School of Physics & Astronomy

Class & Lab Head Guidance

Dr Peter H. Sneddon

Peter.Sneddon@Glasgow.ac.uk

THE DUTIES OF A CLASS/LAB HEAD – A TIMELINE PART 2

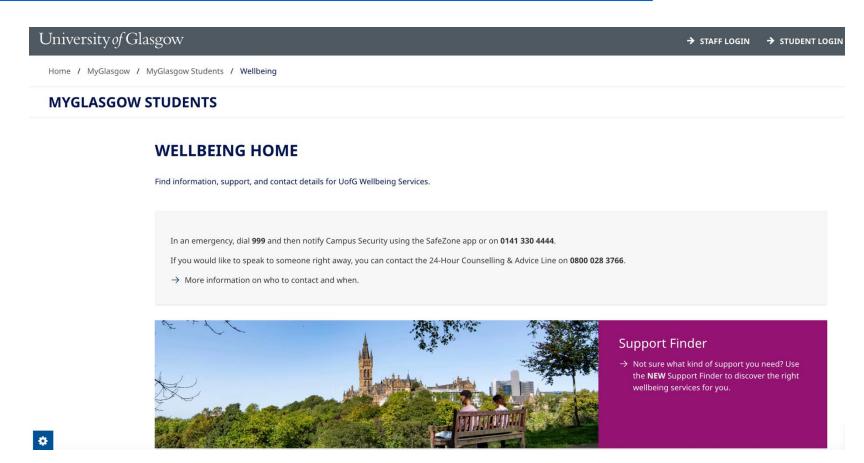
NOTE:

- Timeline discussed here assumes course you are running lasts through Semester 1 and 2.
- Details of duties etc is broadly identical if your course only runs for one semester, but specifics for times may differ. If you are uncertain about timings, please consult previous class head, or feel free to speak to myself or the School's Convenor of Learning & Teaching.

Extenuating circumstances



https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/wellbeing/



Extenuating circumstances



https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/wellbeing/

Student Safety

→ Access practical tips to stay safe at university and what to do if you experience or observe bullying, harassment, or sexual violence.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

→ Find out how the university can support your wellbeing during your studies, from peer support to specialist help.

Disability Service

Discover how the university can support your academic journey if you are disabled, neurodivergent, have a mental health difficulty, or live with an ongoing medical condition.

Life in & around UofG

→ Find information, advice and support on life in and around UofG Campuses including accommodation, the local National Health Service (NHS) and International Student Support.

Finances

→ Find information on fees and finance, as well as how to access financial aid and money advice.

Help with Studying

→ Find out how to contact your local Student Support team, reach your academic adviser, make an extension request or develop your academic skills.

Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle

→ Access information and selfhelp resources to support a healthy lifestyle throughout your studies.

Extenuating circumstances



https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/wellbeing/

HELP WITH STUDYING

Find out how to contact your local Student Support team, reach your academic adviser, make an extension request or develop your academic skills.

Support Finder

→ Not sure what kind of support you need? Use the NEW Support Finder to discover the right wellbeing services for you.



Extenuating Circumstances

→ Extenuating Circumstances refers to any circumstances which may affect your ability to complete components of your programme of assessment. You can apply here for an extension, deferral, or other support.



Academic Support

→ Find information and resources on assessment, exams, and appeals as well as the support available for your studies and how to access it.



Student Learning Development

 Resources and guidance to help you develop your academic skills, from writing and studying to maths, stats, digital tools, and dedicated support for international students.





January: Exam aftermath



If your course had a formal degree examination in December you will need to:

- Prepare exam results for the January exam board
- Attend the January meeting of the Extenuating Circumstances Committee

The deadline for the return of exam results for December exams is usually around the end of January.

This will be explored in more detail when we get to "May".



January: Teaching begins again



Teaching usually begins on the first Monday of the New Year, so you need to hit the ground running here.

- If your course starts in January, then you will need to run an Induction session
- If your course is continuing from Semester 1, then you just need to make sure everyone remembers to come back! A message to Moodle is usually all you need here.



January/February/March: Teaching begins again



Once the course is up and running, your role reverts back to supervisor ...

- Keep an eye on attendance
- Keep an eye on performance/engagement in any assessments
- Respond to any student queries
- Make sure lecturers are uploading notes, responding to queries, etc.
- Post regular messages to class if there are important events coming.
- Making decisions on any ECCs

If you are seeing students who are missing a lot of the course, make sure to pro-actively try to engage with them.

- An email is usually sufficient to get things going.
- If you struggle to make contact, though, you should get in touch with the student's Adviser of Studies and/or the School's Student Support Officer



February/March: Room booking for next year



- All teaching spaces are controlled centrally via the CTT system.
 - At this time of year the School's TST will get in touch with you about what rooms you will need in the next academic year, and what times/days/etc.
 - In the majority of cases all you will need to do is tell them to duplicate the current year's provision.
 - If you do want to make changes, this is when you need to do it.



February/March: Making course changes



- If you want to make changes to your course e.g. alter the content or change the balance of assessment components – you will need the approval of the School's Learning & Teaching Committee (LTC).
- To ensure there is time to properly discuss and get approval for changes you need to alert the LTC at this time of year.
 - LTC may decide that the change is minor enough that you can go ahead and make the changes on your own
 - LTC may decide that the change requires a formal discussion, in which case you will be asked to bring you proposal to a meeting of the Committee.
- Exact meeting times of the LTC vary from year to year, but the absolute latest that changes can be considered is the June preceding the academic year you want to bring in the changes.



April: quiet before the storm



- Consider putting on revision sessions if you think it is appropriate.
- Make sure your students know where and when their exams are.
- University will make blanket announcements with these details, but it does no harm to make sure you have also sent one.
- Students registered with the SDS who have additional entitlements for assessments will be informed by TST of the details.



May: The storm



- This is the main exam diet for most of our courses
- TST/ Technician Team will make contact to establish what support you need
 - Who will be doing the marking of papers?
 - How do you want the marks processed?
 - Who will be the "responsible adult" for each exam?
 - Who will moderate the marking?
- TST will then coordinate with your markers to make sure everyone knows what they are doing and when to do it. Doesn't hurt to tell your markers yourself too.



May/June: Preparing for exam board



Exam boards usually meet in the first week of June, preceded by the Good Cause Claim Committee. There are many actions associated with these ...

Everything here is driven by the University's Code of Assessment.

- What is discussed here is a cut down version of the CoA.
- If you want to read the whole thing ...
 - The Code of Assessment
 https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/apg/policies/assessment/codeofassessment/
 - Guide to using the Code of Assessment
 https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media 275332 smxx.pdf
 - Student Guide to Code of Assessment
 https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media 106264 smxx.pdf



May/June: Exam-related tasks



Once everything is marked you need to ...

- Moderate the marking
- Check for any Good Cause Claims relating to the exam
- Compile the overall course grades
- Assemble everything into an understandable spreadsheet
- Attend the exam board to summarise the results
- Upload results to MyCampus via Gradebook
- Make sure results are double-checked once uploaded



June/July/August



- Send Resit Paper(s) to TST for upload.
- Decide how you will mark the resits.
- Discuss support you will need with TST.
- Assign "Responsible Adults" for resit paper(s)
- Compile resit exam results for resit exam board which will meet late August.



August (again)



Course enrolment opens through MyCampus

- ~10th August for continuing undergraduate students
- ~15th August for MSc students
- ~20th August for new undergraduate students

Before this happens you must ensure that the course is set up correctly within MyCampus

- Is there an enrolment section associated with the course?
- Are all the different class sections in place?
- Are the capacities for those sections correct?

All of this should have been set up with support from the TST in February/March.



Useful contacts



Learning & Teaching Committee: Convenor Sarah Croke sarah.croke@glasgow.ac.uk

Teaching Support Team: Lead by Lynne Stewart phas-teachingsupport@glasgow.ac.uk

Technician Team: Led by Tom Queen phas-teaching-techs@glasgow.ac.uk

Student Support Officer: Mara Dougall phas-studentsupport@glasgow.ac.uk

Senior Adviser of Studies for School: Jörg Götte phas-senioradviser@glasgow.ac.uk

Extenuating Circumstances queries: Donald MacLaren donald.maclaren@glasgow.ac.uk

Disability Coordinator: Chris Messenger christopher.messenger@glasgow.ac.uk

General queries: Me <u>peter.sneddon@glasgow.ac.uk</u>

https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/learningandteaching/semesterchecklist/