Subject: What to expect for Winter quarter instruction

Dear Winter Quarter Instructors,

We are writing to share information to support your Winter quarter 2021-22 course preparation.

Winter quarter return
Please be sure to read the Provost's message regarding Stanford's protocols for returning to campus after the upcoming winter break. We are planning for an on-schedule return from winter break. Students and instructors will be able to attend in-person classes starting January 3, 2021.

We expect Stanford's testing system to identify some - hopefully small - number of positive COVID-19 cases as students return. Instructors are encouraged to be flexible and not penalize students if they are unable to begin in-person attendance due to a positive test. If there are concerns about a student’s ability to complete a course due to a late arrival, please communicate this to the student and reach out to Academic Advising. They can work with students on a plan to support their success.

Q&A Workshop before winter closure
We will be holding an informal workshop on Thursday December 16, 2021 and January 6, 2022 from 1 to 2pm where instructors can get updates regarding winter quarter instruction before and after winter break, respectively. Please use this Zoom link.

Teach Symposium
This week’s Teach Symposium December 8-10th offers a number of online workshops to help you prepare for Winter quarter. Workshops address everything from the Honor Code, disability-related academic accommodations, resources such as Poll Everywhere, and inclusive pedagogy. We encourage you to register for any that are of particular interest. Some of the materials will be posted after the symposium for your convenience at this site.

Happy Holidays!

Sarah, Mary Beth, and Suzi

Sarah Church - Freeman-Thornton Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
Mary Beth Mudgett - Senior Associate Dean for Educational Initiatives, H&S
Suzi Weersing - Associate Dean of Graduate & Undergraduate Studies, H&S

Links to additional resources:
- The Teach Anywhere website offers guidance on safety in the classroom; a rule of thumb is to design course materials so they can be shared easily with students if the need arises.
- The Center for Teaching and Learning is available for consultations.
- The Teaching Commons website is a central source of information and resources on teaching and pedagogy.
- Learning Technology & Spaces can help with questions about teaching technologies and classroom spaces. Loans for voice amplification can be found here.