

## Who are we?



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## Overview

The academic development and support of students in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of the Free State are the main focus areas of the Division Student Learning and Development. A distinction is made between Student Academic Development and Student Academic Support.

The aim of these focus areas is to contribute to the academic success of students and is achieved by designing and implementing programmes/strategies/mechanisms to develop and support students. The development and support is provided by qualified educationalists that are committed to helping students grow into well-rounded health care practitioners.

## Vision

Our vision is to enhance student development and support, thus contribute towards the academic success of students in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

## Mission

Our mission is to facilitate the acquisition of academic skills that will enhance the development of student learning, as well as design programmes and strategies that will support learning.

## Values

Our values are guided by a **humanistic approach**:

**Compassion**  
We resolve to love, care, have commiseration and empathy, show benevolence and beneficence for those with whom we work.

**Respect**  
We are committed to have high regard and to show consideration and appreciation for those with whom we work.

**Excellence**  
We place high premium on providing quality services that are based on excellent scholarship and research.

**Integrity**  
We place high importance on taking responsibility, being transparent, accountable, honest and trustworthy.

**Innovation**  
We believe in being creative, and open to applying new ideas and methods towards the improvement of our services and practices.

**Collaboration**  
We are committed to work with other stakeholders and build strong relationships that will improve our services and practices.

## What do we offer?

### Student Academic support

The aim of Student Academic Support is to contribute to the academic success of under- and postgraduate students in the Faculty of Health Sciences (School of Clinical Medicine, School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Pathology, School for Allied Health Professions and School of Nursing) and is achieved by designing and implementing programmes and strategies to support and develop students. The support is provided by a qualified educationalist that are committed to helping students grow into well-rounded health care practitioners.

#### Services for students

- Generic support – making information about other support services available to students and referring them to these services, such as among others Kopsie Counselling, Frik Scott Library, Student Portal.
- Academic Student Tutorial Excellence Programme (A-STEP)
- Individual consultations with students on a drop-in basis during office hours.
- Individual consultations with students per appointment during office hours.
- Group consultations with students on particular topics, as requested.
- Coordinating learning sessions, support initiatives and skills development programmes.
- Mentorship Programme
- Personal and social services.

### Student Academic Development

The aim of the focus area is to promote a culture of relevant education by infusing generic skills such as among others, communication technologies, group or teamwork and learning, time management and study skills and reflective practice in teaching and learning activities.

#### Academic development mechanisms

- General Skills Module (M.B., Ch.B)
- General Skills Module (Radiation Science)
- General skills Module (Faculty of Health Sciences)
- General Skills (Allied Health Professions)
- General Skills (Nursing)
- Specific academic skills sessions

## Support Mechanisms

## School of Clinical Medicine

### MBChB Programme

Coordination between Programme Director, Phase Chairs, Module Leaders, Lecturers and Student Support Practitioners.

- Monitoring the academic performance of all students.
- Referral of students to appropriate services.
- Intervention's according the students' challenge/problem.

### B. Med Radiation Science Programme

Coordination between Head of Department, Module Leaders, Lecturers and Student Support Practitioners.

- Monitoring the academic performance of all students.
- Referral of students to appropriate services.
- Intervention's according the students' challenge/problem.

## School of Nursing

### Nursing

Coordination between Programme Director, Lecturers, Clinical Perceptors, Mentoring Programme Coordinator and Student Support Practitioners.

- Monitoring the academic performance of all students.
- Referral of students to appropriate services.
- Intervention's according the students' challenge/problem.

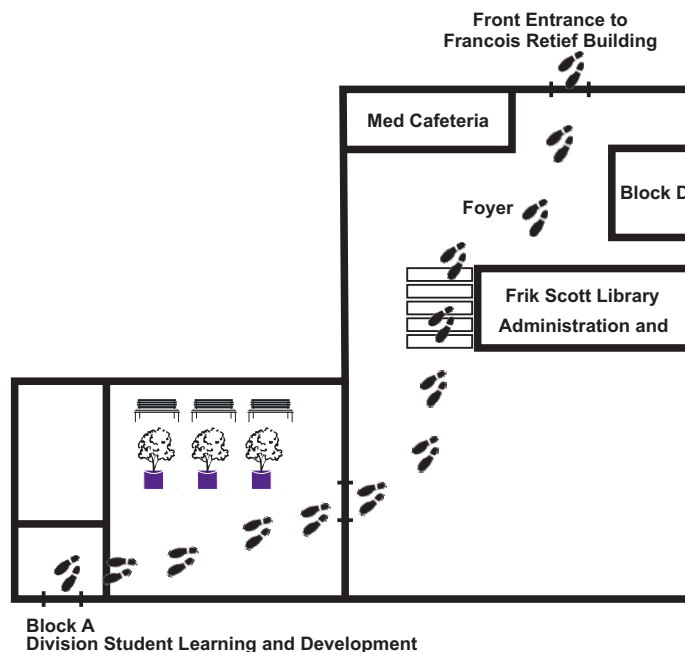
## School for Allied Health Profession

### Occupational Therapy / Physiotherapy / Optometry / Nutrition and Dietetics / Exercise and Sport Science

Coordination between Programme Coordinators, Heads of Departments, Tutorial Coordinators, Mentors, Guardians and Student Support Practitioners.

- Monitoring the academic performance of all students.
- Referral of students to appropriate services.
- Intervention's according the students' challenge/problem.

## Where are we?



## Division Student Learning and Development

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