

5/8/20

## Curriculum Planning for Fall 2020, Part 1

Dear Faculty Colleagues -

What follows is some preliminary thinking about how to prepare for instruction this coming fall.

None of us know how prevalent COVID-19 will be when classes begin in October. We remain subject to guidance from Governor Inslee, and will align the college's operations with the phases of his ["Safe Start" policy plan](#). For fall quarter 2020, we will plan our curriculum for the event that we are in Phase 3, with contingencies if we are not. Phase 3 means **we are planning for fall on a hybrid footing (see below), with a mix of in-person and remote instruction.**

However, not fully knowing our future, we may need to potentially deliver instruction in phases 1, 2, or 3 of the Governor's plan. What are these phases?

- **Phase 1** corresponds to near-fully remote instruction, with possible exceptions for lower-risk activities, such as individual research or outdoor instruction at the farm, provided very strict health and safety protocols are in place. We are doing health and safety planning to allow for a limited number of phase 1 activities to start later in spring quarter.
- **Phase 2** corresponds to mostly remote instruction, allowing for occasional exceptions, such as outdoor activities in groups of 5 or less, with health and safety protocols in place. We hope that we will be in phase 2 in the first Summer Session.
- **Phase 3** corresponds to hybrid instruction. **We are planning for this phase in fall 2020, where:**
  - some offerings and parts of offerings will happen remotely, likely large lectures, workshops, and seminars;
  - some in-person instruction for small groups, subject to classroom occupancy constraints, may proceed under strict health and safety protocols, likely in labs, studios, and in outdoor spaces on campus; and
  - some field trips may be possible with approval.

We could enter Phase 3 as early as second summer session. We are planning select offerings for that possibility.

Whenever possible, we will ask faculty offering in-person instruction to develop alternate activities or assignments, to be completed remotely, for those students who cannot attend in person. Likewise, we will accommodate those faculty who request to teach remotely due to COVID-19 related family care, quarantine, or elevated risk.

More information will be provided at a special faculty meeting **on Monday, May 11, from 4-5 pm, via Zoom.** (A link will be provided separately.) At the meeting we will discuss planning for fall instruction, gather feedback on the planning process, and share how we are developing health and safety plans. More details will follow via email on Tuesday, May 12.

Sincerely -  
The Academic Deans