

Fall 2021

Covid-19 FAQ for faculty and staff

,

Teaching

Do students have to check in when they come to campus?

Everybody must complete a health self-assessment before coming to campus and stay home when sick. No temperatures are being taken.

Do I have to wear a mask when I am teaching in the classroom?

You do not need to wear a mask while teaching or delivering a presentation or lecture, provided you are at least two metres apart from, or if there is a physical barrier between, you and your students.

Do students have to wear a mask in the classroom?

Yes. When presenting and keeping a distance of at least two metres from others they may remove their mask.

However, some students may be exempt from wearing a mask. (See *Exemptions* below.)

Can students take off their masks in the classroom while eating and drinking?

Yes. When done, they need to put their mask back on.

What do I do when a student in my classroom appears to be a bit under the weather or is obviously sick?

Everybody must complete a health self-assessment before coming to campus and stay home when sick.

What should I do if I have a student who is supposed to be writing a midterm exam but claims they are sick? (or has been directed by a healthcare professional to self-isolate due to close contact?)

There is no simple answer. This is a conversation between you and your student.

Fall 2021

Covid-19 FAQ for faculty and staff

Can I decide to switch my class to online learning if I don't feel safe to teach in this environment, even if only for a week or two?

No, we have been instructed by the provincial health officer to resume in-person learning and services.

If I am not feeling well, can I move my class into online learning for that lesson, so that my students don't fall behind?

No. Per the directives from the provincial health officer, if you do not pass your health self-assessment, do not come to campus. We do value you, and the best thing for you to do is to stay home and take care of yourself. Likewise, if you have been instructed to self-isolate, do not come to campus, even if you may be feeling well.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19? Does the whole class have to quarantine?

Northern Health is responsible for contact tracing and advising those deemed at risk.

Facilities

I have a small office. Can I hold my office hours online? Can I refuse to meet with a student who comes to my door for assistance?

You cannot refuse to meet with a student face to face. You must wear your mask when you do. If you suspect the student is ill, ask whether they've done their health self-assessment. If they cannot pass their assessment, send them home.

When sharing offices, for example hot desking, do I have to clean the space every time I use the shared desks?

All spaces are cleaned routinely. Heightened cleaning protocols are no longer needed as surface transmission of Covid-19 is not a significant risk. If you would like to clean your shared desk before you use it, cleaning wipes are available.

Fall 2021

Covid-19 FAQ for faculty and staff

What do I have to do in terms of cleaning if I am teaching in a computer lab, shared throughout the day with other instructors and students?

All spaces are cleaned routinely. Heightened cleaning protocols are no longer needed as surface transmission of Covid-19 is not a significant risk.

Is working of meeting in small spaces safe? What about distancing protocols.

All mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems are designed, operated, and maintained in accordance with WorkSafeBC requirements and ASHRAE Standards for indoor air quality, and are working properly.

There are no distancing measures in place; however, keeping a distance of at least two metres from your students when teaching will allow you to remove your mask.

What do I if I notice a student in student housing who appears to be sick?

Students living in student housing follow the same protocols as students coming to campus to learn. Should they fail their health self-assessment, they will stay home in their suite.

Exemptions

What do I do when I have a student who says they are exempt?

Students must see our access services coordinator, following our processes for any other accommodations. When granted, students will receive a letter acknowledging that they have been exempt from mask wearing.

What do I do when I come across another employee who says they are exempt?

We will follow our formal accommodation process for all employees with limitations and restrictions, verified by appropriate medical documentation.

Fall 2021

Covid-19 FAQ for faculty and staff

,

General

What do I do if I am living with someone who is immuno-compromised? I do not want to put a family member at risk should I become infected.

We are following all directives issued by the provincial health officer to ensure everybody's safety. What have you been doing up until now to keep your immune compromised loved one safe when shopping groceries, for example?

September 9, 2021