Classes and Campus Activities During the Fall 2021 Semester

Absent certain medical and religious exemptions, Cornell will require vaccination for all students returning to Ithaca, Geneva, and Cornell Tech campuses for the Fall 2021 academic semester. With mandatory student vaccination and the widespread availability of a vaccine for most adults, the University hopes to operate in the Fall under conditions in which the degree of herd immunity is sufficient to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community. If the science indicates that the extent of immunity of the Cornell community provides for safe campus operation, and relevant regulations allow for in-person classroom instruction, classes normally taught in person will return to that mode of instruction, without any routinely scheduled online option. Therefore, Cornell students should plan on in-person learning for the Fall 2021 academic semester and should make suitable arrangements to make themselves available for such participation for the entire semester.

At the same time, Cornell students must understand that the University may still need to begin the semester with a mixture of online, hybrid, and in-person course modalities (and may need to adjust course modality over the course of the semester based on a variety of scientific, health, and regulatory factors). When Cornell publishes the course roster for the Fall 2021 semester, the instruction mode for many classes will be listed as “planned for in-person.” Information regarding specific course modality will be updated prior to the start of the semester when Cornell is better able to determine the feasibility for holding in-person classes. The University’s goal is to transition most courses to in-person instruction as soon as it is practicable and safe, either at the start of the semester or soon thereafter.

By enrolling in my classes for the Fall 2021 semester, I understand and acknowledge the following:

1. It is my responsibility to review all course information prior to the start of the semester, including but not limited to any updated information concerning the format in which and duration for which courses are anticipated to be offered;
2. Other than when isolating or quarantining because of health and safety concerns, I will be expected to participate in each course in the format in which the course is offered (even if that format changes over the course of the semester);
3. At any time, Cornell may change the format or duration of my courses based on factors including but not limited to health or safety concerns, the judgment of the instructor, instructor status, pedagogical needs, or student enrollment numbers;
4. It is my responsibility to make course enrollment changes (e.g. drop, withdraw, adjust credits, or change grading basis, if available) if I do not think I can participate fully in a course in the format in which it is offered;
5. Students, including me, are expected to take exams in person, absent compelling circumstances. It is the responsibility of students, including me, to timely obtain approval and coordinate exemptions to in-person exams with the appropriate university unit, college and/or instructor;
6. Students, including me, may have limited or no access to certain Cornell University-maintained facilities;
7. There may be disruptions or cancellations of campus services, programs, activities, or events for the Fall 2021 semester;
8. Students, including me, must follow all applicable university policies or rules (including the Campus Code of Conduct, all campus health and safety requirements, and any specific behavioral compact for the 2021-2022 academic year), and by failing to abide by all such policies and rules, students, including me, may have their access restricted to Canvas, university-
maintained facilities, enrollment activity, campus services, programs, activities, or other campus events;

9. Cornell may be required to shift all classes to an online or hybrid format, or modify the duration of the semester, if Cornell or the government (at the local, state, or federal level) determines for any reason that continued in-person instruction is unsafe during the Fall 2021 semester.

Finally, I understand, acknowledge, and agree that in no case will there be a tuition or fee refund if I remain enrolled through the Fall 2021 semester. The only eligible tuition and fee refunds are those that take place in accordance with the published schedule of early withdrawal dates from the Fall 2021 semester.