduate students?

None of these changes will affect postgraduate students.

NOTE: The strategy to readjust the 2016 academic year is applicable to students on the Bloemfontein and South campus.

