COVER MESSAGE TO INSTRUCTORS

Pursuant to state and University System of Georgia (USG) rules, we cannot ask our students or fellow employees for proof of their vaccination status, and we should not treat vaccinated and un-vaccinated individuals differently unless dictated by law or applicable guidance. In addition, students should not be asked about their vaccine status and segregated in a classroom or from other instructor-student interactions (e.g., office hours, group work, field trips, labs, etc.) based on their vaccination status. However, students may be required by off-campus partnering organizations to wear masks and/or be vaccinated as a condition of participation in experiential learning opportunities such as study abroad programs, externships and delivery of medical services.

The UGA class attendance policy has not changed. Instructors still have the flexibility to adapt and enforce an attendance policy that best suits their classes. It is strongly encouraged that instructors clearly describe their attendance policy on their syllabus to make students aware of the classroom expectations as early as possible. UGA is a residential campus where classroom attendance always has been an important part of the educational experience.

For those students who test positive for COVID-19, instructors should accommodate them as they normally would have accommodated ill students before the pandemic. Student Care and Outreach will coordinate care and support for students who must isolate or quarantine due to exposure or symptoms related to COVID-19. Student Care and Outreach will continue to notify faculty should students report a positive COVID-19 test result through DawgCheck.

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS FOR FALL 2021 CLASSES

Face coverings and social distancing:
Following guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the University System of Georgia, face coverings are no longer required inside campus facilities, including classrooms. However, unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing face coverings while inside campus facilities and socially distancing from others when possible.

How can I obtain the COVID-19 vaccine?
University Health Center is scheduling appointments for students through the UHC Vaccine Portal. Learn more here – https://www.uhs.uga.edu/healthtopics/covid-vaccine.
What do I do if I have COVID-19 symptoms?
Students showing COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in. For emergencies and after-hours care, see, https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies.

What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19?
If you test positive for COVID-19 at any time, you are **required to report it** through the DawgCheck Test Reporting Survey. We encourage you to stay at home if you become ill or until you have excluded COVID-19 as the cause of your symptoms. UGA adheres to current CDC quarantine and isolation **guidance** and requires that it be followed.

**Guidelines for COVID-19 Quarantine Period (Revised 6/7/21)**
Effective Jan. 4, 2021, students who learn they have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms should self-quarantine for **10 days** (consistent with updated Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines). Those quarantining for 10 days must have been symptom-free throughout the monitoring period. Please correspond with your instructor via email, with a cc: to Student Care & Outreach at sco@uga.edu, to coordinate continuing your coursework while self-quarantined.

We strongly encourage students to voluntarily take a COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the end of the 10-day quarantine period (test to be administered between days 8 and 10). Students may schedule a free test at the University Health Center by visiting https://clia.vetview.vet.uga.edu/.

If the test done on days 8-10 is negative, the individual may return to campus on day 10, but MUST continue to closely monitor for any new COVID-19 symptoms through 14 days. Dawgcheck is the best method for monitoring these symptoms. If new symptoms occur, the individual must not come to campus and must seek further testing/evaluation.

If the test is positive at the end of the 10-day period, the individual must begin a 10-day isolation period from the date of the test.

Students, faculty and staff who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 are no longer required to quarantine if they have been fully vaccinated against the disease and show no symptoms.

**Monitoring conditions:**
Note that the guidance referenced in this syllabus is subject to change based on recommendations from the Georgia Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control, Governor’s Office or University System of Georgia. For the latest on UGA policy, you can visit coronavirus.uga.edu.