

UNIVERSITY OF PORTHARCOURT PORT HARCOURT NIGERIA



POLICY ON TEACHING, LEARNING, ASSESSMENT AND STUDENT SUPPORT

**Ratified during the Stakeholders' Meeting of Monday 16th October 2023 at
the CBN Centre of Excellence Auditorium, University Park**

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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Introduction

The University of Port Harcourt is committed to providing access to quality education to all students irrespective of their economic and social background. To this end, the university policy on student support outlines the provisions, procedures for non-academic support services to aid student's educational pathway through the central university systems and the colleges, faculties, and departments in the university. This is in line with the vision, philosophy and objectives of the University of Port Harcourt outlined below.

CORPORATE PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY

VISION

The University of Port Harcourt envisions to be among the best entrepreneurial Universities in the world renowned for its teaching, research, innovation, creativity, productivity, scholarship and entrepreneurship.

PHILOSOPHY

The University of Port Harcourt is committed to academic freedom, ethics and integrity, tolerance, probity, equal opportunity, producing competent graduates and respect for cultural diversity.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the University of Port Harcourt is the pursuit of academic excellence, the advancement of knowledge and services through quality teaching, lifelong learning, social inclusion, strengthening of civil society and policy relevant research that address the challenges of contemporary society.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1: UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE/FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Objective 1: Every unit of the University should be structured to be cost effective and efficient, and generate revenue e.g. 10% annual improvement

Objective 2: Broaden the funding sources for the University.

Objective 3: Computerization of the accounting system of the University

Objective 4: The skill set of people in the University leadership should meet global best practice

Objective 5: Adherence to procurement guidelines

GOAL 2: EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING, TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Objective 1: Improvement in the quality of teaching, research and Learning

Objective 2: Improvement in the international outlook of the University

Objective 3: Upgrade of existing library and information technology services in the University

Objective 4: Making the University a centre of excellence for Niger Delta Studies, Sports, Arts, Petroleum Engineering and Geosciences

Objective 5: Engage in internationally recognized and locally relevancy research, perfect creativity, innovation, patent, publish and develop products for commercialization and entrepreneurship.

- GOAL 3: UPGRADING OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITY SERVICES**
- Objective 1: Improvement of the road network and access to all units.
 - Objective 2: Water supply for a projected population of 100,000 by 2025
 - Objective 3: Provision of uninterrupted power supply using a multi-prong approach including gas, biomass, solar.
 - Objective 4: Strengthening and upgrade of safety, waste management and general environmental beautification (including aesthetics, painting/building designs)
 - Objective 5: Provision of suitable buildings to accommodate all academic Units
 - Objective 6: Improvement of health care and recreational facilities.
 - Objective 7: Expansion of student and staff accommodation using various partnership options
 - Objective 8: Provision of modern ICT infrastructure
 - Objective 9: Provision of adequate resources and logistics to enable units of the university to fulfill their roles
- GOAL 4: STRENGTHENING THE ENGAGEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY WITH STAKEHOLDERS**
- Objective 1: Building enabling environment and encourage partnership with stakeholders.
 - Objective 2: Increasing participation of stakeholders in decision making
 - Objective 3: Marketing our services and solicit the services of stakeholders and partners through the Technology Park, Art Village, Green Park.
 - Objective 4: Engaging national and international standards organizations for ISO Certification of the University of Port Harcourt
 - Objective 5: Encouraging the Alumni Association by developing programmes that promote effective networking amongst its members in Nigeria and Diaspora

Measuring and Monitoring Teaching and Assessments

Introduction

Effective teaching and assessment are very vital in educational practice. They are a foundation for shaping learning experiences and evaluating progress. The University of Port Harcourt is committed to providing effective teaching and assessment by utilizing various strategies that would engage, motivate and guide students.

Policy Statement

The University of Port Harcourt is committed to demonstrating how impact on teaching and student achievement is measured, monitored, and evaluated with the aim of enhancing educational outcomes and ensuring continuous improvement in teaching practices. The policy describes the University's approach in identifying effective teaching and assessment practices. The approach of the university is outlined as follows:

- **Define the Criteria:** The University of Port Harcourt will define the criteria for effective teaching and assessment practices.
- **Collection, analysis and evaluation of Data:** The University will collect data to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching and evaluation practices. Data collected will be analysed and evaluated to identify trends and issues in teaching and assessment practices.
- **Dissemination of Results:** The University of Port Harcourt will communicate the results from the evaluation process to Deans/Provosts/Center Leaders/Directors, faculty members and department heads.
- **Implementation of changes:** to improve teaching and assessment practices, the university shall implement changes based on evaluation results.
- **Monitor progress:** to improve educational practice, the University of Port Harcourt will monitor the progress of teaching and assessment practices.

The activities involved for each of these approaches is outlined below:

1. Define the Criteria

The criteria for effective teaching and assessment practices will be established by the university in line with the University's goals. This will include but not limited to:

- Knowledge of Subject Matter: the teacher should have a good knowledge of the subject matter. The teacher is expected to keep abreast with new developments in their fields of study by regularly attending conferences, workshops and seminars.
- The teacher should state clear and measurable learning objectives that align with course content and desired outcomes of the programme. The objectives should cover the three domains of learning (cognitive – knowledge; affective – attitude/values; and psychomotor - skills) and reflect both higher and lower order thinking skills. The teacher will discuss the learning objectives with students before teaching commences.
- Innovative techniques: Based on the learning objectives, the teacher will employ innovative teaching techniques to promote individualized instruction and help learners achieve desired learning outcomes. Active learning strategies such as Think, Pair, Share, Gamification, Mnemonic strategies and other innovative teaching strategies shall be employed by the teacher to promote critical thinking and creativity in students. Appropriate instructional materials that align with learning objectives will be utilized and activities that support student learning will be included in the teaching process
- Effective Communication: Learning content should be broken down into smaller manageable units, be presented within the stipulated time frame and communicated clearly. The teacher's voice should be audible enough for students to hear. The teacher should have a good command of the language he/she uses for communication bearing in mind the ability of the students. Communication strategies should foster a love of learning in students and engender curiosity and creativity.
- The teacher will regularly conduct formative evaluations during the teaching process through classroom assessment tests and continuous assessments tests. Assessments will align with stated objectives and promote learning outcomes.

- The teacher will provide feedback to students on assessment results and create a conducive classroom environment that fosters growth of knowledge, skills and attitude.
 - The teacher shall summatively evaluate students' progress at the end of each semester through examinations as prescribed by the University. Examination items shall include but not limited to multiple choice questions (MCQs), short answers and essays and others as prescribed by the university taking into consideration the peculiarity of each course/programme. Examination questions shall be drawn after preparing a table of specification.
 - The teacher shall regularly engage in reflective teaching so as to improve teaching skills.
2. **Collection, analysis and evaluation of Data:** The University will collect data from students, faculty, and other stakeholders using various methods such as surveys, focus groups, interviews, and classroom observations. Feedback from students and other stakeholders will provide insights into teaching effectiveness and areas of improvement. Students will be required to fill and return feedback forms at the end of each class interaction. Assessment data will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching practices and make informed decisions about instructional strategies. Appropriate statistical techniques will be utilized to analyse quantitative and qualitative data. The evaluation process will compare current practices with the university's existing criteria for effective teaching and assessment practices and identify areas for improvement.
 3. **Dissemination of Results:** to disseminate the results of the evaluation, a report will be prepared by the University of Port Harcourt which summarizes the results of the analysis. It will be presented in a clear and concise manner. The report would be shared in an appropriate manner through emails or the university's website. The university will request feedback from concerned stakeholders on the usefulness of the report. This feedback will be used to improve future reports.
 4. **Implement Changes:** Having identified areas that require attention, the University of Port Harcourt will establish Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time bound (SMART) objectives to improve teaching and assessment practices. It will design and

deploy a comprehensive programme that will address areas of improvement. Resources will be allocated by the University to support implementation of changes. This may include allocating resources for the professional development of staff through workshops, seminars, training sessions, or mentoring programs that focus on effective teaching strategies, assessment techniques, and the use of educational technology.

5. **Monitor Progress:** Continuous monitoring is vital to sustain changes. The University of Port Harcourt will evaluate implemented changes for continuous improvement. Learning Management systems will be utilized to track students' progress. Regular evaluation and feedback will be carried out by the University to monitor staff and students' progress.

Conclusion

The University of Port Harcourt is committed to assuring quality in teaching and assessment. This is done through continuous monitoring and evaluation. The University is determined to promote effective teaching and students' assessment practices which are fundamental pillars in education. They contribute to the overall growth and advancement of education.

Student-Centered Learning Policy

Introduction

The University of Port Harcourt is committed to providing a student-centered learning environment that promotes the development of critical thinking, creativity, and independent learning.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the design, implementation, and evaluation of student-centered learning activities and programs at the University of Port Harcourt.

Principles

The development and use of student-centered learning at the University of Port Harcourt is guided by the following principles:

- Students are self-directed, active learners who take ownership of their education.
- Instruction is personalised to meet the requirements and interests of each student.
- Instruction is genuine and applicable to students' daily lives. Collaboration and social engagement are key components of learning.
- Technology aids in education.
- Learning is reflective and self-directed.
- The student's aptitude for using what they have learnt is used to gauge learning. Why each of the bullet points is important

Explanation for each of the bullet points that direct the creation and use of student-centered learning at the University of Port Harcourt:

1. Students are active learners who are responsible for their own learning: According to this principle, students should actively participate in their education and be in charge of their own learning. Students are urged to actively participate in class discussions, ask questions, and look for resources that will aid in their understanding of the course material rather than simply being passive recipients of information.
2. Learning is individualized to meet the needs and interests of each student: This principle acknowledges that every student has different needs, interests, and learning preferences. Teachers

and instructors should consider the backgrounds, prior knowledge, and interests of each student and modify their teaching strategies as necessary to assist individuals reach their maximum potential.

3. Learning is authentic and relevant to students' lives: According to this idea, education ought to be useful to students' daily lives and aid in the resolution of pressing issues. The purpose of learning experiences should be to keep students interested and support them as they apply their information in useful and applicable ways.

4. Learning is collaborative and occurs through social interaction: This principle acknowledges that learning is a social activity and that students can gain a lot from cooperating with their peers. Students can improve their interpersonal, communication, and critical thinking abilities by participating in collaborative learning activities including group projects, discussions, and peer review.

5. Technology supports learning: This tenet acknowledges the contribution of technology to improving the learning process. Technology may be utilized to improve communication, give people access to information, and design engaging interactive learning experiences that encourage students to participate in their education.

6. Learning is self-directed and reflective: This tenet highlights the value of assisting students in acquiring self-directed learning abilities, such as goal-setting, time management, and progress tracking. Also, it is important to encourage students to think back on their learning, pinpoint their areas for development, and create solutions to problems.

7. The ability of the learner to apply what they have learned is used to evaluate learning: This concept highlights that learning should be evaluated based on the student's capacity to apply their knowledge and abilities in practical situations. Teachers and instructors should also include performance-based assessments, such as projects and presentations, that enable students to show their comprehension of the course material in real-world contexts, in addition to the more typical tests and quizzes.

Implementation

By the use of the following techniques, the University of Port Harcourt will develop student-centered learning:

- Promote the use of student-centered teaching strategies such project-based learning, inquiry-based learning, and problem-based learning.
- Provide pupils the chance to work in teams and on projects together.
- Promote the use of technology in the classroom as a means of enhancing student learning.
- Provide pupils the chance to evaluate their education and devise improvement plans.
- Provide a variety of evaluations to gauge the growth and learning of your students.
- By offering them options for what and how they learn, provide kids the chance to take responsibility of their education.

Explanation

1. Promote the use of student-centered teaching techniques like problem-based learning, project-based learning, and inquiry-based learning. With student-centered learning, the student is put in the spotlight rather than the teacher. Examples of instructional strategies that concentrate on the learning process of the learner include problem-based learning, project-based learning, and inquiry-based learning. These teaching strategies involve the students in the learning process and motivate them to participate actively in their education.

2. Provide students the chance to work in groups and collaborate on projects. These activities assist students improve their interpersonal, collaboration, and communication skills. Students can exchange ideas and learn from one another through this as well.

Promote the use of technology in the classroom to help student learning. Access to a multitude of knowledge and resources is one way that technology may improve student learning. Using interactive technologies and multimedia, it can also support students' participation in active learning.

4. Provide students the chance to reflect on their learning and set goals for development: Through reflection, students can consider what they have learned and pinpoint areas for development. Creating goals aids students in maintaining their motivation and attention on their learning objectives.

5. Provide a variety of evaluations that track students' progress and development: Evaluations are essential for tracking students' growth and learning. Students can demonstrate their comprehension in a variety of ways by taking a variety of assessments, including quizzes, examinations, essays, and projects.

6. Provide students the chance to take control of their education by allowing them to choose what and how they learn since motivated and engaged students are those who have the opportunity to make decisions about their education. This can be done by letting students select topics that interest them and by offering options for assignments, projects, and exams.

Evaluation

The University of Port Harcourt will use the following techniques to assess the success of student-centered learning:

- Gathering and analysing student feedback on their educational experiences
- Measuring student learning outcomes and progress
- Evaluating the degree to which students can apply what they have learned
- Observing the use of student-centered teaching strategies and technology in the classroom
- Examining the efficiency of the support and resources offered to students

Explanation

1. Gathering and evaluating comments from students on their educational experiences: In order to do this, teachers must ask students for comments on their experiences with student-centered learning, including what they liked or disliked, what worked or didn't work well, and suggestions for improvement. Surveys, focus groups, or one-on-one interviews can be used to gather this feedback, which can be used to determine what needs to change.

2. Evaluating the results of student learning and progress: This entails gauging how well students are accomplishing learning objectives and goals. This can be accomplished through exams, quizzes, homework, or other types of assessment. In comparison to other teaching strategies, it can be used to assess the efficacy of student-centered learning.

3. Evaluating the degree to which students are able to apply what they have learned: This entails determining if students are able to apply knowledge acquired through student-centered learning to fresh circumstances or contexts. Case studies, simulations, and practical exercises can all be used to accomplish this.

4. Monitoring the use of student-centered teaching strategies and technology in the classroom entails keeping track of how frequently and effectively these techniques are applied. This can help find places where teachers might require further assistance or instruction.

5. Evaluating how well pupils were supported and given resources: This entails assessing whether students have access to the tools and assistance they require to succeed in student-centered learning, such as tutoring, counselling, or technological resources. This can assist in locating areas where further assistance or resources may be required to enhance student performance.

Conclusion

By implementing a student-centered learning approach, the University of Port Harcourt aims to empower students to take an active role in their own learning and to develop the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in their chosen field. This policy will be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of our students.

Student Support Policy for the University of Port Harcourt

Purpose

The purpose of this student support policy is to ensure that all students in the university of Port Harcourt have access to adequate and comprehensive range of non-academic support services that meets their individual needs. This policy document thus, provide a framework for the design, implementation, and evaluation of student support and resources at the University of Port Harcourt.

Scope

The scope of the policy applies exclusively to the provision of non-academic student support services through various mechanisms and organs of the university.

Principles

All provisions under the university of Port Harcourt student support services are underpinned by the principles of accessibility, equity, fairness, social justices, responsive to the needs of the individual student, provided at no additional cost to the student.

Privacy and confidentiality

Although basis records such as name, address, email, phone number, registration numbers, faculties, departments etc are obtained from recipient in the process of obtaining support, personal identifiable information of students benefitting from various support offered by the university are treated with strict confidentiality.

Responsible Officer(s)

The central support services for students are coordinated by (endowment/advancement). The college, faculty and department support services are headed by faculties elected by these units for a tenure of 2 years which is renewable only once.

Support available to students.

The university of Port Harcourt provides the following support to students:

- Financial support
- Administrative support
- Information services

- Learning support
- Guidance and Counselling
- Student advisory support

Explanation for each of these aspects of non-academic support to students are provided below:

Financial support

- Scholarships for specific programme¹
- Financial support²
- Coordination of bursaries provided by various states and local government areas
- Indigent student funds in the various faculties and departments
- League of friends-of-the-university for the support of indigent students

Administrative support

Available for students requiring support for a range of issues such as

- Change of programme of study
- Upgrade of personal information
- Payment of tuition and other levies
- Extension of courses
- Deferral of courses
- Issuance of transcript
- Issuance of recommendations and attestations
- Transfer of credits
- Appeals against assessment result

Information services

- Linkage with local and international institutions
- Health and safety

¹ Scholarships are provided each year to deserving students who apply for full time study and have no means of meeting up with the cost of their education. This decided through a merit-based screening procedure. These are of two categories – regional and local. The benefit package from each of these scholarships are different and may also vary from session to session. It shall commonly include payment of tuition and students' accommodation. The number of national scholarship slots shall be divided equally between males and females and shall only be available for full-time students with excellent academic track records including performance in the entry screening exercise.

² Students may be entitled to other financial support for internship, research, conference attendance and internship placement.

- Security services
- Detailed information to guide student through the faculty and departmental handbooks.
- UNIPORT Website
- Student Affairs Office
- Student orientation programme

Learning support

- Challenges with the learning management system
- Access to learning resources such as bibliographic databases, non-academic training opportunities in entrepreneurship, security etc
- Day care services
- Induction and licensing for students in professional programmes
- Provision of subsidized transport services within the university for easy movement to learning centres
- Provision of subsidized accommodation within the university to support residential students.

Counselling and Human Development Centre

The university centre for counselling and human development provides comprehensive services to all students. The mandate of the Centre is to build self-confidence, self-motivation as well as supporting services that will better the life of staff and students. The Centre offers counsel to students on how to cultivate a good reading culture. It also organizes seminars and train students on how to handle personal issues and avoid self-inflicted harm including suicide.

VISION

To build a support service system that will impact on staff and students the ideals of career, academic, social and psychological behaviour geared towards becoming better equipped persons.

MISSION

The Mission of the Centre is in line with the federal government recommendation on students/staff support services in Nigerian universities.

The Mission of the University of Port Harcourt Counselling Centre is to develop the career initiatives that will help students and staff to obtain critical life skills, ability to make informed decisions for their future and also equip them with social responsibility initiatives that will eliminate current and potential social ills currently invading the Nigerian society. The Centre aims at facilitating physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual well-being of students, staff and other clients in the University community for optimal performance of their duties and effective handling of life's challenges.

GOALS

- To promote campus community's awareness on the various UPCC's services through provision of professional information and education.
- To enhance the individual's ability to function normally and maximise his or her potentials. The UPCC will also offer an array of individualised services by effectively dealing with client's biopsychosocial needs.



- To develop and offer services designed to help students and staff so as to acquire skills, attitudes, and resources necessary to pursue productive and satisfying lives for success on campus and thereafter.
- To provide educational, personal and psychological boost for all categories of staff and students in the university community.
- To ensure that the already established system where academic advisers are allocated to students for academic guidance are up to date with student's academic challenges.
- To provide for counselling of students and staff, in liaison with the Dean, Student Affairs Department, and the Director, Personnel Affairs, respectively.
- To participate in Orientation Programmes for fresh students and newly recruited staff respectively.
- To organise Counselling for students placed on probation.
- To organise Counselling for staff who were not successful in the annual promotion appraisal exercise.

COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLING

The clinical professional staff will help clients explore, understand, and work through problems on an individual basis. Individual counselling can help clients find alternatives, expand choices and overcome obstacles that interfere with personal development and a sense of well-being. The clarification and resolution of personal problems often facilitate a person's ability to concentrate,

increase clarity regarding academic direction, productivity, career choice, stability, and enhance relationship. It also ensures satisfaction at work, leisure and classroom.

GROUP COUNSELLING

All groups will require a pre-group screening in order to learn more about the group and whether or not it will meet the individual's particular needs. Group therapy offers a unique opportunity of joining a small group of people who share common concerns. The purpose of the group will be to provide a safe as well as challenging place in which to work on personal and interpersonal concerns. Establishing a level of trust allows group members to talk openly and honestly. The group members and therapists work together to establish trust and commitment to the group. The group, with the help of the therapist, is able to give support and understanding, offer suggestions, or gently confront the person. Groups offer opportunities to experiment with different ways of communicating with others and to try new behaviours. Group counselling also provides opportunities to learn that others have similar difficulties and to also learn about one's self as others work on their own problems. In an atmosphere of mutual concern, members can care about and help one another.

COUPLE COUNSELLING

The UPCC is committed to helping individuals work through problems they might be having in their relationships with others. Couples seek counselling to address issues such as frequent conflicts, interpersonal communication, power or control struggles, sexual concerns or other threats to their relationships. With the assistance of the therapist, many couples develop a more intimate, satisfying, and healthy relationship and learn skills, which help the relationship continue to grow after counselling has ended. Couple counselling is available to students, faculty and staff, even if the partner is neither a student nor employee of University of Port Harcourt.

Student advisory and mentoring support

It is mandatory to each student to be provided a faculty as an advisor for the session or the duration of their training. All students are assigned advisors at the beginning of their programme. The relationship between the student and the advisor is pastoral and expected to be structured and formal. The report on the meeting of students and their advisors are made available to the Centre Management Committee. The advisor will support the student (especially foreign students) with the right information and career guidance that would assist them to navigate the university system successfully. The interaction between the advisor and the student shall be continuous, consistent and require the generation of periodic feedback. The advisor shall play a pastoral role in mentoring and assisting the growth and development of the students; ensuring that the student's academic pathways is maintained; assist in resolving logistical issues that the student may be faced with. The PhD students are expected to meet at least twice a year with their advisors and the interaction between the advisor and the student would be documented on the e-progress report.

Students are expected to join any of the mentoring schemes run under the various research groups in the department and faculties.

Process

Depending on the need,

- the student lodges a request via phone, email or visits the responsible office/officer for the required support. Appointments are often preferred but walk-in guests are allowed during the operating hours of the unit.
- Student will be required to complete designated forms at the desk office
- The student support team will receive, acknowledge and log the case for attention within 3 days by the responsible officer
- In providing the required support, the responsible officer may
 - Seek additional details from the student
 - Refer the case to other business units in the university for action
 - Conclude the support required within their units and close this care
- Students are advised to provide feedback on their experiences with the support office within 1 week of receipt of such support.

Conclusion

By implementing a student non-academic support, the University of Port Harcourt aims to provide the necessary environment for students to actively participate in learning take an active role in developing the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in their chosen field. This policy will be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of our students.

University Resource Centres

Library

The University of Port Harcourt boast of one of the biggest and most equipped libraries in Nigeria. This is called the Donald Ekong Library in the University Park opposite the Senate Building. The library provides books, non-book/electronic resources and ancillary services which are invaluable in extending and supporting the university's programmes of teaching, learning and Research.

The Donald E.U. Ekong Library complex is made up of two wings A with three floors and B with two floors. Wing A has the Documents unit and the Knowledge Commons on the first floor. The second floor of wing A house the University Librarian's office, Technical Services Department, Finance Office and the Archives. The third floor houses the Thesis/Dissertation unit and the Research Commons



The main entrance and exit points to the library are on the ground floor of wing B. The Reference unit, offices and some book stack rooms are on the first floor of wing B. The other book stack rooms including offices, Elsevier E-Training Room, VTLS Cataloguing Room and the Server Room are located on the second floor of wing B.

Library Resources

Reference Books- Including dictionaries and encyclopedias, handbooks, Annuals, gazettes, biographies- essential for basic background information to all subjects Available in the REFERENCE section.

Books on the open shelves- Includes a vast array of materials waiting on the open shelves. Use these materials to supplement your required reading and to write papers and assignments.

Journals- Magazines and periodicals on the shelves to complement the electronic resources available. Journals are in the research section.

Electronic resources- Thousands of electronic journals can be accessed through our various database. The list of titles to which the library provides access can be found via the library's homepage. These databases provide access to full text journals on your PC.

Documents - Where you can find classified information concerning government agencies, international organisations e.g. WHO, UNITED NATIONS They also include statistical documents, material published by NGO'S, Census, Legislation etc.

Archives – Provides documents and materials in retrospect concerning the University. It also contains back sets of journals and other materials.

Day Care Centre



The University of Port Harcourt Day Care Centre is situated at University Park of the University. The Day Care Centre is a school that houses crèche, nursery and primary. This Centre was built, owned, and being managed by the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA) which is often headed by the wife of any sitting Vice-

Chancellor. The mandate of the Centre is to groom children of staff and non-staff from kindergarten level to primary and make some revenue for the University. Female postgraduate students with young kids can visit the Centre and make arrangement for the care of their ward will they are busy with their studies. The school can be accessed through the entrance gate of the University Park and is close to the University Health Centre. The premise is fenced to protect the children from dangers and all parents and guardian must show their ID card before they could be allowed to come in and carry their wards or children.

Exchange and Linkage Office

The Exchange and Linkage office of the University of Port Harcourt is situated at the University Park of the University close to the entrance gate of the University Park. The office is headed by a director who oversees the activities of the office on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor.



The mandate of the Unit is to serve as a link between the University of Port Harcourt and external agencies within and outside the Country. The Unit support the development of MoUs involving the university and support the settlement including acquisition of residency permits for non-Nigerian students who are undertaking academic programmes lasting more than a

year in the University of Port Harcourt. The unit serve as a one-stop station for all information and support required by non-Nigerian students. The Exchange and Linkage Unit can be accessed by local and foreign students at any time by showing their ID cards to the desk officer as a means of identification.

Counseling and Human Development Centre

The Guidance and Counseling Centre of the University of Port Harcourt is situated at University Park of the University near the Sport's Complex and opposite the Convocation Arena. The Counseling and Human Development Centre was set up in 2017. The mandate of the Centre is to build self-confidence, self-motivation as well as supporting services that will better the life of staff and students. The Centre offers counsel to students on how to cultivate a

good reading culture. It also organizes seminars and train students on how to handle personal issues and avoid self-inflicted harm including suicide. Guidance and Counseling Unit of University of Port Harcourt provides services for both staff and students at the university. Staff of the unit are available to counsel staff and students and provide other support. Those who need their services can contact them through suportaceputor@uniport.edu.ng. The Guidance and Counseling Centre is physically accessible to students any time. Students need to go with their ID cards and meet the desk officer of the Centre.



The Information Communication Technology Centre (ICTC)

The University of Port Harcourt has an Information Communication Technology (ICT) Centre located in the University Park near the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital entrance gate just opposite Nelson Mandela Hostel.

The mandate of the Centre is to assist the students solve IT related issues bordering on their academics and payment of surcharges to the University. The Centre organizes periodic seminars and computer training for students and staff who are interested in improving their computer skills. The Centre drives the current virtual transformation in the university system and provides the facilities and expertise for the conduct of online examinations for students in the University using computer-based test (CBT) as well as organize Post UTME examinations for the incoming students that have just passed JAMB. Students can access the Centre physically with their ID card through the front desk officer.

University of Port Harcourt Sports Facilities

Sport facilities are available in all campuses of the University of Port Harcourt, but the main sport complex and stadium is situated at the University Park of the University and can be accessed through the East-West Road Gate of the University. This Sports complex houses lots of sporting facilities like the stadium, long tennis court, basketball court, changing rooms for athletes, table tennis court, karate court, swimming pool, track and football pitch, hotel and hostels to accommodate national and international athletes during sporting events etc.



The complex also hosts a sport institute which has been operational since 2014. All these facilities have contributed immensely towards the back-to-back wining of major sporting events by the University, organized by Nigerian University Game Association (NUGA), West Africa University Game (WAUG). The sporting facilities can be accessed freely by students and staff by showing their ID cards to the security staff manning the entrance to the complex. It is customary to see thousands of people engaging in various sporting activities at weekends, especially Saturdays.

Student Affairs Department

The University of Port Harcourt has a Student Affairs Department located at Choba Park of the University. Choba Park was the earliest site of the University when it was first established in 1975. The department which is headed by a Dean of Students' Affairs is fully responsible for all issues relating to students' accommodation, unionism on campus and short-listing of students for participation in the one-year mandatory National Youth Service Corp Programme. The students can physically access the Student Affairs department by identifying themselves with student ID card anytime and lay their complaint. They can also access information and direct their complaint to the Dean through his phone number or the University email.

Accommodation

Accommodation within the campus is often very competitive to get. Foreign students are provided shared spaces at available international Students hostels located along the East-West Road. Nigerian students are accommodated in the various postgraduate hostels in the University. The Centre's students support officer would be of help to students who desire to be accommodated on campus.

The University Health Centre

This is popularly known as the OB Lulu Briggs Health Centre after the name of the late philanthropist who donated the Centre to the University. The facility is visibly located by the Delta gate into the University Park, opposite the Exchange and Linkage Office. All students



and staff are eligible to receive primary care at this facility so long as they are duly registered with the Centre. The health insurance premium for the students is often included in the payment of their tuition and this entitles the students to a full package of comprehensive primary medical care and referral for specialist care at accredited facilities under the National Health Insurance

Scheme.

Language Laboratory

The University has a language laboratory located in the complex for the African Centre of Excellence in Oilfield Chemical Research (ACE-CEFOR). This laboratory which has a



capacity of training 30 students in a session is run in collaboration with the University School for languages Studies as a Language appreciation class especially for the regional students. Also, short term courses in foreign languages are also conducted.