



Faculty and Teaching FAQ

Fall 2021

- **Will faculty members be allowed to teach remotely during AY 2021-22?**

UR is planning to return to the traditional two-semester academic calendar and in-person operations beginning in Fall 2021, including residential, co-curricular, and athletic experiences for our students. Faculty will not be teaching remotely this year unless that was an existing arrangement prior to COVID-19 and/or the program of instruction in that school (e.g., SPCS) is based on remote teaching. As in the past, faculty members may request an accommodation, including teaching remotely, based on the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- **How does a faculty member request a disability accommodation to permit them to teach remotely?**

Faculty may make a request for reasonable accommodation under the ADA by completing [this form](#). More information about the process can be found here [Americans with Disabilities Act - Human Resources - University of Richmond](#).
- **Who makes the decision that a faculty member is entitled to a disability accommodation?**

A Human Resources Business Partner, in collaboration with the Dean and/or appropriate department head, will make a determination as to whether an accommodation is reasonable under the Americans with Disabilities Act and, if not, recommend alternatives. A reasonable accommodation may include an exemption from in-person teaching.
- **May a faculty member hold an occasional class session remotely without receiving permission?**

Yes. As was true before the pandemic, faculty may make occasional adjustments to the class format when, for example, they are unavoidably away during class time or are themselves sick.
- **Will there be any pedagogical exemptions from the requirement to teach in person?**

No.
- **If a faculty member chooses to require masks be worn in their classroom/lab/studio, how will this be enforced?**

By the faculty member as would be the case with any classroom procedure. Faculty should notify their students in advance that masks will be required.
- **If a student objects to wearing a mask and shows proof of vaccination, may a faculty member still require the student to wear a mask in the classroom/lab/studio?**

Yes, unless the student has received an exemption from the mask requirement as a result of a disability accommodation.



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- **Will faculty be informed of the number or percentage of students on campus who are not vaccinated?**
Yes, but that data will be at an aggregate number of overall students. Current vaccination rates were included in the community message dated July 22, 2021.
- **Will faculty be informed if any of the students enrolled in a class they are teaching are not vaccinated?**
No. That is considered private health information. Class-level information may also risk revealing private information.
- **How often will unvaccinated faculty/staff/students be tested for COVID-19?**
The frequency of prevalence testing will be determined as we get closer to the start of the fall semester and will be based on the rate of cases on campus and in the local community.
- **Will the COVID-19 data dashboard continue to be updated regularly?**
Yes.
- **Will there be contact tracing for exposure to someone who tests positive for COVID-19?**
Yes. There will be contact tracing following a report of a positive case on campus. Close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will be required to quarantine. Close contacts who are fully vaccinated will not be required to quarantine.
- **How should faculty handle teaching a student who is quarantined for up to two weeks?**
The faculty member should allow makeup work and is encouraged to consult with the Faculty Hub regarding alternative approaches to keeping students up to date on class material and assignments.
- **Once you have been vaccinated, can you opt out of receiving the daily clearance messages about health and eligibility to work on campus?**
This process is still to be determined based on state regulations.
- **Will equipment for blended classroom teaching be available quickly if needed for an outbreak of COVID-19?**
Our response to a widespread COVID-19 outbreak this fall will not include blended learning. We will either go remote "in place" for a limited period of time or, in an extraordinary circumstance, we will finish the semester remotely.