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Dear students,

I'm writing to share an update on the industrial action being undertaken by members of the Goldsmiths branch of the University and College Union (GUCU).

Members of GUCU have been participating in action short of a strike (ASOS) since 27 April 2026. GUCU have now confirmed that they will move to full strike action, commencing 8 June 2026. This means that GUCU members who participate in the action at Goldsmiths will not undertake any duties including teaching, marking or assessing work.

Like all other universities we are taking steps to overcome challenges to ensure that Goldsmiths continues as one of the world's most distinctive universities. Senior colleagues have been regularly meeting with GUCU to discuss how we can work together to help navigate these challenges and bring this period of industrial action to an end, including focused discussions on constructive steps towards resolution.

### **What this means for students**

It is very disappointing that GUCU have moved to strike action, and we're working closely with each School to assess the impact on your studies. To date we have been able to significantly mitigate the impact of this action. All scheduled assessment has taken place. I'm hopeful that this will continue to be the case.

Sustained, full strike action by GUCU poses a risk to your academic experience and while I am confident we can mitigate this impact, nonetheless this disruption is unacceptable.

I recognise that this will be concerning for you. We have been working closely with students to understand and respond to your concerns and I'm grateful to you for sharing these with me and the senior team. All concerns raised are taken seriously and considered as part of our response.

Our priority is to ensure that you can attend class, undertake assessment, receive academic support and ultimately continue successfully to the next year of study and to graduate.

### **What Goldsmiths is doing to support students**

Staff have been asked to notify the University if they are not taking part in the action. This means we will have a clear idea of which students are affected. We will then communicate the specific impact on you.

Ahead of this, we have been working hard with schools and have introduced a range of measures to mitigate any potential impact. These include:

- **The introduction of exceptional academic regulations** - This means we can adjust the amount or type of credit we use to assess your academic performance or alter the way in which we undertake assessment and marking
- **Identifying alternative assessment and marking** - We're working with schools to

map out other ways to assess your learning if it were necessary, and to mark your work

### **What you need to do**

You should continue to submit your work as normal and attend teaching and assessment unless otherwise notified. We are continuing to support all students as normal, there is no change in planned university activities, and the university is fully open.

### **Where you can find more information**

We will continue to update our [industrial action webpage](#) with the latest information as the situation develops. This includes information about how and when to make a complaint. If you have an urgent question not answered on the [webpage](#), please contact the [Student Hub](#). You can also reach out directly to your Heads of Schools or through your student representatives who are actively engaging with us during this period.

With kind regards,

Professor David Oswell  
Interim Vice-Chancellor  
Goldsmiths, University of London



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