

COVID-Related Class Considerations, Fall 2020

This class will be remote only, taught over Zoom. My goal is for our remote classes to mimic traditional live classes to the extent possible. For this to happen, we need certain rules and expectations. Here you go:

Technology Expectations: Students must have the following:

- Access to a laptop or desktop for using Zoom. A phone is not going to work.
- Reasonable Internet connectivity. I don't have the time or patience to deal with repeated issues related to poor connectivity.
- The ability to scan your exam solutions so they can be emailed to me. Ideally, this would be an actual scanner or a printer that can scan. However, in the worst case, you can use your phone to photograph pages, but what you send me must be readable.
- A camera on your laptop/desktop. I expect everyone to have their camera turned on during classes and exams. An exception will be made (if absolutely necessary) if having your camera turned on creates connectivity issues.
- The ability to create PDF files.

Ideally, you should also have:

- A printer for printing exams (otherwise, you'll have to stare at the exam on a computer screen while working it on paper).
- A scanner (see above).

Class Attendance Expectations: For the most part, everyone is expected to participate live in all classes and exams with their cameras turned on. The classes will be recorded. (Warning: chit chat before or after class can be picked up on the recording.) You can access these recordings to make up for the occasional missed class, but this should not be too frequent. An exception concerning live participation will be made for the few students who are in time zones that make live attendance impossible.

Exams: Obviously, with remote learning, cheating can become an issue. However, I refuse to upend my life and those of the honest students on account of a few students who may be tempted to cheat. Exams will be taken live with your cameras turned on. For those in time zones that make attending our normally scheduled classes impossible, we will work out alternate times for taking the exams. The goal here is to try to have the exams be as much like normal in-class exams as possible. We will have an in-depth discussion concerning honor and integrity and also what you can expect to happen to you if you are caught cheating (it won't be pretty). You will be required to sign a detailed honor code statement for each exam.

Homework Solutions: All homework solutions must be emailed in as PDF documents. Using Latex or Word (Latex is better) to format your solutions would be the best approach. However, handwritten solutions are OK if you have the ability to scan them to PDF. Unlike exams, we won't accept homework solutions that are emailed in as photographed pages. You must submit a PDF file.

Interactions in Class: I want interactions in class to happen. If you have a question, instead of raising your hand in Zoom (which I will likely not notice), just interrupt me by saying "I have a question." I'll also try to remember to periodically ask for questions. You can also expect to be called on for providing answers to my questions (so be ready—maybe I'll adopt the policy of asking more questions to people who have their camera turned off! ☺).