

Hello All,

Just a short note today to let you know that I prepared a communication for students to address some confusion about attendance expectations this semester. The body of that email - which just went out - is below:

Dear Students,

I have learned through faculty that some students believe they can remain remote for this semester, even if they enrolled in hybrid or fully in-person classes. That is not the case. Students are expected to upload their COVID-19 testing results, as directed, and attend class sessions as scheduled for the classes in which they are enrolled. Once Health Services has reviewed a student's test results, they will provide a status update to the Dean of Students Office, who will then notify the student's faculty/instructors. If a student uploads a positive test result, they are still considered compliant, but will go into isolation/quarantine protocol under the direction of Health Services. The Dean of Students Office will then send out an absence verification to the student's faculty. Please note that faculty/instructors will only accommodate students after receiving notification from the Dean of Students Office.

Faculty have carefully planned your course modalities. To be successful this semester, it is important that you adhere to the attendance requirements that your faculty members have established. The decision to offer approximately 70% of our spring 2021 courses in hybrid or in-person settings was based upon strong compliance with classroom safety procedures in the fall and implementation of our COVID-19 testing requirement for those who would be returning to campus in spring. Course modality information was communicated to you on the [Return to Learn](#) website prior to the spring 2021 course selection period as well. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the department chair or dean in the college of your major.

I have been very impressed with how well Winthrop students are navigating the challenges of the pandemic. Many campuses have struggled across the nation to stay open. Winthrop stayed open in the fall because you all masked up and stayed safe. A few students - DIGS sightings!- have not complied consistently with good mask etiquette. I implore you all to band together, encourage discipline (with masks, with testing) and be a part of the team that pulls Winthrop through strong.

*Best,
Adrienne*

Thank you all for your patience in navigating the challenges of these first few weeks. The testing requirement was absolutely the right call, even as messy as it has been.

I hope you all have a restful weekend!

Best,
Adrienne