









Inspiring excellence, transforming lives through quality, impact, and care.







## HELLO SENIOR 2022

#### **Dear Senior Student**

Welcome to 2022! A new year, where the 'good old days' are starting to make a recurrence on campus. You are registered now, and the year is already jam-packed with activities. This guide will help you get informed and get ready for the year to come. We will share important UFS dates, things you need to keep in mind for the first semester, as well as where you can get support in your studies. We take a closer look at achieving holistic wellness, as well as developing UFS graduate attributes. Look at the article around landing that dream job, and make sure you secure that GRAD! Enjoy reading and learning through this edition of *Hello Senior*.

Regards CTL Advising team



# Content

Му	checklist for success	
Sta	y connected, get support	
Rea	ady, steady – go get your dream job!	
Max	ximise your library use	1
	Meet the CTL team	1
	Ten things to know about academic writing	1
5	UFS graduate attributes	1
	Secure that GRAD!	2
	Wellness and self-care	2
i	Time management is really life management – for students	2

## My checklist for success

Make sure to tick off every activity on the checklist below, and be well on your way to acing your studies this year:



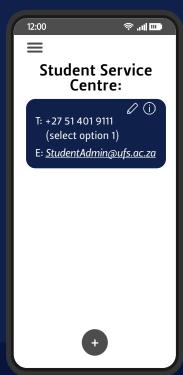




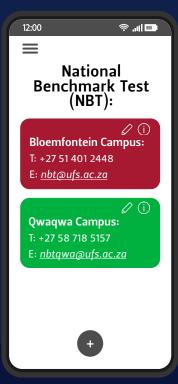
## Stay connected, get support

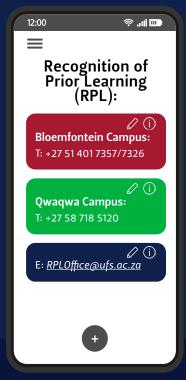
The University of the Free State takes pride in providing students with the highest quality of education and support. This year we will be using a blended, face-to-face and online teaching and learning approach. For you to stay connected, keep learning, and make use of all the available support, it is important to know how to reach out to all support services. Whenever you need help, remember the UFS community is always ready to assist!







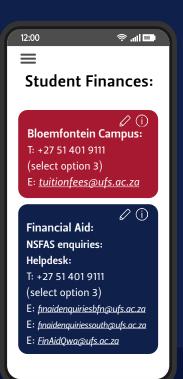














Faculty Support: Bloemfontein Campus				
Education	eduinfo@ufs.ac.za			
Economic and Management Sciences	EMSAdvice@ufs.ac.za			
The Humanities	humanities@ufs.ac.za			
Health Sciences	StudentAdminFHS@ufs.ac.za			
Law	LAWadvising@ufs.ac.za			
Natural and Agricultural Sciences	NASAdvising@ufs.ac.za			
Theology and Religion	theology@ufs.ac.za			

Faculty Support: Qwaqwa Campus					
Education	<u>EduQQ@ufs.ac.za</u>				
Economic and Management Sciences	EMSQQC@ufs.ac.za				
The Humanities	AdviceHumQQ@ufs.ac.za				
Natural and Agricultural Sciences	NASAdvising@ufs.ac.za				

## Ready, steady – go get your dream job!

By: Belinda Janeke (UFS Careers)

#### A warm 'hello' from UFS Career Services – where we get you ready for work.

Sooner than you realise, you will go job hunting – armed with a degree and ... what else do you have in your arsenal? A so-so CV and maybe a cover letter that your older sister helped you to write. That's not good enough. You need to tackle the job market with a solid strategy and offering that makes you a better candidate than the rest.

#### What sets you apart?

Career Services at the UFS offers a range of services and resources designed to help you develop the employability skills you need in today's world of work. We train career readiness through workshops, our resource centre, and career fairs. At our annual career fairs, potential employers exhibit their possible career opportunities while guest

speakers share tips about the world of work.

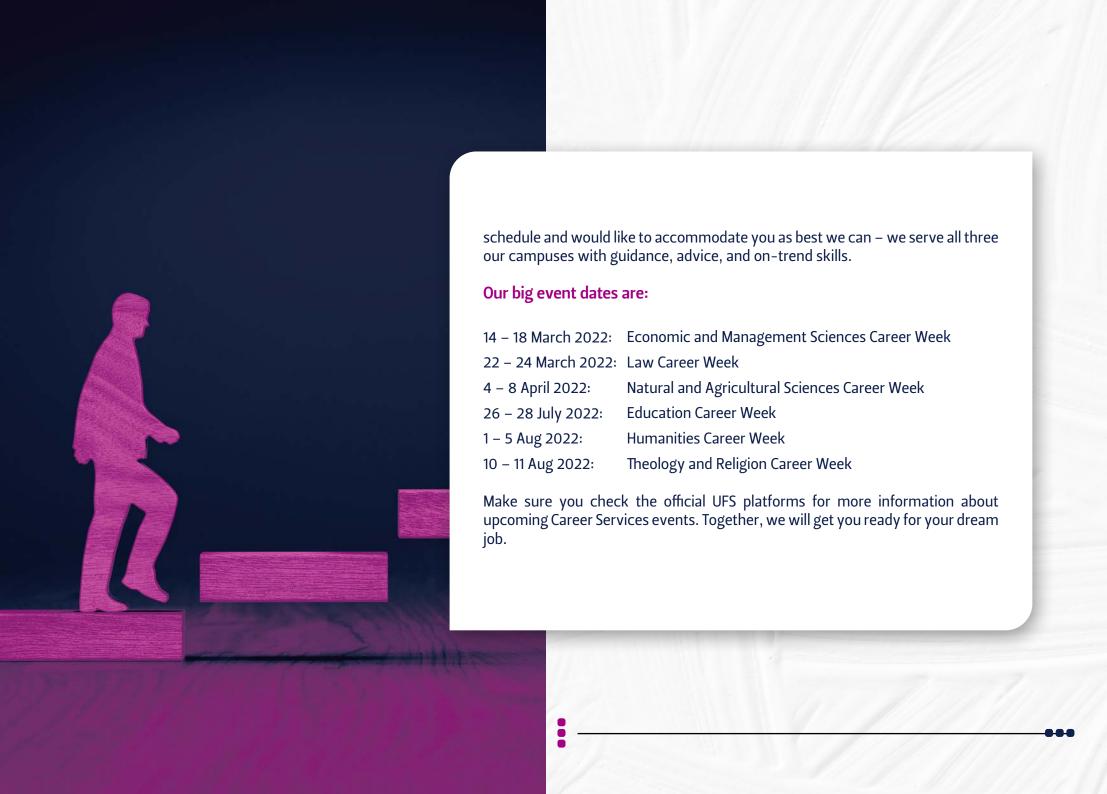
You can attend our events during the year or pop in at any time to get the guidance you need. The best plan is to make UFS Career Services part of your studies from the get-go – you have nothing to lose, and heaps to gain.

Book a session with one of our experts to activate your work-readiness plan by sending an email to <u>career@ufs.ac.za</u>. All our resources are also available on Blackboard so that you can master the skills at your own pace.

Although we love to meet you and share some popcorn and candyfloss, all our events are streamed and stored so that you don't miss anything. We understand that you have a hectic study









## Use the 4 easy steps and get access to great advice and online tutorials.

**STEP** 



Log in to Blackboard

**STEP** 



Under My Organizations, select CAREER SERVICES

**STEP** 



Select one of the following:

Work readiness | Career Weeks | Job Opportunities | Grad Guide | CareerTest | Contact us

**STEP** 



When selecting Work Readiness tutorials, meet Guy and pick any one of our great career starter tutorials such as:

















Speaking

Post-COVID Productivity world of work Skills Conduct

T: +27 51 401 7393 | E: career@ufs.ac.za | www.ufs.ac.za









Inspiring excellence, transforming lives through quality, impact, and care.



## Important UFS dates to keep in mind

	March Human Rights Day	25 March First quarter Ends	April Second quarter commences	19-22 April Graduation ceremonies
	May Publication of main mid-year exam timetable	May  Kovsie ACT Eco-Vehicle Race  Day	Predicate day (second quarter ends)	June  Main mid-year examinations commence
A CONTRACTOR SAL	June  Main mid-year examinations end	20 June  Additional mid-year examinations commence	June Final date for submission of additional examination applications	O2  Additional mid-year examinations end
OF 06 07 08 09 10 17 12 23 24 12 22 30 12 12 22 30 12 12 12 23 24 12 22 30 12 12 23 29 30 12 12 23 29 30 12 12 20 28 29 30	78 25			18  Third quarter commences



### **Maximise** your library use

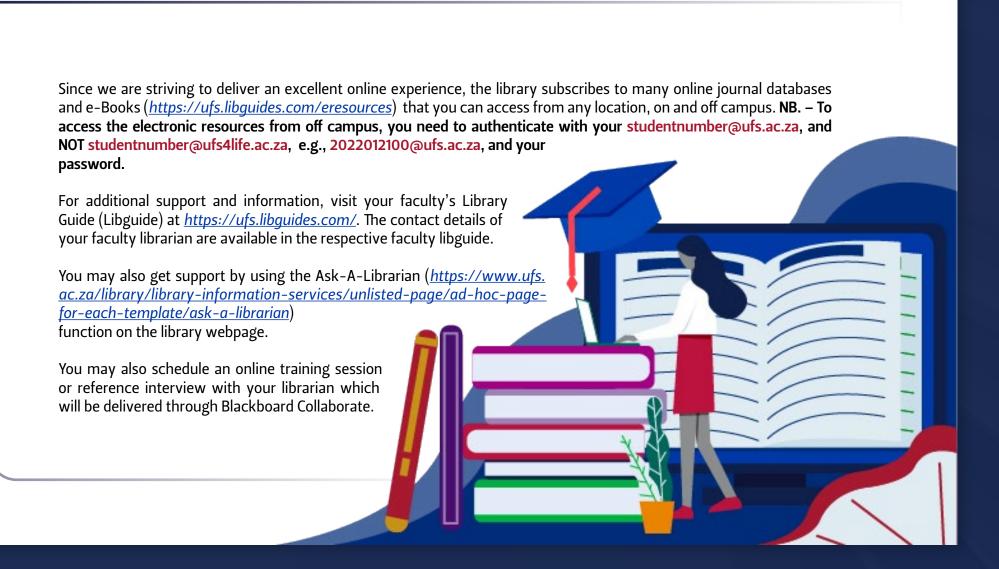
By: Lee Goliath (UFS Librarian)

Make sure you know how to make the most of using the library and ensure that you excel academically.

The UFS library staff is available to support students in the library and online. The library spaces are also available to all students to study and to borrow print books. There are book drop boxes at the entrance of the library to return library books, and students can now borrow books in the library with the self-help check-out system.

For your convenience, you may visit the UFS Library webpage (<a href="https://www.ufs.ac.za/library">https://www.ufs.ac.za/library</a>) to familiarise yourself with all services that the library offers, including the online services.

Most of the frequently asked questions are answered on 'How do I' <a href="https://ufs.libanswers.com/">https://ufs.libanswers.com/</a> on the library webpage, this is an interactive service where you will find answers to your questions and may ask questions when you are unsure or having difficulty.



# Meet the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) team

It is true that you can just send an email to our general advising email addresses (<u>advising@ufs.ac.za</u> / <u>advisingq@ufs.ac.za</u> / <u>advisingsc@ufs.ac.za</u>) to get an appointment with your CTL adviser. But who are the people behind the advising emails?

Let's take a closer look:

#### **Bloemfontein Campus:**



Gugu Tiroyabone
CTL Adviser: Health Sciences
T: +27 51 401 3798
E: tiroyabonegw@ufs.ac.za
Room 359, CTL, Sasol Library,
Level 3



Ninette Aucamp
CTL Adviser: Natural and
Agricultural Sciences
T: +27 51 401 9191
E: aucampjj@ufs.ac.za
Room 358, CTL Sasol Library,
Level 3



Masabata Mosoeu
CTL Adviser: Economic and
Management Sciences and Law
T: +27 51 401 7423
E: MosoeuMP@ufs.ac.za
Room 351, CTL Sasol Library,
Level 3



Monique Schoeman
CTL Adviser: The Humanities
T: +27 51 401 3158
E: <u>DuToitM2@ufs.ac.za</u>
Room 354, CTL Sasol Library,
Level 3





#### **Keitumetse Poen**

CTL Adviser: Education and

Theology

T: +27 51 401 7758

E: PoenKR@ufs.ac.za

CTL Sasol Library, Level 3



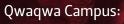
#### Natalia de Abreu

CTL Adviser: The Humanities and Economic and

**Management Sciences** 

(afternoons only) T: +27 51 401 7858

E: deabreuN@ufs.ac.za





#### Tona Mokoena

CTL Adviser: Natural and Agricultural Sciences and **Economic and Management** 

Sciences

T: +27 58 718 5186

E: MokoenaTA@ufs.ac.za

Office 0043, Intsika Building,

**Ground Floor** 



#### Zanele Hlophe

CTL Adviser: Humanities and **Economic and Management** 

Sciences

T: +27 58 718 5484

E: <u>HlopheZP@ufs.ac.za</u>

Office 0044, Intsika Building,

**Ground Floor** 

Ten things to know about academic writing

By: Anneen Church

Good academic writing skills can be what stands between you and that A for your assignment or dissertation. Here are our top ten things to know about academic writing to get you well on your way:

It is hard for everyone – yes, even your lecturers. Good academic writing requires a great amount of effort. You are not alone if you feel like you struggle with academic writing. Academic writing takes time. A good piece of academic writing isn't written in one day. It is a good idea to leave your first draft for a day or two before you revise or rework the text.

You can improve at academic writing. If you practise, make use of available resources, and are open to feedback, you can greatly improve the quality of your academic writing throughout your studies.

Good academic writing starts with understanding the task. Students often overlook critical details about the general topic, specific focus or format of the assignment and end up doing a lot of work, and not getting rewarded for it. Spend some time analysing your task or talking to your tutor or lecturer about the topic and requirements.

After analysing your task, it's time to start reading about the topic. In order to write something that makes sense, you need to have done extensive reading on the topic. At university, you are required to join other academic voices by showing that you are aware of similar or contrasting ideas from academics in your field of study.

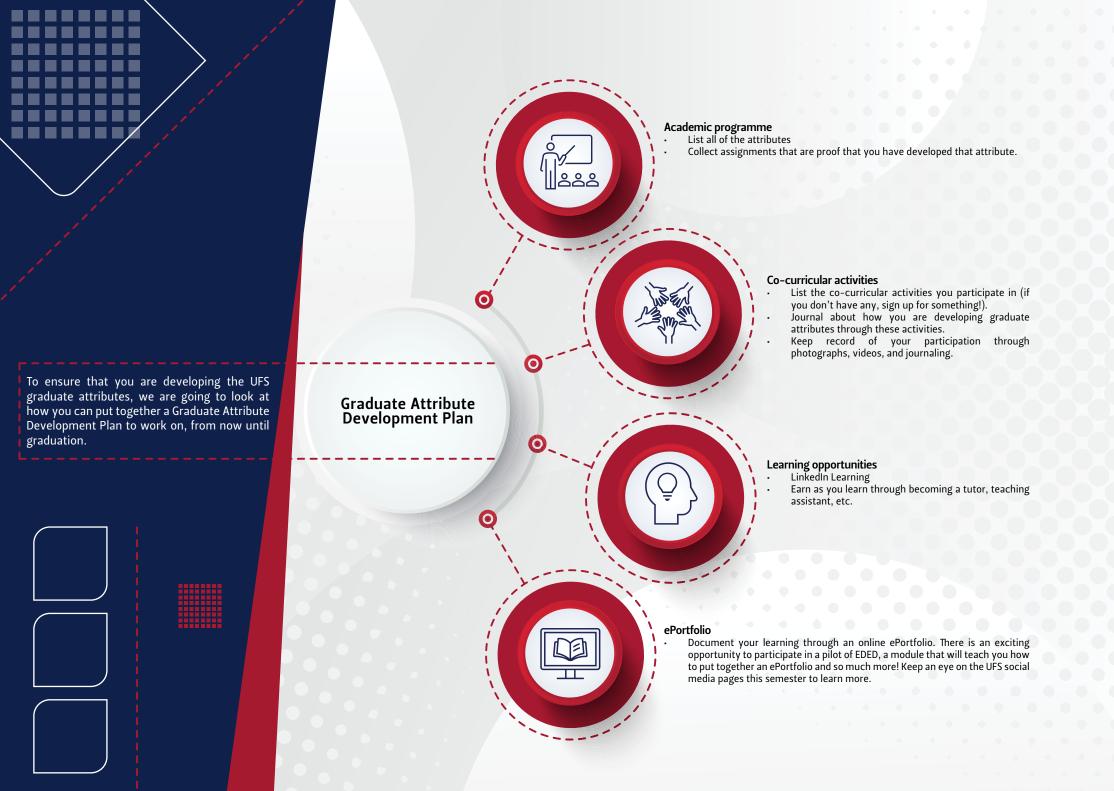
- Make sure that you engage with your sources critically. This means, keeping notes of information that might be useful for your specific assignment and considering how the information from your different sources relate to each other. Do most of the sources you read say the same thing? Are there differences in the way certain key words are used? Are there certain issues or ideas that everyone seems to address?
- Make sure you keep track of information that you'll need for referencing later on. If you find useful information in a source, take down the author, date of publication, names of the article, chapter and/or book, page number(s), and/or URL. You'll be thankful that you have this information on hand when it's time to cite your sources.
- Once you start writing, make sure you stick to one main idea or argument per paragraph. You can do this by starting your paragraph with a statement or argument (often called a topic sentence) and using the rest of the paragraph to elaborate, support your statement or give examples. This is also the place where you can include ideas from the sources that you have read.
- Use your introductory paragraph and conclusion to provide structure to your writing. Once the reader has read the introduction, they should have a clear idea of what the central message of the text is and how you will go about your discussion. Similarly, in the conclusion, you can remind the reader of the central argument as well as the relevant support from your body paragraphs.
- Once you feel your text is ready to submit, ask a friend or family member to read through it and flag any language errors they see and let you know if your writing makes sense. Often, it is hard to see our own mistakes and a fresh set of eyes can help find inconsistencies.
- Whether you are a good academic writer or battle putting your ideas on paper, you can always seek help to improve your writing. The Writing Centre provides individual assistance with any undergraduate or Honours writing assignment. You can find details and instruction on how to make a booking at the following webpage: <a href="https://www.ufs.ac.za/ctl/home-page/alld/write-services">https://www.ufs.ac.za/ctl/home-page/alld/write-services</a>





#### **EIGHT UFS GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES**





# #STG

## Secure that GRAD!

#### #SecureTheGrad

#SecureTheGrad is a Senior Experience and Senior Student Success initiative within the Centre for Teaching and Learning at the UFS. #SecureTheGrad invites experts to share the value of their services with senior students in a conversation format. #SecureTheGrad webinars and seminars aim to provide senior UFS students with an opportunity to network within the campus community, as well as with key partners. This has the end goal of enabling students to plan their professional development, establish realistic expectations aligned with those of the institution, and to foster a sense of belonging that enhances an experience towards graduation and transitioning into the entrepreneurial world of work.

#SecureTheGrad offers a wide variety of events, seminars, and webinars aimed at equipping students with the necessary skills, resources, and knowledge to obtain their degrees.

Students can follow us on Instagram: @securethegrad (Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/34umjt2">https://bit.ly/34umjt2</a>)

Alternatively, they can find us on the Senior Orientation tab on Blackboard or the UFS website.

#### 2. Diamond League

Career Services form part of the UFS Diamond League offering where selected students will get personalised online workshops,









coaching in the virtual or traditional career fair, and dual-track coaching (received from Career Services, CTL, and industry representatives or functional area-specific coaching).

#### 3. LinkedIn Learning

Learning and growth at university (and in life) is a journey and a lifelong process. The University of the Free State is committed to your personal and professional development and is now proud to offer LinkedIn Learning to all Kovsie students, free of charge.

UFS students now have the exciting opportunity to position themselves in the competitive world of work by building their skills with LinkedIn Learning. LinkedIn Learning is a free platform for all UFS students where they can complete additional short courses in addition to their UFS degree. This is a great opportunity to help students grow and develop in areas outside of their degree.

#### Why use LinkedIn Learning?

LinkedIn Learning lets you learn at your own pace. You can select courses relevant to your current or future interests in areas such as entrepreneurship, technology, and leadership. You can also pursue other passions — with courses on financial literacy, social media, even drawing and music theory, you will be able to grow and develop in the areas you care about, both within and outside your degree.

#### How to use LinkedIn Learning:

Activate your LinkedIn Learning profile today by following the activation email sent to your ufs4life email address. You will have the option to connect through your personal LinkedIn profile (recommended) or activate your account using your ufs4life email. Once you have activated your account, you can access LinkedIn Learning by logging onto the platform using your ufs4life email address. Sign up and start your journey to learning skills that will get you a step closer to enterprising your degree and standing out in a global world of work.

If you run into issues with logging in, contact us. If you need any assistance with activating your profile or completing the courses, contact us at <u>GPS@ufs.ac.za</u>. For technical issues once you are up and running, you have the option to click for help throughout the system, with access to LinkedIn Learning's FAQs, as well as the ability to connect via email, live chat, or phone.









What does 'wellness' mean to you? Is it only being active? Or being emotionally well? From a holistic perspective, wellness means becoming aware of and making choices towards a healthy and fulfilling life. It is more than being free from illness – it is a dynamic process of change and growth. Wellness is about balance.

Moving out of the pandemic and progressing in your studies, it will be all the more important to strive for holistic wellness. To truly experience 'wellness', you need to incorporate all seven dimensions of wellness into your life. Wellness is more than being emotionally well, but rather includes aspects such as living in harmony with others, making good financial choices, and growing your faith. Pay attention to all areas and make changes in your lifestyle where necessary.

Wellness in all seven dimensions will help maximise your ability to cope better with university stress. Start by identifying areas where you can make small changes that will help you lead a more balanced and healthy life. These changes can include eating a healthy breakfast, joining the gym, dedicating a specific day of the week to spend time with your friends, going to church more often, taking time to read, or playing music. Start today by looking after yourself – you are worth it!

WELLNESS is an active process of becoming aware of and making choices towards a healthy and fulfilling life. It is a conscious, self-directed and evolving process of achieving full potential. Wellness is more than being free from illness; it is a dynamic process of change and growth.

Wellness is all about balance, balancing the dimensions of Wellness.



# Time management is really life management – for students

Hello Senior! You have completed the registration process and you are embarking on yet another journey to completing your qualification, and you might be thinking: 'Yho, ziyakhala', but do not fear fellow Kovsie, as this article is about to equip you with the necessary time management skills that will get you going throughout your academic year.

Nowadays, what students struggle with is the proper handling of time and managing their tasks. Do you know the saying 'time waits for no man'? It is the same with tasks – students must know effective ways of managing time because tasks do not wait. It is important to know that time management is an art that not only brings discipline in your academic/personal life, but also optimises your overall growth.

These are the habits that you should adopt in your daily life:

#### 1. Track your time on a typical day

ME MANAGEMENT?

By understanding how to manage your time, ask yourself 'where does your time go'. Look at your screen-time report as it will help you identify what you spend most of your time on.



amount of time the task will take to complete. When we become more efficient in our everyday tasks, we clear up time to focus on our most important tasks, so don't let the time allocated expand and fill up your schedule. Set a specific time limit for each task and get to work.

4. Know when TO and NOT TO multitask

When multitasking, do tasks that won't take your focus from one thing. For example, you cannot study and watch YouTube videos at the same time, because this makes you lose your focus. A great tool of multitasking would be listening in on your class while having a nice sandwich.

5. Do weekly reviews and reflect

Looking at your past week and reflecting on what happened, is a proactive way of maintaining balance in your daily tasks. This helps you realise the mistakes you might have made, and how you should not repeat them. This can also be a source of inspiration and motivation – as you see weekly progress, you will WANT to try new strategies and plan new ways to improve.

6. Make use of time management services provided by the UFS

Time management services are provided by the UFS. These are tried and tested services that assist students in the scope of the learning approach that the university provides. Services range from workshops, LinkedIn Learning, and articulate rise courses.

Online Advising workshops: Academic Advising has developed quick asynchronous workshops that can help you become a master of your time. Click on the links below:

Calculating my study timetable: <u>Click here</u>

Time management in 30 minutes: Click here

LinkedIn Learning: The UFS grants you a LinkedIn Learning account, so that you can grow, learn, and develop yourself! Refer to the Senior experience article for more information.

Proudly brought to you by the Academic Advising Office, Centre for Teaching and Learning, Sasol Library, Level 3, University of the Free State. Copyright







