

Let's learn about how to get connected to the technology, our peers and lecturers, different forms of support, and most importantly, our learning. This online orientation offers strategies for dealing with the challenges and opportunities around learning online. Let's get connected and learn how to learn online together!

This site provides a range of useful resources and activities to help us learn about learning online. Consider it your first fully online learning experience! You can explore the sections below in any order you like, working through them all at your own pace.

The getting connected for online learning section has useful tips for using available technologies for online learning. Many of us have different challenges when it comes to accessing and using technology - some of the advice shared here can equip you to work around these. Download the RUconnected app to keep in touch with fellow students and lecturers and to stay up to date with your courses.

We understand that not everyone has the same kind of device and that not everyone has a smartphone. Don't worry! Sometimes your device can do more than you think, and we are here to show you how. For a start, you will not need to be online 24/7. Visit this part of the site to get tips for how to make the most of your connectivity and how to learn offline. This is an opportunity to learn something new!

Online learning is not only about receiving your lectures on your computer or phone - there are some social things we need to think about when learning online. The online learning 101 section explains some of these social aspects. Shifting our learning online will require us to develop new habits and skills. These include time management and communicating online with our lecturers and peers. Let's learn about these together!

In these difficult times we need to look after ourselves. Part of that is acknowledging when we are struggling and reaching out to those who can help us. We have many forms of support available to you during online learning, so you never need to feel alone. Visit the support for online learning section of this site to find out more about the different forms of support available at this time.

Don't forget that dealing with COVID-19 challenges is a new and scary task for everyone! It is important that we are patient with our lecturers as they try their best to get classes online. It is also important that we are considerate of our peers as we all learn how to succeed at online learning together. Remember that we need to be

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flexible and open to change as the situation evolves. Since we are moving to online learning midway through the semester it is likely that some of you will experience confusion. That is totally normal and understandable! Don't be afraid to ask for help. Take advantage of the suggested online communication channels and lecturers' online office hours.

Remember that online learning is new for most of us. We are all in this together and together we'll make it work. Use this site to learn about how you can connect, how you can work off-line, and who to contact if you get stuck. We are excited to start this new journey with you - see you online! Masifundisane kunye ku qhagamshelwano lomoya.

