

To: Law Faculty Only

Subject: Limited Remote Student Participation

Dear Colleagues -

I'm writing because we are instituting a new option you can use to provide students in isolation, in quarantine, or staying home due to COVID-19 symptoms an opportunity to be in class synchronously by Zoom.

If you choose to offer this option, you and most of your students will continue to learn in the classroom, but you can permit any student who is experiencing Covid symptoms, in quarantine or in isolation either to participate or to listen (without participating) via Zoom. Our goal in providing this option is to remove any perceived incentive for students to attend classes in person when they should be staying home, and to enable you to provide our students who are not permitted to come to campus with at least some contemporaneous access to class.

Our experience last semester taught us that students who participate remotely have an inferior experience, and the effect is greater the longer the remote instruction continues. And our capacity to support remote participation is limited. As a result, remote participation is time-limited for the duration of symptoms, isolation, or quarantine. Students who expect to be absent or who end up being absent for more than two weeks should contact the Office of the Dean Of Students (ODOS) for support, and you should let ODOS know if a student is absent for more than two weeks so that they can follow up with the student.

Because there are complexities to connecting remote students and because our IST staff are already stretched thin, faculty who want to offer this option to their students must receive advance training from IST staff on how to connect students via Zoom in the classroom and submit a form everytime they plan to do that.

This option will be available if the following two conditions are satisfied:

1. The faculty member attends an IST training *before* the faculty member offers the Zoom option to students, and the faculty member is willing and able to start Zoom in the classroom for the student without support from IST; and
2. One or more students in a class notifies you that they are: (a) in isolation (due to a positive test result), (b) staying home because they are experiencing possible covid symptoms that they have reported on the GU360 daily attestation, or (c) in quarantine (unvaccinated students who are exposed to someone with a positive covid diagnosis).

If you are interested in offering your students this option, please [sign up for training](#) and fill out the [Zoom Synchronous Participation from the Classroom form](#) as needed. In preparation, IST will assign you co-host Zoom rights to all of your class(es) this week.

I am grateful for your continued hard work and understanding as we continue the work of providing our students with the best education possible under these challenging circumstances.