Recommended Template Language for Inclusion in Syllabi on Blackboard for Fall 2020

[Approved by Faculty Senate, August 11, 2020, Last amended by the FDC on August 25, 2020]

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# At a Glance: UMBC Policies and Resources for Students during COVID-19

## UMBC’s Vision Statement

Our UMBC community redefines excellence in higher education through an inclusive culture that connects innovative teaching and learning, research across disciplines, and civic engagement. We will advance knowledge, economic prosperity, and social justice by welcoming and inspiring inquisitive minds from all backgrounds.

## Student Safety

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is understood that some students who are enrolled in classes that have an in-person component may have or develop COVID-19 related health concerns coming to campus to attend those classes this semester.  No student shall be compelled to attend class or attend an assessment if they have COVID-19 related health concerns. However, for students enrolled in courses having a physical presence component who anticipate not being able to attend the in-person class sessions due to COVID-19 related health concerns, it is advisable to provide notice to the course instructor at the beginning of the term so that alternate arrangements can be made.  Students enrolled in courses with an in-person component who develop COVID-19 related health concerns during the semester should immediately contact the course instructor to discuss alternative instructional arrangements.

## Technology: Access, Requirements, Resources, Support

To help ensure that UMBC students are equipped for academic success, the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) provides a wealth of resources and support, including tips for getting online and minimum specifications to consider when purchasing a computer ([doit.umbc.edu/students](https://doit.umbc.edu/students/)). UMBC does require all students to be technologically self-sufficient, which entails having a reliable personal computer (preferably a laptop with webcam) and Internet access. Since UMBC requires all students to have a computer and Internet access, financial aid may be used to meet this requirement. To learn more, students should contact their financial aid counselor at [financialaid.umbc.edu/contact](https://financialaid.umbc.edu/contact/).

## COVID-19: Safety Expectations and Guidelines

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to all UMBC policies, rules, and regulations, including COVID-19 emergency health and safety rules, policies, guidelines, and signage enacted for the UMBC community. For students attending in-person classes, signage, policies, rules, and/or guidelines may include but are not limited to specific requirements for face coverings, physical distancing, and sanitization, in addition to efforts to reduce density efforts that involve reductions in seating and room capacity. Please be aware that UMBC’s COVID-19 emergency health and safety rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, and/or signage are subject to change as our public health crisis evolves. Any violation will be subject to disciplinary action and may include but not limited to immediate dismissal from the classroom, removal from the classroom and/or campus, a requirement to work remotely, and/or sanctions and conditions enumerated in the [UMBC Code of Student Conduct](https://conduct.umbc.edu/resources/student-code-of-conduct/) that may entail suspension or expulsion from UMBC.

## Academic integrity in the Online Instruction Environment

Academic integrity is an important value at UMBC. By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC’s scholarly community in which everyone’s academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. These principles and policies apply in both face-to-face and online classes. Resources for students about academic integrity at UMBC are available at <https://academicconduct.umbc.edu/resources-for-students/>.

## Resources to Help you Succeed in Online Courses

Many students need additional support to succeed in online courses. Click on the following links for helpful resources:

* [**UMBC’s Academic Success Center (ASC)**](https://academicsuccess.umbc.edu/) provides a range of resources to support students as they progress toward degree completion. They will continue to offer all of their services online.
* The ASC has created a specialized set of [**Online Learning Resources**](https://lrc.umbc.edu/online_learning/), including videos and guides to help students succeed while learning online.

In addition, check out the following resources:

* [**Academic Success Center Resources**](https://academicsuccess.umbc.edu/asc-business-continuity/) include: Online tutoring and writing support, supplemental instruction/peer-assisted study sessions ([SI PASS](https://si.lrc.umbc.edu/schedule/)), placement testing, FYI academic alerts, success courses, academic advocacy, academic policy and academic success meetings.
* [**Tutoring and Writing Center Appointments**](https://lrc.umbc.edu/tutor/)will be online; students can make appointments using this [link](https://saml2.go-redrock.com/relay.php).
* [**SI PASS**](https://si.lrc.umbc.edu/): Supplemental Instruction (SI)/ *Peer Assisted Study Sessions* (PASS). The SI PASS program targets traditionally difficult academic courses, providing regularly scheduled, out-of-class review sessions, happening in Blackboard Collaborate inside your existing Blackboard course.
* [**Academic Advocates**](https://academicadvocacy.umbc.edu/student-referrals/submit-a-referral/): Advocates work one-on-one with students who need support navigating academic and institutional challenges, no matter how complex the concerns (i.e., personal, academic, or financial).
* [**Academic Success Meetings**](https://lrc.umbc.edu/academic-success-meeting/): Schedule a one-to-one virtual meeting with an Academic Success Center Professional who can help you with time management, study skills, and accessing campus resources.

If you have a question, please contact the ASC at [academicsuccess@umbc.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@umbc.edu).

## Enrollment Dates and Deadlines

Students must be familiar with the academic policies and enrollment dates and deadlines as published in the [Undergraduate Catalog](https://catalog.umbc.edu) and the [Academic Calendar](https://registrar.umbc.edu/calendars/academic-calendars). They are also responsible for managing their course enrollment(s) accordingly.

## Accessibility and Disability Accommodations, Guidance and Resources

The latest language is available on [the OEI website here](https://oei.umbc.edu/sample-title-ix-responsible-employee-syllabus-language/). Mandatory due to legal requirements.

## Religious Observances & Accommodations

The latest language is available on [the OEI website here](https://oei.umbc.edu/sample-title-ix-responsible-employee-syllabus-language/).

## Hate, Bias, Discrimination and Harassment

The latest language is available on [the OEI website here](https://oei.umbc.edu/sample-title-ix-responsible-employee-syllabus-language/).

## Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Gender Based Violence and Discrimination

The latest language is available on [the OEI website here](https://oei.umbc.edu/sample-title-ix-responsible-employee-syllabus-language/). Mandatory due to legal requirements.

## Pregnancy

The latest language is available on [the OEI website here](https://oei.umbc.edu/sample-title-ix-responsible-employee-syllabus-language/).