

College of Education

Teacher and teacher trainees' protection during and after school reopening: the pedagogical aspects

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Introduction

- Since March 2020, school closure due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- UR made remarkable efforts by strengthening online learning mainly for postgraduate students
- Distance education/online learning through Moodle e-learning platform
- For undergraduate students, modules uploaded on e-learning platform to encourage them to be familiar with online learning but no e-assessment was allowed.

Preparation to reopening

- Trainings and support on the use of MS Teams for lecturers and University leaders to reinforce e-learning platform.
- Before the reopening, modules that will be taught fully online and others which require face to face were identified.
- The University of Rwanda has re-opened the doors on 19th October, 2020 and the focus was on finalists (3, 4 & 5 Year Students).

Students' protection during school reopening

- All the students are hosted by the campus
- A registration form was designed to document the UR-CE community who will be entering in the campus
- People working in students' restaurants are advised to respect all the protective measures.
- No any student is allowed to take meals outside the campus
- Sports, games, recreations, worship services are following the prevailing national guidelines.

Students' protection during school reopening cont'

- Infra-Red thermometers for key entry points of the campus premises are in place.
- Sufficient hand washing facilities were installed in different places before reopening.
- All the students are requested to strictly comply with all the measures against covid-19.







Student's protection during school reopening cont'

The reopening is focusing on 3rd year students at UR-CE of whom the majority has a personal computer.



Students who may not have devices are advised to use nearby campus facilities to access the learning materials.

Students' protection during reopening cont'

At the campus, the students are requested to maintain social distancing

Avoid to share items as well as to organize social gathering

Students are also reminded to report any case experiencing of any known symptoms of COVID-19 for their well-being,...

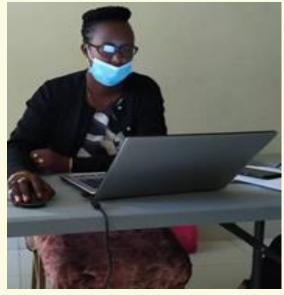
Lecturers' protection during reopening

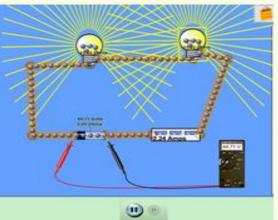
All the preventive measures set in place, have to be followed by lecturers as well.

- Different meetings were organized to discuss on the learning environments, timetables and pedagogical activities
- Lecturers have to respect the rules before to enter inside the campus

Lecturers' protection during reopening Cont'

- For fully online modules, synchronous learning are organized through MS Teams
- A specific timetable was set for lecturers to facilitate and support the students either using face to face or online.
- Virtual labs and simulations are encouraged for practical components where needed.





Lecturers' protection during reopening cont'

Lecturers have to check if the sitting arrangements established are respected to ensure social distancing.



The e-assessment tools were developed by UR/DTLE in collaboration with CODEL and ICT directorate



After reopening

- Only Year 3 students at UR-CE are following a blended learning mode;
- Year 4 students were conducting their internship before the closure of schools.
- Year 4 students will be following the same instructions regarding the reopening for other secondary school teachers
- School attachment mentors will be trained to help the new internees.

Induction of finalist students

The University of Rwanda through the Centre for Open, Distance and e-Learning (CODeL) conducted a virtual induction for year 3 and 4 students about the internship.



DR. NDUWINGOMA MATHIAS

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges

- Internet connectivity for the students who are based in areas without electricity
- Face to face practicals in laboratories require a lot of time

Recommendations

- Ensure that all the students are able to access online teaching materials
- Encourage them to respect the guidelines and rules set in place to fight against this pandemic.

Thank you!!