An update: In the Presence of COVID-19: Teaching and Learning Framework for the 2021-2022 Academic Year

December 3, 2021
# Table of Contents

**Teaching and Learning Framework for the 2021-2022 Academic Year** ........................................... 3

- **Context** ........................................................................................................................................... 3

**Fall 2021** ........................................................................................................................................... 3

- **Fall 2021 Teaching and Learning: An Overview** ................................................................................. 4
- **Health, Safety, and Wellness Updates** ................................................................................................. 4

**Winter 2022** ......................................................................................................................................... 4

- **Winter 2022 Teaching and Learning: An Overview** ................................................................................. 4
- **Health, Safety, and Wellness Updates** ................................................................................................. 5
An Update: In the Presence of COVID-19: Teaching and Learning Framework for the 2021-2022 Academic Year

Context

The COVID-19 pandemic abruptly and dramatically changed the process of teaching and learning at the University of Regina, its Federated Colleges, and other partner institutions in March 2020. From that point forward, the Winter 2020 term was completed through remote delivery - including all teaching, assignments, quizzes, labs, group work and examinations at the Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert campuses, the Federated Colleges, and at partner institutions such as the Regional Colleges.

Over the 2020-2021 academic year, the University undertook a gradual and carefully measured restoration of in-person coursework.

Spring/Summer 2020 term took place entirely through remote delivery of coursework.

The Fall 2020 term was offered primarily through remote delivery, with a limited number of low-density in-person course components (including labs, studios and fieldwork) held on campus. This approach was also mirrored in the Spring/Summer 2021 term.

Winter 2021 term also took place mostly through remote delivery, with approximately 600 discrete students taking in-person courses and course components.

A dramatic surge in the number of “variants of concern” infections (including the Delta variant) in Regina necessitated that all in-person courses transitioned to remote instruction on March 29, 2021. Planning for the Fall 2021 took place while this surge was occurring not only in Regina, but throughout the Province.

Fall 2021 was framed a transitional term with approximately 4,500 students on campus taking face-to-face coursework (16% of all courses/course components offered) and remote, online, or web-based learning. For background, the detailed 2020-2021 Teaching and Learning Framework that guided the University’s academic operations during the first year of the pandemic may be viewed here.

Fall 2021 Health, Safety, and Wellness Updates

The availability and uptake of vaccines, mandated masking, and physical distancing permitted us to increase the presence of people on campus and to engage in a managed re-opening of the University. Therefore, the following changes were implemented:

- Elimination of access points;
• Opening of computer labs;
• Increased access to the Library;
• Increased access to recreation and athletic facilities;
• Student supportive study spaces throughout the campus; and
• Food services (limited) on campus, eg., URSU tenants, Luther Cafeteria.

Additionally, as of October 1, 2021, the University required that all students, faculty, and staff declare their vaccination status, including (for example) proof of full vaccination (PoV) through UR Self Service. Students, faculty, and staff who were not fully vaccinated for any reason, or who chose not to disclose their vaccination status, were required to undergo regular, rapid antigen testing and receive ongoing negative test results to attend any University of Regina campus in person. Rapid antigen testing centres were established on the main campus of the University and at the College Avenue Campus. All costs for such tests were borne by the University. These conditions were also in place for students enrolled in the First Nations University of Canada in Saskatoon and Prince Albert. First Nations University also covered the testing costs for students in these locations.

Please note that the following COVID-19 protocols and guidelines were in effect for Fall 2021 for on-campus attendance of courses and/or course components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mask guidelines &amp; hand hygiene</th>
<th>Ongoing evaluations of ventilation rates &amp; air exchanges</th>
<th>Improved filtration through upgraded air filters</th>
<th>Daily self-monitoring for COVID symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical distancing &amp; low density</td>
<td>Online e-training</td>
<td>Course approvals by Deans</td>
<td>IPCAT-approved room assignments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Note: In Fall 2021 all individuals on campus are expected to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or participate in the rapid antigen testing program.

For additional information about Fall 2021 Teaching and Learning please refer to the information found here.

Winter 2022

A significant return to in-person teaching and learning

Winter 2022 Teaching and Learning: An Overview

The Winter 2022 term will constitute a significant re-opening of the University, with an emphasis on face-to-face courses, but also with the presence of remote course offerings. The majority of all courses (target = 80%) will be offered as face-to-face and on-campus. Students
and faculty are expected to be geographically proximal to the University as appropriate. Remote course modalities (online, hybrid, hyflex) will also be offered to ensure strategic access for students at-a-distance or for those more local students who greatly value the flexibility and access provided by remote course modalities.

A guide to understanding the Winter 2022 class schedule has been developed by the Registrar’s Office and can be found here.

Please note that the following COVID-19 protocols and guidelines will continue to be implemented in Winter 2022 for on-campus attendance of courses and/or course components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mask guidelines &amp; hand hygiene</th>
<th>Improved ventilation rates &amp; air exchanges</th>
<th>Improved filtration through upgraded air filters</th>
<th>Daily self-monitoring for COVID symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PoV or negative test requirement for In-Person Activities</td>
<td>Online e-training</td>
<td>Course modality approvals by Deans/Directors</td>
<td>PoV or ongoing testing requirement for faculty, students and staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winter 2022 Health, Safety, and Wellness Updates
The Winter 2022 term will see changes to the Fall 2021 PoV requirements on campus. These changes include:

- All students, faculty and staff are required to submit a vaccination declaration for Winter 2022 in the UR Self Service portal by December 1, 2021 (note: individuals who already have a status of “Vaccinated: documents accepted” need not resubmit their declaration).
- Detailed information about these and other requirements regarding Winter 2022 can be found here.
- Health, Safety, and Wellness information and COVID-19 Resources (including response procedures if an individual is ill) can be found here.