# Introduction to wellbeing



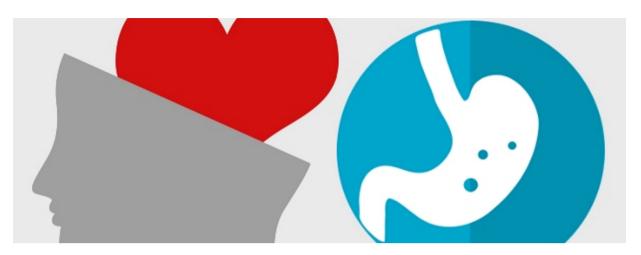
# 1. Physical



- → Stay hydrated with 2 litres of clean, filtered water per day.
- → Eat three wholesome, balanced and unprocessed meals.
- → Keep your energy levels up and maintain your mental focus by enjoying protein, iron, iodine, omega-3, carbohydrate rich snacks.
- → Make sure that you move during the day or that you get at least 20 minutes of exercise per day.
- → Practice sport or relaxation activites with friends.

- → Spend time in nature.
- → Utilise deep breathing activities and stretches during straining tasks.
- → Ensure good sleep hygiene by sleeping at set times for at least 7-8 hours per night, in a dark and cool room with limited noise.
- → Limit daytime napping to 10-20 minutes in the early afternoon.
- → Avoid or limit the use of substances and stimulants such as caffeine, sugar, nicotene, alcohol and electronic screens.

#### 2. Emotional



- → Invest in supportive relationships with friends, family and the people around you.
- → Accept your emotions and investigate their roots.
- → Avoid unnecessary stress by learning to say no and by wanting to complete you entire to do-list all at once.
- → Be introspective and practice gratitude.
- → Take daily risks to promote growth, get inspired and live in the present.
- → Develop a strong sense of humour and learn to laugh at yourself.

- → Determine and live your personal values.
- → Identify and use your individual strenghts.
- → Write about your thoughts in a journal, draw/paint/sculpt your experiences, compose or produce music, and/or practice movement or relaxation techniques.
- → Talk to someone you trust or consult with a mental health professional if you feel impaired on the personal, occupational and/or social aspects of your life.

### 3. Purpose



- → Connect with a power greater than oneself or become one with the cosmos.
- → Exercise relaxation or visualisation techniques.
- → Meditate on a word, phrase or mantra and release your cares.
- → Accept and grow from the challeges and changes in life.
- → Have fun and accept the things that you can not change.

- → Manage your day in such a way that you incorporate time to reflect.
- → Rethink the meaning of life and your contribution in the lives of others.
- → Promote good health by fostering a positive mindset.
- → Exercise creativity and innovation in all areas of your life.
- → Recover and heal from past trauma or sadness.

### 4. Environmental



- → Take care of the fauna and flaura around you.
- → Refuse plastic and straws; reuse the items in your home; recycle plastic, paper, cardboard and glass; reduce your carbon footprint.
- $\rightarrow$  Conserve energy and water.
- → Spend time outdoors and boost your vitamin D levels at the same time.
- → Clean your house regularly to eliminate mold and dust.

- → Cycle instead of driving if possible or make use of a carpool.
- → Do consider your neigbourhood by not creating noise or producing visual clutter.
- → Volunteer at environmental organisations.
- → Be a responsible consumer in making careful choices at the shops: not buying products that are exposed to chemicals or from companies that mistreat animals.

#### 5. Intellectual



- → Keep brain fit by making use of crosslateral exercises and other thought provoking activities such as soduko, crosswords and educational games.
- → Read or study a wide range of topics to enrich general cognitive, cultural and community knowledge.
- → Be actively involved in community clubs, activities or events .
- → Learn a new skill and language as frequently as possible.
- → Play a musical instrument and produce artistic expressions.

- → Keep a journal of your thoughts and experiences.
- → Be open minded, question the status quo and be creative in using alternative problem solving strategies.
- → Listen to understand when people share new information with you and remember to share your opinion during simple conversation.
- $\rightarrow$  Travel the world.
- → Attend a lecture that exposes you to new ideas.
- → Lifelong learning is the key to an healthy brain.

## 6. Occupational



- → Be aware of your occupational needs and keep motivated to achieve them.
- → Plan your work tasks according to your levels of energy.
- → Designate a set time for the completion of administrative tasks as well as e-mail correspondence.
- → Explore paid and un-paid work options in order to stimulate your interest and value set.
- → Create connections with your coworkers and collaborate with others.

- → Practice open communication and proper conflict management with collegues.
- → Set realistic, short- and long-term career goals for yourself and monitor them.
- → Develop an ergonomic work space to increase your performance and efficiency.
- → Look for something new and/or talk to a career counsellor/educational psychologist if you feel stuck or unhappy.

#### 7. Social



- Know yourself and identify your needs, preferences and values.
   Communicate them to the people around you.
- → Make an effort to keep in touch with supportive friends and family. Build healthy relationships and nurture them over time.
- → Disconnect from technology to connect with people at home or at work.
- → Don't criticise, judge or blame yourself. Incorporate self-care.
- $\rightarrow$  Practice the skills of self-disclosure.

- → Join a club or organisation and get active together (gym, park, yoga, fitness, dance, hobby, shared interest, spa day).
- → Be mindful of commitments you make and keep them, but also know your limitations.
- → Reconnect with an old friend from school and catch up.
- → Participate in group discussions and practice active listening.
- → Ask for help from other people.
- → Learn to disagree or argue in a constructive way.

#### 8. Financial



- → Reduce the stress by developing a budget.
- → Plan ahead and set budget goals.
- → Open a checking account with a debit card.
- → Choose and use a credit card wisely.
- → Find an on-campus job before you arrive.
- → Improve your financial literacy/management skills.
- $\rightarrow$  Become a saver.

- $\rightarrow$  Invest 10% of your monthly income.
- → Start saving for your pension as soon as you start working.
- → Don't put it off- identify and address financial problems before they start.
- $\rightarrow$  Take advantage of student discounts.
- → Balance your other dimensions of wellness, as they all tie in to financial wellness as well.

#### Wellbeing visit ideas

- Centre for Student Counselling and Development:
  http://www.sun.ac.za/english/welcome/Help-at-hand/wellness
- Unit for Graduand Career Services: <a href="http://www.sun.ac.za/english/learning-teaching/student-affairs/cscd/career-services">http://www.sun.ac.za/english/learning-teaching/student-affairs/cscd/career-services</a>
- Maties Gymnasium: <a href="https://stellenbosch.matiesgym.co.za/">https://stellenbosch.matiesgym.co.za/</a>
- Cape Town sporting events: <a href="https://www.capetownmagazine.com/sports/139">https://www.capetownmagazine.com/sports/139</a>
- Neelsie Centre: http://neelsiesa.co.za/
- Isa Carstens Academy: <a href="https://www.isacarstens.co.za/">https://www.isacarstens.co.za/</a>
- SU Botanical Garden: <a href="http://www.sun.ac.za/english/entities/botanical-garden/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.sun.ac.za/english/entities/botanical-garden/Pages/default.aspx</a>
- Kirstenbosch Gardens: <a href="https://www.sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch/">https://www.sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch/</a>
- Online courses:
  - https://masterstart.com/courses?utm\_source=google&utm\_medium=cpc&utm\_campaign= allcourses&keyword=%2Bonline%20%2Bcourses%20%2Bstellenbosch&matchtype=b&device =c&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI8KPpso-54wIVRkTTCh1xOgaaEAAYAiAAEgKG6\_D\_BwE
- SU student societies: <a href="http://www.sun.ac.za/english/students/student-societies">http://www.sun.ac.za/english/students/student-societies</a>
- Stellenbosch art galleries: <a href="https://www.tripadvisor.co.za/Attractions-g312673-Activities-c49-t1-Stellenbosch">https://www.tripadvisor.co.za/Attractions-g312673-Activities-c49-t1-Stellenbosch</a> Western Cape.html
- Music festivals: <a href="https://www.capetownmagazine.com/annual-music-festivals">https://www.capetownmagazine.com/annual-music-festivals</a>



# **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

**STELLENBOSCH** UNIVERSITY

Campus Security (EMERGENCY)

021 808 2333

CSCD 24 HR Crisis Service 021 808 4994 (during office hours, 08:00 - 16:00)

Maties ER24 010 205 3032 (Identify yourself as a student from Stellenbosch University and as a Corporate Client, please)

Campus Security (general enquires)

021 808 4666

SAPS (EMERGENCY)

10111

SAPS Sector I Patrol Vehicle

082 522 2293

021 809 5015

SAPS Stellenbosch (Ops Centre)

SAPS Stellenbosch

021 809 5000

(general enquires)

082 112 Ambulance (from a cell phone)

Ambulance (from a landline) 10177

Campus Health Services 021-808 3494/96

Fire Dep. Stellenbosch 021 808 8888

Traffic Dep. Stellenbosch 021 808 8800

Stellenbosch Hospital

021 808 6147

(casualties)

Medi-Clinic Stellenbosch 021 861 2094/5

(casualties)

Compiled by Campus Security and the Centre for Student Counselling and Development, 2019





#### List of references

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