

**Q&A Faculty Teams Live – Academic Updates and Reminders, Supporting Students,
Spring 2021 Opening, Faculty Professional Development Opportunities in January**

November 19, 2020

Questions about Instruction and Evaluation

Is there a universal recommendation for asynchronous online classes for weekly deadlines (e.g., all work due on Fridays, Saturdays, etc.)?

There is no universally preferred day for weekly deadlines, but it is very helpful to the students in your class if you have a consistent, single day/time during the week by which assignments are due.

Are incompletes up to the faculty member this semester or up to the dean's office?

The process for assigning incompletes is unchanged this semester. Please check with your college (or with the grad college for graduate courses) to confirm the incomplete process.

Is there any plan to de-emphasize student evaluations from the pandemic era in tenure and promotion decisions?

Per the Memorandum of Understanding between the university and United Academics regarding all outstanding issues raised and discussed in impact bargaining as of November 20, 2020, quantitative data from student course evaluations for spring 2020, fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters will not be used as the deciding factor for any negative teaching assessment for RPT materials.

Questions about Spring 2021

I had a student tell me that their RA told them that we would be remote in spring if the rates of infection in Chittenden County were sufficiently high. Is this true?

We are currently planning for a spring 2021 semester that mirrors fall 2020, with multiple modes of instruction, at-home and in-person options, and pre-arrival and weekly testing.

Questions about Instructional Software and Tech Support

I am very hopeful the University will continue to support the site license for YellowDig. Will that happen?

ETS is negotiating with the vendor in an effort to continue this service for the near future at a more reasonable cost and hopes to be able to provide more information soon.

I know that Respondus does not work well with Chromebooks. Are the different colleges within the university advising their students on what kind of computers they need?

A computing requirement was established this fall, beginning with the class of 2024. Individual colleges and schools have defined minimum computing requirements and those were shared with first-time first-year students before arrival. Upper class students may not have computers that meet these requirements. If you are aware of a student who has an inadequate computer and

cannot afford a replacement, please contact the Center for Academic Success to inquire about a loaner.

Will MS Teams have breakout rooms available by the spring term?

The current target date for Teams breakout rooms is late December.

Is there a fund available for students who cannot afford the \$30 to take exams monitored by ProctorU?

Most dean's offices have small gift funds to support students in circumstances like this. Please reach out to your dean's office in these cases.

Questions about the Period of Time Between Semesters

Will the new testing hours during Dec and Jan be posted on the Return to Campus website?

The test center hours are posted on the COVID-19 Information and Service Center website located [here](#).

There is some confusion over Catcards being turned off over break and faculty being unable to get into their office even if only occasionally.

Faculty offices will remain accessible via Catcard over break.

Who needs to be listed as working on campus over break?

An employee who is scheduled to come in *regularly*, even if it is only one day per week, needs to be listed on the form. If someone is coming in to pick up something they forgot in their office, or they are coming in a couple times during break to water plants, they do not need to be listed. Listed or not, if they are coming to campus, employees need to fill out the health check-in form.