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**Coronavirus (COVID-19) information for FIU Law students regarding Fall 2020 instruction**

This document contains answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding the changes implemented to the instruction of courses during the Fall of 2020 in response to the coronavirus pandemic. We will update these FAQs as circumstances change.

**Remote Learning And Other Teaching Modalities**

1. **How are classes going to be offered during the Fall semester?**

The university has laid out four delivery modes:

* In Person (Face-to-Face), Mode P: These are courses where faculty and/or some or all students are to meet in a classroom on campus. For example, the professor and some students may be in the classroom while the remaining students are taking class synchronously remotely; or the professor may be teaching remotely and some or all students may be in the classroom. Classes are to meet at the regularly scheduled days and times.
* Hybrid/Other (Hybrid), Mode Q: These are courses where faculty and/or students are to meet in a classroom on campus (similar to Face-to-Face) for 1/3 to 2/3 of the class sessions with the remaining class sessions taught remotely with neither faculty nor students in a classroom on campus. On-campus classes are to meet at the regularly scheduled days and times. Remote class sessions may be synchronous (at the regularly scheduled days and times), asynchronous, or a mix.
* Synchronous Remote, Mode R: These are courses taught fully remotely, with neither faculty nor students in a classroom on campus. A minimum of 50% of the class is taught synchronously (at the regularly scheduled days and times). The remaining class sessions may be asynchronous.
* Asynchronous Fully Online, Mode I: These are courses taught fully remotely and asynchronously, with neither faculty nor students in a classroom on campus. Students are charged an additional $30 per credit for these courses.

Each faculty member, in consultation with the administration, has chosen the delivery mode that best accommodates each course objective, content, and format. Information regarding the delivery mode for each course will be posted in a color-coded schedule starting on July 1st. More detailed information, such as assignments, assessment modes, and other course requirements will be included in the course syllabi.

1. **Is there a fee associated with the enrollment in asynchronous courses?**

Yes, the state legislature and the university impose a fee of an additional $30 per credit, for a maximum of $90 per course, on asynchronous online courses. The other three delivery modes do not have any additional fees.

1. **Can I opt to participate remotely in a class being delivered Face-to-Face?**

Yes. To protect the health of members of the FIU community, you can participate remotely even in a class designated as Face-to-Face.

1. **I am in a clinic, externship, simulation, or other experiential course. How will I participate remotely?**

The legal clinic, externship, and pro bono programs will host an orientation program to alert students to new policies and procedures adopted in response to Covid-19. The legal clinic and externship courses will be offered remotely. Supervising attorneys and clinical students will primarily work remotely and meet with clients only on an “as needed” basis.

1. **Can an instructor require me to use more than one learning platform for a course?**

Yes. University and College of Law policy does not require the exclusive use of any one platform. For example, an instructor may use Canvas® for some purposes, such as to take attendance and conduct on-line lectures, while using TWEN® for others.

1. **Can an instructor require me to appear on-screen during class time or deduct participation points if I refuse to do so?**

Yes, although an instructor may make an exception if a student has a compelling reason. Ordinarily, an instructor may determine that your on-screen presence best serves the course’s learning outcomes.

**Registration**

1. **How does the reduction in classroom size affect slots for key classes?**

We do not expect a significant impact. As indicated in the memorandum circulated on June 26th, class capacity will be determined by the Registrar based on the structure of a course, pedagogical or programmatic reasons. The courses typically subject to this limitation are, (i) seminars (15 students), (ii) LSV III (8 students per section), (iii) Trial Advocacy (6 students per section), and (iv) Advanced Trial Advocacy (6 students per section). Additionally, enrollment in some courses might be subject to instructor’s consent (e.g. Advanced Trial Advocacy, Law & Procedure: U.S. and Florida). When demand exceeds available spots, seats will be allocated by a wait list maintained by the Registrar among those with equal priority.

1. **If I register for a class coded as In Person (Face-to-Face), will a remote option be available, and must I attend classes in-person?**

Each Face-to-Face class will have a means for students to attend and participate remotely. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the attendance policy for each class, as outlined in the respective syllabus prepared by the professor.

1. **Will the registration system allow you to register for 2 remote synchronous classes offered at the same time?**

No. This would be like registering for two Face-to-Face classes at the same time. Student cannot be in two places, or in two classes, at the same time.

1. **When will students have to elect whether they will attend classes in person or remotely?**

Procedures and dates are still being determined in consultation with the university. Please watch your email for further information.

**Attendance**

1. **Can the instructor determine how attendance will be taken?**

Yes. The instructor can choose to take attendance through Canvas®, TWEN®, or another way.

1. **Does the asynchronous modality eliminate the need for attendance?**

An attendance requirement is really a work requirement, so while you don’t need to attend a specific class at a pre-set time when the course is asynchronous, you still need to do work and complete the assignment as instructed by the professor.

1. **I may need to travel at some point and may need to miss live virtual classes. Will I be penalized if I need to watch recordings rather than join live sessions?**

You should treat a synchronous remote class the same way as an ordinary in-person class and make every possible effort to attend. The professor’s attendance policy will determine whether watching a recording is equivalent to joining a live session.

**Accommodations**

1. **I have accommodations for a disability. How will virtual instruction affect my ability to participate in class?**

Students who have recommended accommodations from the FIU Disability Resource Center will continue to receive all of their recommended accommodations for all forms of virtual instruction. The FIU Law Office of Student Services will work with professors to implement students’ accommodations. Incoming students who require educational accommodations must register with the FIU Disability Resource Center, and should contact Dr. Stephen Loynaz to set up an appointment (loynazs@fiu.edu; 305-348 7617).

**Academic Integrity**

1. **How does the** [**FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code**](https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/student-conduct-and-honor-code/index.php) **apply to classes being delivered remotely?**

All of the Code’s provisions about academic integrity continue to apply. For example, if an instructor advises students that content posted on-line may not be screen captured, or shared, a student engaging in any of those activities violates the Code. The fact that a learning platform permits such activities does not mean that a student is authorized to use these functions. If in doubt students should consult with the instructor.

**Access**

1. **Will my professors still be holding office hours?**

Yes, faculty will still hold remote office hours. These will be via Zoom or telephone. Please consult your professors or reach out to them.

1. **Can I use my personal email account when using Canvas, Twen, or other learning platform?**

No. Your University email is your email of record. You will receive important communications through that email. A student disregards this requirement at her own risk.

1. **I don't have access to my casebooks. What do I do?**

Casebook access is determined by the publisher. Please search in the Law Library’s FAQ to find information about specific publishers. Many professors have adopted electronic casebooks for Fall 2020, and many are provided as Law Library resources. Please review the Booklist for adoption information and access URLs.

* [Understanding Series](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/294102)
* [West Academic ebook Discount](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/313135)
* [West Academic Assessment](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/292964)
* [Carolina Academic Press](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/291372)
1. **How can students access library resources remotely?**

Students can leverage law library resources via the virtual research and reference support services at our [website](https://law.fiu.edu/library).

* [FIU Law Student Resource Support Services](http://libguides.law.fiu.edu/student_resourcesupport)
* [FIU Libraries Remote Services](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/292150)
* [ILL and UBorrow Services](https://libanswers.law.fiu.edu/faq/292184)

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