Weekly COVID-19 Task Force Announcement

Sharing information regarding the academic planning activities for the NPS Summer Quarter

2021 14 May 2021

Updated DOD Mask Guidance:
The Deputy Secretary of Defense signed on May 13 an updated mask guidance that said:

"...fully vaccinated DoD personnel (who are at least two weeks beyond their final dose) are no longer required to wear a mask indoors or outdoors at DoD facilities. All DoD personnel should continue to comply with CDC guidance regarding areas where masks should be worn, including within airports. Personnel who are not fully vaccinated should continue to follow applicable DoD mask guidance, including continuing to wear masks indoors."

Fully vaccinated is two weeks past second dose for Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or two weeks past single dose for J&J vaccine

All other current health protection measures such as social/physical distancing remain in effect.

Command Guidance:
President Rondeau has approved the plan to have the summer quarter taught in hybrid-mode. The current goal is to have at least 50% of classes in residence with at least 50% of students experiencing in-person classes, and the remainder delivered either in hybrid-mode or DL-mode. The safety of faculty, students and staff remains the top priority.

Classroom/Lab Scheduling & Availability:
Current classroom capacity is under 45-50% of the normal capacity due to CDC 6-feet social-distancing guideline. To ascertain teaching-mode preferences, a survey was sent to faculty who will be teaching in the next Quarter. The following chart shows the most illustrative question, indicating that almost 75% of the faculty (92 among 124 respondents) require or prefer to teach in Resident mode in the Summer Quarter.

3. In what format will you teach this course:

- I must have this course sched... 10
- I prefer to teach in Resident for... 82
- I prefer to remain in the DL for... 32
Classrooms are being evaluated for safety (capacity, ventilation, etc.) to determine use [see Safety Update]. Alternative spaces, such as larger conference rooms are being added to the pool of available classroom spaces to provide capacity for in-residence learning. Limited capacity will likely impact room preferences.

The survey gave the respondents the opportunity to reiterate the requests that would facilitate their return to campus. The Scheduling Office expects to release the schedule on or before June 4th and will do their best to honor changes. Changes to the posted schedule will need to follow this scheduling workflow. The Scheduling Office will be available once the schedule is posted to help facilitate room adjustments.

For scheduling questions: scheduling@nps.edu

Safety Update:

According to our Director of Safety, Health and Environmental, 66 classrooms are currently approved for use, with limited capacity, sufficient for 643 seats (464 seats in windowed rooms and 179 in windowless). Classrooms with windows are approved for use.

Safety testing of classrooms (ventilation, air flow, etc.) has been occurring throughout this past year, and has included repairs to some ventilation systems. Over the next month an additional 20 windowless classrooms will be tested, significantly expanding the number of available rooms.

A waiver request was approved for fully vaccinated faculty to teach without masks, socially distanced. If all students are vaccinated, students may also unmask. The honor system applies as inquiry concerning vaccination status is prohibited. Honor, Courage, Commitment!

While 3-foot social distancing is allowed in K-12 classrooms, 6-foot social distancing remains the official DoD guidelines for indoors.

Vaccinations are widely available and encouraged. Once you get your vaccine, it is very important for NPS planning that you please update the NPS Vaccine Tracking.

For further information: https://nps.edu/web/safety/coronavirus

Other Academic Spaces:

In addition to classrooms and labs, other spaces on campus are being made available to the during the summer quarter for use as socially-distanced study or meeting spaces. This addresses student concern of having a place to go between scheduled classes or for use for a DL class while on campus. The Dudley Knox Library is making plans to re-open with socially-distanced study spaces and modified services.
Technical Support:

ITACS, in conjunction with GEAC, is working on increasing the technology capabilities of NPS classrooms, outfitting the classrooms across campus with hybrid capabilities. Information on the use of hybrid classrooms and the status capabilities is available on the NPS Wiki:

- **Hybrid How-to: NPS Classrooms**
- **List of Hybrid Enabled Classrooms**, with specific details of rooms and individual capabilities
- For further information, click [HERE](#)

Instructional Support:

The Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) and the Graduate Education Advancement Center (GEAC) look forward to more faculty and students returning to campus for instructional activities in the coming months. To begin this transition, faculty are encouraged to incorporate blended/hybrid instructional opportunities throughout the quarter for specific purposes such as review/tutorial sessions, labs, regular classes with social distancing, project work, independent study, and advisory sessions.

For additional ideas and help getting started contact Ali Rodgers: arogers@nps.edu

Resources for course design and technology & pedagogy integration: geacinstrdesign@nps.edu

The **Teaching and Learning Commons (TLC)**, coordinates a variety of helpful resources that support hybrid learning and instruction.

For further information and to review instructional resources, visit [TLC website](#). For personal assistance, contact: TLC@nps.edu

NSAM Updates:

For further information related to guidance, services, and activities under the command of Naval Support Authority Monterey please see:

[https://www.nps.edu/web/NSAM](https://www.nps.edu/web/NSAM)
[https://www.nps.edu/web/NSAM/news-and-announcements](https://www.nps.edu/web/NSAM/news-and-announcements)

_Please send feedback, relevant inputs or corrections to Geraldo Ferrer, Dennis Lester or Tom Rosko._