October 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

With the announcement on Friday, October 8, that the SMU campus has transitioned to masks as optional, with the understanding that faculty can continue to require masks in their classrooms and labs, we have prepared a few resources in case they are of use to you. The faculty FAQ here has also been updated.

First, you can still require masks in your classrooms. If you previously submitted this form and added language about mask requirements to your Canvas syllabus at the beginning of the semester, then the only action we strongly recommend would be for you to communicate clearly with your students ahead of time via SMU email and the Canvas announcements function. If you have not yet submitted the form or added masking requirement language to your syllabus, and wish to do so, please confirm your choice at this link and communicate with your students.

Please note: If you had already added to your syllabus at the beginning of the semester that a participation/professional grade of up to 10% was tied to mask compliance, then it remains in effect. If, however, you did not have a participation grade tied to mask
compliance in the syllabus at the beginning of the semester, then the grading policy cannot be changed half-way through the semester. In these cases, you can still require masks, just not use the professionalism grade.

Finally, there is a point person in each school (see list below) to facilitate mask dissemination, in the event that you would like to request additional masks for their classrooms.

Cox: Julie Maas  
Dedman Law: Becca Henley  
Dedman College: Tom Carr  
Lyle: Jim Dees  
Meadows: Gretchen Smith  
Simmons: Tim Jacobbe  
Theology: Joe Monroy

Thank you for everything you are doing to contribute to the academic community and to the success of our students.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth G. Lobo, PhD  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Southern Methodist University  
https://www.smu.edu/provost
World Changers Shaped Here