

# FALL 2020 GUIDELINES

## Foundational Considerations:

The University of Kentucky is committed to reinvented operations on the first day of classes for Fall semester (August 18, 2020) including residential living on campus. In response to the challenges presented by COVID-19, the College of Fine Arts administration, faculty and staff are actively working to modify and revise programs to support that goal. The following guidelines, policy changes, and mandates are offered to assist in reducing some level of uncertainty and to aid in planning. These decisions have been made by the leadership team of the College, in consultation with faculty, university resources, and external organization guidelines. Central is the goal of providing the safest teaching and learning environment for all involved. Whenever possible, a conservative approach that maintains the potential to be relaxed as new information becomes available has been taken, and the bedrock principle of supporting the declared student learning outcomes within our curricula has been primary. Mitigation practices: wearing masks, teaching with face shields, cleaning and sanitization protocols, maintaining social distancing, reducing density, limiting external contacts, and supporting the potential need for contact tracing have been considered as fundamental to our planned operation in the Fall.

## Background:

A new COVID 19 health safety resource developed in collaboration with Environmental Health and Safety, UK HealthCare Infection Control and HR Training and Development is now available and is required for all faculty and staff to complete. This web-based training, COVID19 Hygiene Best Practices, is available to all in myUK Learning and provides basic, universal education on appropriate hygiene related to COVID. (The training takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.)

## Responsibility:

While the university is taking a variety of steps to address the current health crisis, all of us share both a personal and corporate responsibility in responding to the challenges that we face. All faculty, staff and students must do a daily self-assessment of possible COVID symptoms. Anyone with one or more symptoms is instructed to not enter any campus building and should contact a health care provider for instructions on testing, appropriate self-isolation and care as well as notify their supervisor.

Although there will be many modifications to the standard cleaning and sanitation protocols across campus, all individuals will be called upon to assist in these endeavors. Hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies will be available in most spaces. Faculty are encouraged to build time into their courses to enable hand sanitization and surface cleaning at both the beginning and ending of each class period.

## THE BASICS:



### Masks:

Entrance into any College of Fine Arts Building will require the wearing of a mask. Mask use campus wide is expected. Within classrooms and studios, each faculty member shall require the wearing of a mask, unless the specific curricular demand requires otherwise. Standard signage and syllabus language will be provided to articulate this requirement. Enforcement is predicated on universal use and peer pressure. Each of us needs to hold the other accountable for mask use.

Each faculty and staff member will be provided with at least two cloth masks by the college to supplement their own personal mask collection. Disposable masks will be initially available in a variety of locations throughout CFA buildings to support those who lose or forget their own. Students will each be receiving a START kit with appropriate information, instructions and personal protective equipment (PPE). In addition, face shields are being acquired for faculty use while delivering proximity instruction.



### Cleaning:

PPD cleaning staff will focus on “high touch/high traffic areas” including twice a day cleaning of restroom. As a result of this increased public space activity, office personnel will be responsible for the cleaning of their own spaces. Cleaning supplies will be provided and distributed at designated locations throughout the College. In CFA spaces where large groups/ensembles will be gathering, additional cleaning protocol using local staff are also being planned.



### Social Distancing:

All campus spaces have been assigned revised occupancy numbers as determined by social distancing requirements. As a result, nearly every historic classroom experience in the CFA has been affected. Work is presently being done to reassign all classes to spaces with mandated social spacing. Particularly challenging has been the relocation of ensemble and movement-oriented coursework. Fortunately, we believe that we may be able to address most of the CFA needs for this type of engagement with modified use of the Singletary Center venue and some internal course adjustments. This is a work in progress, but our goal is to have all revised space assignments done no later than July 31, 2020.

## Reduced Density & Limited External Contact:

Artistic or scholarly visitors will be permitted in CFA facilities only through the use of Zoom or other appropriate electronic platforms. Capacity limits will be placed on all gallery operations within the College (SAVS Gallery and UK Art Museum). Gallery engagement will typically follow a proscribed, clearly marked path. Events which have historically attracted an audience will either eliminate that expectation through agreed upon program modification or be considered on a case-by-case basis in context of the entire University and College operations. In general, should an audience be permitted, it will be limited to a fixed number of known individuals. No ticket sales are anticipated for the semester, nor are any truly “public” performances being planned.

Social gathering spaces such as couches and lounging furniture will either be removed or marked as off limits. Coffee service and water coolers will no longer be supported. Shared microwaves and refrigerators will remain, with all users expected to wipe down handles and controls after each use. Shared printers will remain, but all users will be asked to wipe down contacted surfaces before and after use. Restrooms will be marked for reduced occupancy and all of us will need to be conscious of the number of users at any given time.

Many CFA staff will continue to work remotely. A published schedule of who will be on campus working in their assigned offices and when will be available. Adjustments to this schedule will be made over the course of the semester as the reinvented workflow is discovered.

Faculty too may remain off campus, working remotely. Office hours should occur on a regular and published schedule using Zoom. Faculty are working with their home unit administrators to determine the educational modality for their assigned courses which will result in a combination of traditional, hybrid, and remote delivery course offerings across the College. In all delivery circumstances, intentional engagement with students is mandated. Faculty should work with their chair/director to confirm their plans.

One-on-one instruction will need to adopt adapted scheduling that alternates contacts by weeks, takes advantages of alternative and varied space assignments, and leverages available resources (both physical and human) for the maximum good of the University in the context of serving the students. All faculty will be bound to adhere to schedules determined in advance and aligned with global needs.

Support for Contact Tracing: Studio and rehearsal spaces will be formally assigned to cohorts of students to enable an effective starting point should contact tracing prove necessary. Faculty who utilize group work are asked to make group assignments that remain constant throughout the semester. Assigned seating should be used for the length of the semester in all classes. All lockers, studio storage, and other commonly shared features shall be clearly labeled with the user's name. Further guidance regarding campus practices for contact tracing is anticipated to be forthcoming.

## Other Factors for Guidance:

- No rental activity in the Singletary by non-university groups will be permitted for Fall. University group use will be handled on a case-by-case basis. CFA curricular demands will be paramount in determining daily space allocation.
- Teaching spaces will be provided with instructions for course capture options to enable remote learning as a contingency. An inventory of currently available technology is being conducted and additional investment is being made in support of teaching/learning facilities. Some spaces will ultimately need to rely on lower technology than desired, but every effort will be made to align the available technology with the curricular demands.
- Faculty and staff travel are discouraged, consistent with the University ban on international travel and limited support of domestic excursions. Group travel of students is prohibited.
- For those involved in the performing arts, a revised performance calendar will be released by July 31 aligned with the University's revised Fall schedule and agreed upon programmatic limitations. Selected performances will be captured and/or live streamed for public distribution with support of College staff as articulated on the agreed schedule.
- School, Department, Committee, and other Group meetings shall be conducted using an electronic platform.

*Disclaimer: The College is actively supporting, and monitoring research being conducted about the teaching, learning, and performance of our art forms during this pandemic. In addition, the University continues to refine overall guidance as the scientific understanding of COVID-19, its spread and medical impact, continues to grow. While this document represents the best available guidance at this point in time, further changes that either increase or decrease restrictions are entirely possible. The administration is committed to keeping all faculty and staff informed as new information and guidance becomes available. Both the patience and persistence of all is very much appreciated.*