

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS DURING REMOTE INSTRUCTION – AY20-21 (9-17-2020)

These policies may be adjusted as needed on a quarterly basis.

Required technology

Students enrolled for classes in the School of Physical Sciences during 2020-21 academic year are required to have access to a computer that meets the [minimum requirements](#) laid out by the university (note that Chromebooks and tablets do not meet the requirements), as well as robust access to the internet with enough bandwidth to handle audio and video. Students who do not have access to a computer or the internet should immediately request a loan from the [Student Equipment Campus Loan Program](#) by October 2. If a student expects to lack access to a computer or the internet for extended periods of time, they should contact their instructor to discuss their options.

Attendance policies for students:

Students should be available for course activities during the times listed by the Registrar in the Schedule of Classes for that course. If the scheduled times create particular hardship, students should contact the instructor to see if exceptions can be made. Instructors cannot require students to be available at times other than those laid out in the Schedule of Classes.

Student engagement and webcam requirements

Instructors may require students to turn on their webcams during remotely proctored exams in order to preserve academic integrity.

Assessment and recommendations in case of course disruption:

Students should expect to complete the assessments laid out in the syllabus. The campus offers [many resources](#) for students experiencing stress.

- If a student experiences an unexpected emergency that prevents completion of their UCI coursework, then they should contact the academic advisors for their School.
- If a student experiences an unexpected emergency that prevents completion of a particular assignment or assignments, then they should contact their instructor immediately to discuss potential options.
- Students should restrict requests for accommodation to their own personal circumstances, not the circumstances of others.

Note: While in a remote learning format, students are in many different living situations and even different countries. We cannot predict all circumstances that may occur during the quarter and events are unlikely to affect all students equally. We want to encourage students experiencing specific hardships to come to instructors personally on behalf of themselves. Form e-mail campaigns on behalf of others can have a negative impact on students affected by a situation, as the volume of emails make it difficult to reply to specific requests from these individuals. We encourage students not to draw attention away from the very students they are trying to help by organizing such campaigns. Instructors will respond in a way that makes sense for the individual student and the class to preserve fairness.

Who to Contact if a problem arises?

1. First, students should contact the Instructor of Record to resolve issues related to the course.
2. Second, if the issue cannot be resolved with the instructor, then the student should contact the Department offering the course.
3. Finally, if the Department cannot resolve the issue then the student should contact David Van Vranken, the Associate Dean of the School of Physical Sciences: dlvanvra@uci.edu.