



Academic Fact Sheet

Expectations for Remote Learning

Fall 2020/J-Term 2021

How will courses taught remotely this year be different from those in spring 2020?

Remote learning in the fall semester will be quite different from the experience in the spring. Faculty have been preparing all summer to offer well-structured remote versions of their courses. All courses – whether in-person, remote, or hybrid – will meet with professors during the regularly scheduled class time. You should expect courses that are of the same quality as our in-person Trinity courses, in an inclusive liberal arts learning environment.

What have Trinity faculty been doing to prepare for remote teaching this fall?

Our faculty have been actively preparing for digital instruction all summer. They've been participating in facilitated discussions and readings, [training seminars](#) led by national experts, hands-on design studios, departmental-level planning, technology workshops, and individualized work to prepare for remote teaching this academic year. Students must also be active, responsible participants in remote learning.

Will I have class during the scheduled meeting time?

Yes, the instructor will be present and interacting synchronously with students during the scheduled time of the course. This live group interaction is a critical element of all of our courses as a liberal arts college. While COVID-19 has made some classroom interactions more challenging, and faculty may be accommodating various time zones, courses are being designed with the expectation that all students will be present during the scheduled time slot.

Will faculty teaching remote courses still have office hours?

Yes, the faculty teaching remote courses will maintain scheduled office hours that may be completed over Zoom or on campus in a socially distanced manner. Faculty will not be holding office hours in their regular offices.

When will I understand how the course will work and what is expected of me?

Faculty should provide, at the first class meeting, an overview of the overall expectations and weekly course assignments, as well as the grading criteria and means of assessment.

What will being in a hybrid course look like?

These courses include students learning in-person with the professor and remote students who will access the class live through Zoom. The technology is set up in the classroom to accommodate this. These courses are designed to include both sets of students in a shared experience, which provides all students with equal access to the professor, learning tools, and all curricular activities.

What technology will I need to take a remote course?

You will need a computer and consistent internet access. The [Student Emergency and Equity Fund](#) can provide support.

Will I be able to provide feedback about the remote learning experience?

The College values feedback from students on all aspects of the academic experience, and students will have opportunities to share their views both in course evaluations and surveys about remote learning. If you have any questions or concerns during the semester, please reach out to your professor or department chair. For related matters, please contact Dean Taku Miyazaki or Dean Mitch Polin.