

Dear Colleagues and Graduate Teaching Assistants,

I hope your first week of School of going well. Senior VPAA Dan Reed would like remind us of the following:

1. Copyright issues associated with instruction modalities—the law is different for in-person and online (synchronous and asynchronous) courses. As Associate General Counsel Michele Ballantyne notes, “There is a “face-to-face” teaching exception in federal copyright law that permits the use of images and certain music in in-person teaching that does not apply in the online teaching context. The TEACH Act addresses this gap and provides some protection for online teaching, but not the same kind of blanket coverage professors enjoy in face-to-face teaching.” Please see the attached guidelines.

2. Instructors must accommodate the instructional needs of students who are (a) quarantined or self-isolated due to COVID-19 or (b) who have ADA accommodation needs. In addition, PLEASE be flexible and supportive in helping those students who are enrolled in in-person or hybrid courses who have personal issues or concerns about in-person attendance.

3. Instructors should also encourage students to reach out for 1:1 discussions of concerns and/or consult with advisors about courses modality mixes and degree completion. We offer courses in multiple modalities, and advisors can help students find a mix of courses that satisfy their needs/concerns and graduation requirements. Finally, in many cases, instructors teaching in-person or hybrid/in-person courses can record and post their live lectures to Canvas. A large fraction of our general assignment classrooms now have “one touch” recording capability that only requires plugging in a laptop and starting recording – this can also help students who have health concerns.

See <https://support.tlt.utah.edu/hc/en-us/articles/360046234671-USB-Video-Capture-Classrooms-Fall-2020> for details on classroom recording. Teaching and Learning Technologies (TLT) also stands ready to help.

4. SVP Mike Good’s weekly COVID-19 public health update is available here: <https://uofuhealth.utah.edu/notes/postings/2020/08/covid-19-weekly-update-8-25-20.php>

5. As we do each fall, we are distributing our annual notification of University policies. You should have received a copy by email yesterday. Please familiarize yourself with these policies.

6. If there is a COVID-19 symptom reporting issue for yourself, an employee or a student, please fill out the self-report form, accessible via <https://coronavirus.utah.edu/> You can call the hotline for additional guidance at 801-213-2874.

Finally, I'm taking this opportunity to provide a link to some answers about the about the University's Covid 19 testing and tracing plan. This webinar from 8.20.20 presented by the senior leadership of the University and University officials involved in testing and tracing offers some insight:

<https://attheu.utah.edu/facultystaff/return-to-campus-final-update-and-our-testing-tracing-plan/>

Thank you,

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