Quarantine and Isolation Policy
For Attending Class after COVID-19

I. PURPOSE
The purpose of this policy is to describe the procedures for students who must quarantine or isolate during a regular semester.

II. SCOPE
This policy applies to all students attending classes in person.

III. DEFINITIONS
A. Close Contact: Due to the nature of the ever-changing CDC guidelines, please review current definitions here.
B. Quarantine: The separation of someone exposed to a COVID-positive individual from those who are not sick or exposed if the exposed person becomes ill or tests positive for COVID-19. Students in on-campus housing quarantine in a designated residence hall.
C. Isolation: The separation of someone who is ill with or has tested positive for COVID-19 from people who are not sick. Students in on-campus housing must be relocated from their dorm room during isolation to minimize the risk of spread to peers in their hall and isolate in a designated residence hall.
D. Fully Vaccinated: An individual is considered up to date on their COVID-19 vaccination when they have received all doses of the vaccination, as recommended by the CDC.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES
A. Quarantine: Any unvaccinated student who was in Close Contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine in accordance with current CDC guidance, which may be found here.
B. Isolation: Any student who has received a positive COVID-19 test regardless of symptoms, must isolate. Students may also be instructed to isolate by the Student Health Center (SHC) if they have symptoms of COVID-19. A current list of COVID-19 symptoms may be found here. The period of isolation is determined by the SHC and the local health department.
For undergraduate students, SHC notifies the associate provost for undergraduate studies that a student is in quarantine or isolation and cannot attend class in person. The associate provost for undergraduate studies notifies the instructor, with little details: Students will not return to class until [date].

For graduate students, the SHC notifies the associate provost for faculty affairs that a student is in quarantine or isolation and cannot attend class in person. The associate provost for faculty affairs notifies the instructor, with little details: Students will not return to class until [date].

Students are not required to provide formal documentation to their faculty from a health care provider. Students are required to follow the process outlined below.

V. PROCESS

Students who test positive for COVID-19 or Monkeypox should:

1. Indicate their status on the Report an Illness website or by contacting the Student Health Center.
2. Notify their instructor and advisor that they will not attend class face-to-face as soon as possible, ideally before the first day they miss class.
3. Inform their instructor of their anticipated return date to class based on the periods of quarantine and isolation set forth in this policy.
4. Discuss with the instructor how they will be keeping up with coursework during the length of their quarantine or isolation.
5. Keep up with all coursework and reading, including submitting assignments.
6. Communicate any changes to their status to their instructor and advisor as soon as possible.

If a student becomes sick with COVID-19 or Monkeypox and, as a result, is unable to complete coursework, they must make use of the Absences Due to Personal Medical Emergency Form.

Sample email to professor & advisor from students informing them of upcoming absences due to quarantine or isolation:

Subject: Absence from [insert course name] Starting [insert date]

Dear Professor and Advisor [Insert names],

I am writing to share with you that I will not attend [insert course name] in-person starting [insert date of first class-meeting]. I understand that while I cannot attend class in person, I must keep up with all coursework and assignments. I would like to make a virtual appointment with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how to continue my work.

I anticipate returning to the physical classroom on [insert date of the first-class meeting per SHC instruction]. If this plan changes, I will notify you as soon as possible before that date.

The Student Health Center has informed the associate provost of this situation who, in turn, will notify you.
VI. RESOURCES

COVID website

Isolation Planning Guide for Students

VII. RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL

The official overseeing this policy is the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies. Van Meter G25, 410.337.6210

VIII. HISTORY

Created June 2021; Updated January 2022, August 2022, October 2022