

**School of Education's Position on Flexible Learning During COVID-19: Autumn 2021 Quarter**  
**Updated: June 08, 2021 (Endorsed by Dean, Faculty, and Staff)**

The School of Education at UW Tacoma recognizes the significant impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our community, nation, and world. Our main priority is ensuring our community's health, safety, and well-being. This statement describes the endorsed school-wide efforts to best support all faculty, staff, and students during these challenging times. *Note: specific academic programs within the School of Education may offer more detailed statements about course delivery and expectations.*

Irrespective of course delivery and format, faculty and staff in the School of Education are committed to continue to provide all students with high-quality instruction along with high levels of support. All faculty, staff, and students are expected to be as compassionate and flexible with each other/together as possible as we work through the autumn 2021 quarter and beyond in a flexible learning environment until the pandemic ends.

***All instructors are expected to:***

1. Communicate information about their course formats to students before the first day of the quarter.
2. Discuss whether they are using asynchronous and/or synchronous learning options, as well as format (i.e., using distance learning/virtual, hybrid, or in-person options).
3. Make synchronous course content accessible to students who are unable to participate in distance-based or in-person course sessions. Instructors may either provide asynchronous options for students to approximate missed class time and/or record live sessions and make the content accessible for a reasonable period of time. Students will not be penalized for missing a synchronous course session.

***All students are expected to:***

1. Directly contact their course instructor(s) to discuss any extenuating circumstances that may interfere with their ability to fully participate in class(es) with as much lead notice as possible and/or with questions about a specific course(s).
2. Inform their academic advisor of any expected or unexpected delays or interruptions to their program of study to ensure they receive timely guidance on options, resources, and/or support available. Academic advisors are able to direct students to several campus and university resources, including Counseling Services, Emergency Aid, disAbility Resources, Veteran & Military Resource Center, and so forth.
3. Continue adhering to the [UW Tacoma Student Code of Conduct](#) in coursework and clinical/fieldwork/practicum, as well as in other interactions, whether in-person or virtually, with other UW Tacoma faculty, staff, and students. *Note: some academic programs may have more specific conduct or dispositions policies that enrolled students will also need to follow.*

Students may also visit UW Tacoma's COVID-19 resource page for more information: <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/chancellor/coronaviruscovid-19-facts-resources>