



MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty & Instructors
From: Ronald Hendrick, Provost
Date: September 8, 2021
Re: COVID-19 Classroom Guidance

President Schovanc and I are aware of the ongoing campus concerns related to current positive COVID cases, both in Lubbock and on our campus. Some members of the campus community have expressed a desire for greater flexibility in course modalities, while others have conveyed their preference to continue to teach and learn in person as safely as they can. We appreciate your feedback and take your suggestions very seriously. We will continue to review the current situation and revise our guidance as necessary. I join the Deans and university administration in thanking you for your concern and flexibility in these matters and your dedication to our students as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the last few weeks, we've broadened our COVID-19 mitigation efforts to include new signage, mask availability in all classrooms, and updated guidance to instructors. Today, I want to remind and inform you of additional safety measures that have been taken.

To provide greater flexibility in our responses to COVID-19 developments on campus, college Deans are authorized to make additional, temporary changes in course modalities in response to COVID-19 case criteria. These criteria include but are not limited to case prevalence and trajectories in individual course sections. Requests for temporary, two-week modality changes that end no later than October 7, 2021, can be submitted by instructors of record to department chairs via email for recommendation to their college Deans, who will, in turn, notify my office of any changes.

With the support of Operations and IT, we can also offer outdoor classrooms and study spaces with enhanced Wi-Fi capabilities throughout the semester. Many of these spaces were established during the 2020-21 academic year, and we continue to encourage the use of these outdoor spaces. All spaces are available for reservation through the Grounds Use Request Form.

In addition to these outdoor spaces, the large tent classroom will return to the green space to the south of Electrical Engineering no later than September 20. Additional details on facility protocol and available resources can be found on the Operations COVID-19 Protocol webpage.

Thank you again for your input and commitment.