

Colleagues:

We are about one-quarter of the way through the semester and although we have had some hiccups, faculty and students are doing the right things, and we are able to carry on. Thank you for your efforts. I just witnessed a display of your scholarship and service at the Millstein Library, and it reminded me of how you have persisted with your work during the pandemic. Congratulations on your accomplishments.

We have received additional guidance from the provost's office regarding classroom attendance, instructional expectations, and the enforcement of health guidelines and compliance.

Expectations for students who must miss in-person classes:

- Students are expected to communicate to faculty when they are going to miss in-person classes for illnesses, including those related to COVID-19 (such as a Student Health Services requirement to quarantine or isolate), or if the students feel unwell and suspect possible COVID-19 infection even without a test. These COVID-19 related situations are subject to the same confidentiality requirements as for any health or personal concern.
- Instructors are expected to work with students who are unable to come to class due to a need to isolate or quarantine, or because they are ill. Please visit <https://teaching.pitt.edu/resources-for-teaching/accommodating-quarantine-isolation-or-extended-classroom-absences/> for ideas on how you can accommodate students' or your own absence.
- The provost instruction is that "students should not be asked to provide medical proof of a COVID-19 diagnosis or quarantine order. Students who miss in-person classes due to an illness (or other university-recognized reason, such as a religious observance) and have communicated with faculty about their needs should not be subject to academic penalties, including having to resort to "drop the lowest grade" options or receiving zero class participation points on those days. Whenever possible, make-up activities should be afforded for laboratories and other in-person graded activities."

Expectations for Instructors:

- Where possible, instructors should record their classes and make those recordings available to students. In addition, notes or other records of discussions should be made available when possible.
- Instructors may, at their discretion, live stream from the classroom to benefit any students who miss class due to illness or other excused reasons. Other students are expected to engage in in-person learning. Live streaming should only be done where it does not detract from the in-class experience.
- The Center for the Advancement of Teaching and the [University Center for Teaching and Learning](#) are good resources to assist you in your efforts.

Health guidelines enforcement and compliance:

- All students, faculty, and staff who have not provided [proof of vaccination](#) are required to provide evidence of a [negative COVID-19 test result each week](#).

- A non-compliant student is not entitled to make-up exams, but access to remote or recorded material should not be restricted.
- The Office of Student Conduct will be responsible for handling issues related to student compliance.
- If you become aware of non-compliant individuals gaining building access, please report it to [Pitt Concern Connection](#).

We will be sharing information with you throughout the semester as we receive them. Please let me know if you have questions.

Best,

Jackie