We thank you for your on-going efforts to adapt instruction during the relentless waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to your hard work, we met our goals of providing academic continuity and supporting student success. Our offering of face-to-face and hybrid courses was substantially higher than our peers, many of whom were fully online. In 2020-2021, Purdue students achieved academic outcomes (e.g., GPAs, Credit Hours earned) on par with pre-pandemic semesters. These outcomes are a major achievement with tremendous impact on our students and our university – and we want to acknowledge all you did to make that happen.

The 2021-2022 Instructional Guidance included here is a follow-up to the Fall 2021 semester update from President Daniels and Provost Akridge, which outlined general plans for our academic endeavors in the context of the pandemic. Based on current public health guidance from our Medical Advisory Team, all we have learned to date, and the needs of our students, in-person courses resumed as the default mode of instruction in Fall 2021. Fully online courses should only be offered when they add instructional value and/or as an integral part of a unit’s portfolio of course offerings. Note that medical accommodations, should they be required, could necessitate an online offering, and will be defined by the Medical Advisory Team.

Fall 2021 was a semester of transition. Some of our academic endeavors returned to pre-pandemic ways of functioning, whereas other Protect Purdue protections remained in place. The 2021-2022 Instructional Guidance therefore is a living document that will be updated periodically, with the most recent updates highlighted in yellow. The 11/15/21 message from Dr. Ramirez, “Outlook on the Spring Semester,” points to an intent to take more steps toward normal operations, unless the state of the pandemic prevents it. To assist planning, we provide a summary table that includes the status of updates with completion or target dates.

Importantly, some instructional pandemic practices will likely be kept even after the pandemic, simply because they were really good ideas and impacted learning in a positive way. As you prepare for the balance of the 2021-2022 academic year, consider the innovations and practices that you might retain as you transition your courses and academic programs toward a new post-pandemic residential campus experience.

The 2021-2022 Instructional Guidance, along with all other key references, is posted on the Teaching & Learning Resources webpage on the Innovative Learning website.

Purpose: To provide guidance for academic instruction that
• protects the well-being of faculty, staff, and students based on recommendations from the Protect Purdue Medical Advisory and Implementation Teams.
• reflects our institutional values and identity as a residential campus and a community of students, staff, and faculty engaged in discovery, learning, and engagement with a mission and commitment to transformative education.
• takes advantage of the innovations, new instructional practices, technologies, and lessons learned during the pandemic that improve student learning and success.
• supports the planning of academic units and instructors.

Assumptions
• Spring 2022 will continue to be a transition period with respect to the pandemic.
• Virtually everyone on campus has the opportunity to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
• Protect Purdue will also be in transition with respect to the many layers of protection and steps taken to mitigate and suppress the viral pandemic. Consistently in alignment with medical advice, some layers will remain in place while others will be relaxed.
• Protect Purdue will remain responsive to the pandemic and could at any point pivot should the conditions change; therefore, instructional guidance could be modified at any point as well.

Summary and Status of Instructional Guidance Related to Protect Purdue

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### Protect Purdue Pledge
- All students and instructors are expected to follow the [Protect Purdue Pledge](#), which includes submitting vaccination records or participating in frequent surveillance testing and complying with all Protect Purdue guidance. Non-compliance is a student conduct violation (students) or a violation of employment (instructors).

### Academic Calendar
- 2021-2022 will follow our traditional academic calendar, with normal start and end dates and our typical breaks.

### Classroom Capacities
- All learning spaces, including lab spaces, up to 300 seats will be set at 100% capacity. (updated 5/2021)

### Course Modality
- Fall 2021 resumed the residential delivery of courses under a single course catalog.
- In-person instruction is the default mode of instruction in 2021-2022.
- Accuracy of the official course schedule with respect to intended instructional modality of each course remains critically important as:
  - the official schedule of classes supports many Protect Purdue processes, including but not limited to contact tracing, classroom disinfection schedules, surveillance testing, etc.
  - the schedule provides essential information to students as they make important decisions.
- Online courses are a valuable component of a residential catalog and will continue to be offered post-pandemic as they were pre-pandemic.
- As was practiced pre-pandemic, 100%-online courses should only be included when they add instructional value and/or as part of as an integral part of a unit’s portfolio of course offerings. Possible examples may include:
  - one of multiple sections of a required course to provide flexibility to students for experiential learning opportunities such as co-op.
  - elective courses to enable a broad participation of majors by removing course conflicts
  - high-demand courses for which some online offerings can increase capacity to meet student need.
  - increasing access to unique courses that only a particular individual can teach
  - As was practice prior to the pandemic, Instructors should consult with their department head if planning 100%-online delivery of a course.
  - Curriculum committees, department heads, and college leadership should evaluate the modality of their courses relative to university guidelines and academic program goals.
  - Note that medical accommodations, should they be required, could necessitate an online offering. These situations will be defined by the Medical Advisory Team.
Mask Policies
- The Required COVID-19 Mask Protocols (updated July 30, 2021 and Nov. 1, 2021) are posted to the Protect Purdue website and state that everyone must wear masks in all instructional spaces on the PWL campus.

“Face masks are required in all indoor spaces for everyone on the Purdue University campus, including students, employees and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.”

Classroom Disinfection
- Building Services staff will continue to prioritize the large area disinfection and touch point cleaning. They will also continue to provide self-serve disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizing stations.

Overarching Classroom, Laboratory Instruction, Experiential SOP
- The overarching SOP for Fall 2020 was extended into Spring 2021.
- The overarching SOP was been updated with minor changes for Summer 2021.
  - Most substantive changes were reflective of the updated Summer 2021 travel, events, and visitor policies. In addition, the recommendation to quarantine paper was been removed.
- The overarching SOP was updated with minor changes for Fall 2021.
  - The overarching SOP has been updated with minor changes for Spring 2022.

Midterm and Final Exams
- In-person exams in 2021-2022 will use the same classroom capacities and protocols as 2021-2022 in-person classes.
- Final exam week returned to standard operations during 2021-2022.
  - In-person/hybrid courses may again offer in-person, online, or no final exam
  - 100% online courses will be scheduled for online final exams.
- The recommendation to quarantine paper was removed starting in Summer 2021.

Course Attendance
- For summer 2021, in-person attendance could not be factored into final grades. However, the timely completion of alternative assessments and online participation could be part of the final grade.
  - Instructors are expected to support students who must be absent from in-person attendance (e.g., illness, symptoms, quarantine, isolation etc.).
  - Students are expected to attend in-person courses when they are able.
- Beginning Fall 2021 Academic Attendance Policies returned to standard, pre-COVID policies as outlined in the University Academic Regulations.
  - Students are expected to attend classes for which they are registered.
    - Students must follow all PPHC medical protocols, which may differ depending on the vaccination status of the student.
    - Students with submitted vaccination records will typically not need to quarantine or miss class after a high-risk exposure if asymptomatic.
    - Students must quarantine and may not attend class after a high-risk exposure.
    - Students who are not vaccinated and who test positive must isolate and may not attend class until cleared by the PPHC.
    - Students who have COVID-19 symptoms may not attend class and should contact the PPHC as soon as possible.
  - If a student must quarantine or isolate:
    - Instructors should do their best to accommodate the student either by excusing the student or allowing the student to make up work, when possible.
    - Academic case managers will be available to coach and support students.
Quarantine and Isolation Communication to Instructors

- After a student is directed to quarantine or isolate, they receive a follow-up email from pphc-notification@purdue.edu with the subject line “Student/Employee Campus Access Letter.” Students may choose to forward this email to instructors.
- The Office of the Dean of Students sends out absence notifications directly to all instructors.
- When a student’s time in isolation or quarantine is completed, they receive a second email from PPHC with the subject line “Student/Employee Clearance Letter.” Students are directed to forward this email to faculty before returning to in-person class meetings.
- This process will remain in effect until further notice. See Communication Regarding Students in Isolation & Quarantine for more details.

Instructor & Student Surveillance Testing

- Summer 2021. General surveillance testing was not be required for employees and students this summer. Contact tracing, data, and insights were utilized to inform targeted testing in any potential hot spots on an as-needed basis.
- Fall 2021. Routine surveillance testing began Aug. 23, as outlined in the Details for Normal Operations for Fall 2021 on the Protect Purdue website, for faculty, staff, and students.
  - Faculty, staff, and students who submit vaccine documentation are exempt from surveillance testing.
  - Faculty and staff designated as 100% remote will be exempt from routine surveillance testing.
- Spring 2022. Routine surveillance testing will continue into January 2022. See the November 15th message from Dr. Ramirez for the current “Outlook on the Spring Semester.”

Instructor Support

Resources and support for course instructors will continue to be a top priority including but not limited to support for Brightspace, course design/set-up, student success, and accessibility. For suggestions, questions, or assistance email innovativelearningteam@purdue.edu.

- Teaching & Learning Technologies Training & Consultations Calendar
- Libraries and School of Information Studies Resources and Services for Instructors
- Technology Advocate to Support Classes