



August 30, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

As we begin the second week of classes, I want to reassure you that the university remains engaged and vigilant as ever. The following update is intended to provide you with new information and resources as we work through this together as a team. Hopefully by now, you have seen President Harroz's video urging students to mask in class. If you have not, you can find it [here](#). Please feel free to share this in your classrooms as a friendly encouragement to our students.

Masks in the Classroom During Quarantine Periods

The Special Pathogen Preparedness Operations Team, the Emergency Operations Committee, and the Executive Policy Group have been monitoring the state of COVID-19 in Norman, Cleveland County, and across the state. There is an understandable amount of concern that we are hearing and we want our protocols to be as responsive as possible while staying within the boundaries of the law. ***To that end, we have determined that should there be a confirmed COVID-19 positive case in your class, the class will continue meeting in-person, but masking will be mandated for 2 weeks during the quarantine period.***

To confirm that a student has tested positive for COVID, we ask the student complete the Passport through the [Healthy Together app](#). This will start the notification process for the student and protect the student's health information. The student will be notified through the app of their screening results and provided additional instructions for next steps as part of their recovery. Students will receive communication and instructions through the Healthy Together app that can also be shared with their instructors. Communication can be forwarded by the student to inform faculty of the need for accommodations and request for extended absence. Faculty can accept the forwarded information from the student to accommodate any possible absence; however, if additional support or communication is required, then students will be asked to contact Student Affairs (studentaffairs@ou.edu). Please share this information with your students and encourage them to download the [Healthy Together app](#).

Faculty Town Halls

Dr. Mark Morvant, Vice Provost for Instruction and Student Success, will host two Faculty Town Halls this week. The first is scheduled for tomorrow, [August 31 from noon until 1:00 p.m.](#) and the second on Wednesday, [September 1 from 1:00-2:00 p.m.](#)

COVID-19 Testing at OU Health Services

All students, faculty, and staff can receive a COVID-19 test through OU Health Services. To cover the cost of the test, individuals are encouraged to file a claim with their insurance provider. Members of the OU community who do not have health insurance will not be charged. To schedule a COVID-19 test, visit healthconnection.ou.edu.

Masking Resources

Some instructional faculty have requested to have access to KN95 masks for their use in the classroom. A limited supply of KN95 masks will be available from the Center for Faculty Excellence (Old Science Hall), from 9:00-1:00 until supplies last. For more information and guidance on masking, please [read the CDC's guide to face coverings](#).

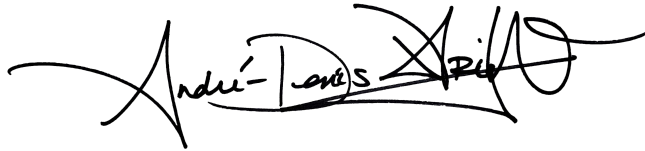
Instructional Continuity Guidance and FAQs for In-Person Instruction

Our Instructional Continuity Guidance and FAQs for in-person instruction is continually being updated and can be found here: [FAQ \(ou.edu\)](#).

Again, please wear your mask, and if you haven't already, and are able to do so, please get vaccinated. Thank you for doing your part to keep us together.

Stay positive and test negative.

With thanks for your partnership and efforts,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "André-Denis Wright", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

André-Denis G. Wright
Senior Vice President and Provost for the Norman campus