

Greetings,

As the start of a new academic year approaches, many of us no doubt are experiencing a combination of anticipation and apprehension. While we are eager to continue supporting the College of Engineering's mission by providing a transformative educational experience for our students, the COVID-19 pandemic remains a serious concern and will continue to affect how we operate.

Our top priority at all times is the health, safety, and success of students, faculty, and staff. Toward that end, OSU has committed to a reduced on-campus presence during fall term, as [announced Tuesday by President F. King Alexander and Provost Ed Feser](#). Understandably, there are a lot of questions about what the fall term will look like. This message aims to answer at least some of those questions, and to establish some parameters for how we can keep learning, teaching, and working while taking reasonable precautions to contribute the community's safety.

- The college will accommodate all requests from students who wish to take engineering courses remotely.
- Course delivery modalities (see the definition of instructional modalities below) will be prioritized by balancing students' needs for in-person interactions with health and safety measures:
 - First-year general engineering orientation course (i.e., ENGR 199) will be offered remotely. ENGR 199 is an equivalent substitute for any program-specific 101 course.
 - CS 101 and ECE 111 will be offered remotely.
 - Other program-specific first-year engineering orientation courses (i.e., CBEE 101, CCE 101, MIME 101) that are scheduled to be delivered in the blended modality will also accommodate remote delivery requests.
 - All sophomore and junior-level courses will be delivered remotely.
 - Senior-level courses requiring on-campus experiences will be available as necessary.
 - Our advising team can help with specific questions.
 - Some of your questions may be answered by reviewing the information and resources below.
- The university and College of Engineering will continue to work under a scalable set of operational levels that will be based upon local public health conditions. For more information on the university's operational and public health policies and plans, please visit [COVID-19 website](#).
- All students should familiarize themselves with OSU's safety policies.

I encourage you to continue to engage your creativity and engineering skills to find innovative ways to support each other. Together, we can meet the unique challenges before us and I know that we will persevere. Please refer frequently to the resources below for the latest information, and do not hesitate to ask questions or to communicate your concerns.

Sincerely,

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Additional information and resources:

- [Oregon State COVID-19 website](#)
- [OSU Safety Policies: Face Covering Policy, Physical Distancing Policy](#)
- [Fall Path 2020 video](#)
- [Academic Catalog and Schedule of Classes](#)
- [Fall 2020 FAQ for Engineering Students](#)
- [College of Engineering Advising & Policy](#)
- [First-year engineering advising](#)
- [CBEE](#), [CCE](#), [EECS](#), [MIME](#), and [NSE](#) advising for upper-level students

Definitions of instructional modalities

1. **On-site/In-person:** Instruction is delivered in person at the scheduled time (synchronously^a), primarily in the classroom. There may be some remote attendance.
2. **Blended:** A course format having both on-campus and remote elements. Some components include synchronous learning.
3. **Remote:** Students attend class sessions remotely at scheduled times (synchronously). If other remote work is performed outside scheduled meeting times, it must be done asynchronously^b, so as not to conflict with another class or scheduled event.
4. **Ecampus:** Fully online (asynchronous). Participating via Canvas. No synchronous meetings (optional office hours via Zoom are encouraged).

^a**Synchronous:** Course components for which instructor and students meet on scheduled days and times as a class (meetings may be face-to-face in classrooms, remote using Zoom, or a combination).

^b**Asynchronous:** Course component with no required specific class meeting times. These components are structured around weekly tasks and deadlines, and students interact with instructors and other students using Canvas tools and other technologies.