

## Fall 2021 | Course Policies and Expectations At-A-Glance

Multiple working groups (comprised of faculty, students, and staff) recommended updates to course policies and instructional guidance for fall 2021. Those recommendations have been accepted by the Provost, after input from the Provost’s Leadership Team. The fall guidance is expected to continue through spring 2022; however, the evolving COVID-19 pandemic could also bring additional revisions.

The chart below summarizes the updates and provides a side-by-side view with last year’s expectations (to make it easier to understand what has changed). *Note: the expectations below apply to all courses on the St. Louis campus except for the School of Medicine and any others as noted in the chart below.*

2021-2022 Academic Year	2020-2021 Academic Year
<p><b>Course Design Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The standards in the University’s Online Course Design Rubric <a href="#">[LINK]</a> are required for all asynchronous online courses (this is a return to regular practice).</li> <li>• Peer Review is optional for asynchronous online courses in fall 2021.</li> <li>• There are no required common standards for in-person courses.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Course Design Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A set of Fall 2020 Virtual Course Design Standards were developed and required for all courses, regardless of modality. Application of the University’s Online Course Design rubric was temporarily suspended for online courses.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Learning Management System (Canvas)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a course uses an LMS, that LMS must be Canvas (except in Law).</li> <li>• In courses that do not use an LMS, instructors are encouraged to include, minimally, their syllabus and contact information in their Canvas course shell (except in Law).</li> <li>• Academic units may require all their courses to use Canvas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Management System (Blackboard)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackboard was required for all courses, regardless of instructional modality.</li> <li>• Common content was loaded into all Blackboard course shells by default.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contingency Plans for Modality Change and Alternative Instructor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructors should work with their Chair/Director/Dean to develop appropriate contingency plans consistent with academic unit expectations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Contingency Plans for Modality Change and Alternative Instructor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructors were required to develop plans for all courses and to submit those plans to their chairs/deans before start of term.</li> </ul>
<p><b>University Attendance Policy/Syllabus Statement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended amendments that students with COVID-19 symptoms are required to absent themselves from in-person classes and class-related activities and that absences due to illness or I/Q are “authorized.”</li> <li>• Updated temporary Syllabus Statement on</li> </ul>	<p><b>University Attendance Policy/Syllabus Statement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amended to specify students with COVID-19 symptoms are required to absent themselves from in-person classes and class-related activities</li> <li>• Amended to specify absences due to illness or I/Q are considered “authorized”</li> </ul>

<p>In-Class Attendance and Participation, which will continue to be required for all in-person classes (except Madrid).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added language that absences due to adverse reaction to COVID-19 vaccine are authorized.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required a temporary syllabus statement on in-person attendance/participation for all in-person courses (except for those in Madrid).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy to Require Syllabus Statement on Masks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended temporary policy that all in-person classes should include the required temporary Syllabus Statement on Face Masks.</li> <li>Updated syllabus statement language to better allow for changes in University requirements regarding face masks.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Policy to Require Syllabus Statement on Masks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common syllabus statement required for all in-person courses in alignment with University's public health safeguards</li> </ul>
<p><b>Distance Education Etiquette Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A common syllabus statement is <i>recommended</i> for all distance courses. This is not a requirement at this time.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Distance Education Etiquette Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common syllabus statement recommended for all courses (due to dual-mode instruction)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Incompletes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will return to regular University policy and process for Incompletes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Incompletes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater flexibility was applied in approving Incompletes due to COVID-19-specific challenges and instructional modalities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grade System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular grading standards will apply for all courses.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grading System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular grading standards applied for all courses (i.e., no special Pass/Fail provisions)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Student Course Evaluations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular policy and process will apply for all courses.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Student Course Evaluations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular policy and process applied for all courses.</li> </ul>