

Dear student,

I hope you are well. For those of you preparing for assessments and/or completing coursework, I hope this is all going smoothly. Studying hard is of course particularly necessary at this time, but it can take its toll and it is very important you look after yourselves. Please ensure you take regular breaks, and take advantage of the support on offer through the University and our Students' Union. Your Advisor is your first port of call, and you can also always contact our [student wellbeing services](#) or the [Student Enquiry Centre](#). If you are struggling, do please reach out for support – we are here to help you. Our Students' Union is refreshing its Study Well resource (more on this to follow); and don't forget the [340+ new study spaces](#) now available as part of the extension to one of our libraries, based on the Mile End campus. There are also plenty of study spaces on all our other campuses.

Industrial action

In March 2023 we reached an important [agreement](#) with our local branch of the trade union UCU. This agreement includes a commitment from the trade union to work with the University to help ensure you achieve a high-quality academic experience that allows you to continue to progress and complete your studies in a timely manner. This local agreement remains in place and I'm pleased to say is working well.

Like many other universities across the UK, we have now been informed by UCU of a new mandate that gives notice of a marking and assessment boycott, starting on 20 April 2023. This is national industrial action, affecting approximately 145 universities across the UK.

We will monitor this latest industrial action, noting the local agreement in place with UCU to support our students to progress and complete their studies in a timely manner. We expect any industrial action to be focused on a very small number of areas within the University. Should you be in one of the affected areas, the University will take all necessary steps to ensure you can progress or graduate on time, assuming you reach the required standard. I also want to reassure you that we will not compromise on the quality and standards of our assessment processes as a result of any industrial action: the rigour with which your work will be assessed will be of a standard that is similar to that of a normal year, and hence your marks and degree classification, will be a true reflection of the quality of your performance.

If you have any questions about industrial action, have a look at the [FAQs](#), contact the [Student Enquiry Centre](#) or me at principal@qmul.ac.uk.

Best wishes,

Stephanie

Professor Stephanie Marshall

BA Hons, MA, D Phil, Dip. Man., PFHEA

Vice Principal (Education)

