Instruction in Fall 21: Deans & Department Heads edition

July 22, 2021

Diane Austin, daustin@arizona.edu
Nina Bates, ninaari@arizona.edu
Paloma Beamer, pbeamer@arizona.edu
Cori Cashen, ccashen@arizona.edu
Tina Deemer, deemer@arizona.edu
Lisa Elfring, elfring@arizona.edu
Kate Ellingson, kellingson@arizona.edu .
Joe Gerald, geraldj@arizona.edu
Dawn Hunziker, hunziker@arizona.edu
Lori Schultz, lschultz@arizona.edu
Robert Stephan, rstephan@arizona.edu
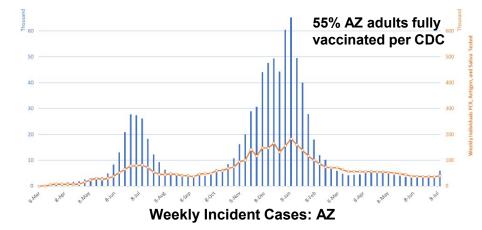
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Agenda

- COVID Updates
- DRC Updates
- Academic Instruction Updates
  - Instructional Resources
  - Central Classroom Updates
  - Recommendations for Departmental Classrooms
  - New FERPA Training Requirements
- Research Updates
- Questions & Discussion

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

COVID Updates

55% AZ adults fully vaccinated per CDC

Weekly Incident Cases: AZ

- Recent case increase in AZ and Pima Co
- Campus preparing for full student return in Fall
- Latest updates posted: covid19.arizona.edu/
  - Vaccination information
  - Testing information and resources
  - Prevention and health, including COVID Watch App
- Masks "strongly encouraged" for indoor and group activities but not required by University
  - CDC recommends mask use in indoor setting for unvaccinated individuals
  - The new AZ Revised Statutes, Section 15-1650.05 prohibits public universities from imposing mandatory vaccine, testing, and face coverings based on vaccination status.
  - No university mandate for vaccination or verification of vaccine status
  - Masks still required in healthcare settings and on public transit
- Ventilation on campus has been carefully accessed
  - Air exchange assessment and CO_2 monitoring by Facilities Management
  - Air purifiers/filters added to some spaces
- Current efforts to standardize communication messaging
  - Signage
  - Websites

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

COVID Updates

DO:

- Strongly encourage vaccination and upload of vaccine documentation (incentives!)
- Promote testing if symptomatic (campus health and county resources)
- Encourage the use of the COVID Watch App and answering calls from contact tracers
- Strongly encourage masking in classrooms and indoor settings
- Speak to your building manager if you find outdated signage

DON'T:

- Ask anyone about vaccination status
- Make unit-level decisions (about face coverings, quarantine, testing) that contradict university policy

Disability Resource Center (DRC) Updates

Employees and students who would like to request disability-related accommodations for their own disability or medical condition should contact DRC.

Academic-Related:
- DRC staff are available to collaborate with you and facilitate access in courses and campus events for disabled students.
- DRC staff are returning to the office starting in August.
  - Some staff will continue to work with a hybrid work schedule.
- DRC-Testing
  - Open with a reduced capacity for proctoring in-person exams when accommodations cannot be provided by the instructor.

- **Contact us at <u>drc-info@arizona.edu</u>**

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Academic Instruction Updates

- All classes should meet as published in the schedule of classes.
- New requests for flex in-person or live online courses must be approved through Associate Deans and Registrar's Office.
- Students who wish to be remote should register for online sections.
- International Student Services issued new guidance.
- Academic Instruction Updates posted https://provost.arizona.edu/content/pac

Program Flexibility

Some courses required for major completion may not be available as Live Online or iCourses.

➢ Are advisors aware of alternatives and the circumstances under which they can approve them?

➢ Are programs willing and able to provide alternatives for remote students?

➢ Do programs expect instructors to simultaneously teach in-person and remote students?

Image: https://www.shu.edu/technology/news/june-hyflex-technology-update.cfm

Instructor Flexibility-

Some courses required for major completion may not currently be available as Live Online or iCourses.

➢ Are instructors for those courses *willing* and *able* to provide access for remote students?

➢ Guiding and monitoring learning with two distinct groups of students is difficult. Do instructors have the support they need?

✓ GTAs, learning assistants/preceptors can be important in helping instructors manage technology and communication.

Image: https://www.shu.edu/technology/news/june-hyflex-technology-update.cfm

What have we learned from remote teaching?

- ✓ Student engagement with remote office hours improved for many courses.
- ✓ Students are eager for structured opportunities to engage with other learners and instructors.
- ✓ Clarity and consistency in structures around classroom procedures and activities are key.
- ✓ Course structures and grading policies are critical topics for communication:
  - ➢ How are instructional materials organized in the course D2L site? Is the calendar utilized? Do students know how to set notifications?
  - ➢ What work is due, when, and how is that communicated?
  - ➢ How will exams/assignments take place?
  - ➢ Where and how will students get feedback that helps them improve?
- ✓ TAs/learning assistants can help manage the classroom learning environment.

   A communication plan is important to ensure they know instructor expectations and have access to course materials they need.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

What can you do to prepare for Fall?

- ✓ Ensure academic advisors are aware of course substitutions and the circumstances under which they can approve them.
- ✓ Encourage instructors to communicate with co-instructors, GTAs, learning assistants, and students about expectations and options.
- ✓ Encourage instructors to continue incorporating <u>Universal Design strategies</u> into courses.
- ✓ Promote planning/professional development to help instructors plan for in-person teaching.
  - ➢ OIA's upcoming webinars: https://www.oia.arizona.edu/content/8

Central Classroom Updates

- Classroom density will return to *mostly* pre-pandemic levels for Fall 2021
- We will update classroom layouts and pictures: https://ctsrooms.arizona.edu/
- Classrooms are starting to be reset now. The process will take some time. Instructors should expect they won't have access to rooms prior to August 16.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Central Classroom Services

We are very excited to announce a NEW centrally-scheduled classroom support model starting in Fall 2021.

- 621-3852 will be a one-stop helpline for reporting *any* classroom problem or issue:
  - Computer or tech issues
  - Schedule a technology walk-through in the classroom
  - Furniture, AC, custodial problems

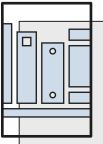THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Departmentally-controlled Classrooms

- There is NEW department classroom guidance for creating accessible spaces:

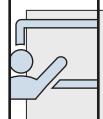 https://drc.arizona.edu/physical-access/department-classrooms

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Required FERPA training for Faculty, Instructors, Instructional Support teams
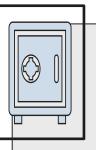
What is happening?

- An updated **FERPA training geared towards Instructors** is being developed and will be available in EDGE Learning in early August
- This will be a different training than the staff training for access to student systems.
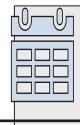
Who must do this?

- This first year we will 'catch-up' by **requiring all instructors and employees who access D2L**.
- This includes all employees who have previously taken the staff FERPA training prior to 2021.
- Similar to Information Security training, there will be a refresher – currently planned for a three year cycle
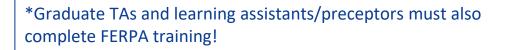
Why are we doing this?

- To protect our students and our institution!
- There have been a few incidents over the past years which have highlighted our institutional need for increased knowledge on FERPA.
- This refresh (or first time for many) will help to increase our **culture of compliance**

Timeline

- Beginning in early August
- **Deadline is October 1st**
- After October 1st employees will be locked out of D2L if they have not completed

*Graduate TAs and learning assistants/preceptors must also complete FERPA training!

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Research Updates

- Anticipate a move to Phase 6. Updates will be posted at https://research.arizona.edu/
- Reminder: some research areas have always required the use of PPE (including masks), based on the nature of the work and the possibility of exposure risk to the people, animals, materials involved.
- COI training update: New required training in EDGE Learning https://arizona.sabacloud.com
    - Deadline: July 31, 2021
- New research systems:
    - eIRB: August 2021 implementation
    - UAccess Research Upgrade: Later Fall 2021

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION