


MEMORANDUM

TO: University Faculty

FROM: Anne Veeger, Ph.D.
Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Initiatives 

DATE: August 25, 2021

SUBJECT: Fall 2021 Sample Syllabus Language for Universal Masking

Dear Faculty,

Following the adoption of the universal masking policy, we *ask that you please include the following (or similar) language in your course syllabi:*

The University is committed to delivering its educational mission while protecting the health and safety of our community. While the university has worked to create a healthy learning environment for all, it is up to all of us to ensure our campus stays that way.

As members of the URI community, students are required to comply with standards of conduct and take precautions to keep themselves and others safe. Visit web.uri.edu/coronavirus/ for the latest information about the URI COVID-19 response.

- [Universal indoor masking](#) is required by all community members, on all campuses, regardless of vaccination status. If the universal mask mandate is discontinued during the semester, students who have an approved exemption and are not fully vaccinated will need to continue to wear a mask indoors and maintain physical distance.
- Students who are experiencing symptoms of illness should not come to class. Please stay in your home/room and notify URI Health Services via phone at 401-874-2246.
- If you are already on campus and start to feel ill, go home/back to your room and self-isolate. Notify URI Health Services via phone immediately at 401-874-2246.

If you are unable to attend class, please notify me prior to the start of class at 874-xxxx or xxx@uri.edu or through the medium we have established for the class.

Reminder per the Fall 2021 *Semester Information and Course Memo*:

Please note that Health Services is not able to provide documentation for absence due to routine illness and will resume the practice of notification to the Dean's office for serious illness/injury that requires the student to miss multiple classes. Faculty have the flexibility to decide how best to accommodate student absences through the mechanisms detailed in [8.51.13 of the University Manual](#). Faculty are not being asked to implement multiple concurrent teaching modalities in their courses but may offer a remote attendance or recorded lecture option if desired and appropriate to the course. Students who request a vaccination exemption understand that they are not entitled to unique accommodations due to COVID illness or quarantine. Faculty are encouraged to clearly outline their class attendance/absence policies on their syllabus.