



## **WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CLASSES DURING THE SPRING**

The University of North Dakota welcomes students, faculty, and staff back to our Grand Forks campus for the spring 2021 term. The fall semester was unique in many ways as we worked to provide flexible courses that could adapt to changing COVID-19 conditions using both on-campus and online teaching technologies and methods. This will remain the same for the spring semester. On-campus classes will require physical distancing, face coverings, and other procedures to protect the health and well-being of both students and instructors. In addition, instructors will be prepared to move on-campus classes into a virtual mode as necessary when conditions change.

Our decisions and actions are based on the following guiding principles as we continue to plan and prepare for the fall:

- First and foremost, the health and safety of UND's students, faculty, and staff is paramount;
- UND's educational and scholarly experiences will remain focused on excellence;
- UND will sustain a sense of community founded upon principles of respect and empathy;
- UND will promote collaboration on campus, in the local community, and across the state;
- UND will structure students' learning experiences in a way that fosters continuity and minimizes disruption, while also providing individualized accommodations as warranted; and
- UND will respond sensibly to the changing conditions of the pandemic.

## **HOW YOUR CLASSES WILL BE DELIVERED/OFFERED**

- Classes are currently listed in Campus Connection as either online or on-campus.
- Any changes to the delivery method of classes (on-campus or online) will be updated to Campus Connection. You should check your course schedule to see if the delivery method has changed.
- Students can decide if they want to modify their course schedule as a result of any delivery method changes. You may want to contact your academic advisor before modifying your schedule.
- All Final Exams will be completed remotely for both on-campus and online courses. Final Exams will be held during the days and times indicated by the final exam schedule.
- Graduate/professional students should check with your department for program-specific information.

### **ON-CAMPUS CLASSROOM PREPARATION RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- All classrooms have been assigned a COVID-19 seating capacity. This means there will be fewer students allowed in the classroom than during previous semesters.
- Reducing the number of students physically present in classrooms and laboratories will be necessary because of physical distancing requirements. As part of the course delivery plan, instructors will develop different ways to accommodate physical distancing requirements. For example, some may assign students into smaller groups and rotate groups into the classroom while other groups participate via video conferencing. **A detailed schedule and explanation for how instructors plan to accommodate the requirements for on-campus classes will be communicated to students and included in the course syllabus so that students are aware of expectations.**
- In order to accommodate physical distancing requirements and provide additional protection to instructors, many of whom are at higher risk for complications related to COVID-19, instructors will stand behind a plexiglass barrier. For labs, 6 feet of physical distancing will also be required.
- Students are asked to respect physical distancing requirements and maintain 6 feet of physical space between themselves, their peers, the instructor, and other students at all times.

### **CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY AND ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY TRAINING:**

- All courses and labs will use Blackboard to post course/lab materials. Paper copies of the syllabus will not be distributed during classes/labs. Students will be encouraged to bring their own device to class/lab. Information on [general technology requirements for students](#) are available in the UIT Help Center. Students who do not have the appropriate technology should work with UIT by calling 701-777-2222 or emailing [techsupport@und.edu](mailto:techsupport@und.edu) to discuss their needs.
- Blackboard will be used for sharing class resources and submitting/returning assignments. Physical papers will not be handed out or exchanged during classes or labs. Students should use electronic resources or their own printed copies of resources during class.
- The School of Law will use another LMS (Learning Management System) as the primary means of communicating with students.
- Classrooms and laboratories will be equipped with additional technology to accommodate remote attendance by students if needed because of room capacity requirements or health concerns.

### **ENTERING/EXITING THE CLASSROOM AND SANITIZING SPACES:**

- Hand sanitizer will be provided for each building. Students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to use it as they enter and exit buildings and classrooms.
- Students will be expected to maintain physical distancing prior to classes. Students should not congregate in the hallways and should arrive just a few minutes prior to class in order to avoid close proximity in hallways.

- Sanitizing wipes will be available for each classroom. Students should take a sanitizing wipe when they enter the classroom to clean the chair and table they will be using during class.
- Instructors will be asked to dismiss students by row beginning with the row closest to the door to avoid close proximity while passing other students.

#### **SEATING:**

- Students may be assigned seats and/or will be asked to sit in the same seat for each class period so that in the event of COVID-19 exposure, a seating chart is available. Class attendance may be taken each class period to facilitate contact tracing should it become necessary (i.e., in case of a COVID-19 positive test).
- Students must sit 6 feet apart and must be 6 feet from the teaching podium. Chairs will be marked to distinguish between those that should and should not be used for seating. Since each classroom/lab has different seating, multiple seats may need to be skipped, or the number of students sitting at each table will need to be limited, to allow for 6 feet of physical distancing.

#### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND FACE COVERINGS:**

- UND will require students, staff and faculty to wear face coverings out of respect for one another and to diminish the spread of COVID-19. Students will be given two cloth face coverings. Face coverings should be worn in class and in any other interactions on campus. In cases where a student forgets their face covering, faculty members may have additional disposable face coverings available for use.
- Students choosing not to wear a face covering during class will be asked to leave the classroom.
- Students should talk with their instructor via zoom or phone to discuss alternatives to attending class in person if they cannot wear a face covering. In cases where there is no alternative option, students should work with their advisor to discuss dropping the course and finding an alternative online class.
- UND will require 6 feet of physical distancing in all classroom, laboratory, and office settings wherever possible.

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

- In order to maintain physical distancing, faculty office hours may be held by video conference. If a face-to-face meeting is preferred, and the faculty member's office does not provide enough space for appropriate physical distancing, a larger conference room may be used, if available, and if the faculty member is willing to meet in person.

#### **NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SAFETY PROTOCOLS:**

- Faculty members will address concerns with individual students not following established safety protocols (assigned seating, the wearing of face coverings, physical distancing, etc.). Faculty members will review safety protocols with the entire class and then follow up with specific individuals if needed.

- If a student repeatedly refuses to follow established safety protocols the faculty member can ask the student to leave the classroom and refer the situation to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

**IF YOU ARE ILL:**

- You should not attend class. If you are sick, you should send your instructor(s) an email notifying them that you are ill as soon as possible.
- If you attend class with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, your instructor may ask that you leave the classroom and advise you to return immediately to where you are living, self-quarantine, and call UND Student Health (777-4500) or your primary health care provider.
- If you are unable to attend class, you can request an absence notification through the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities at 777-2664, by email at [UND.osrr@UND.edu](mailto:UND.osrr@UND.edu), or online at <https://und.edu/student-life/student-rights-responsibilities/index.html>
- If you are unable to attend class you should email your instructors to arrange ways to stay up-to-date and complete your course(s) online.