

Group leaders: all groups need to have a covid response plan, which should include:

- (1) Standards for following the most stringent of rules for the CDC, state of California, LA county, LA City, USC, and your home institution,
- (2) Protocols to ensure members of the group are doing a daily symptom check,
- (3) An isolation plan if a member of your group test COVID positive and there is no available place to isolate at the WMSC, and
- (4) A continuity plan for the group if critical members need to isolate or require medical attention.

An example of a covid response plan for a USC course is included below for reference. Please be aware this was a USC class and some resources the University made available to run this class may not be available (e.g., weekly PCR testing).

Example Covid Response Plan

- 1) The Instructor is responsible for remaining up to date on all USC COVID policies and being sure the class is in full compliance.
- 2) Weekly PCR testing will be made available through COLOR to all faculty, staff, and students. Any PCR positive test will trigger the **Academic Protocols** below.
- 3) Development of symptoms –
 - a. All Students are reminded at the beginning of lecture they need to report any COVID symptoms.
 - b. If anyone reports symptoms, they will be giving an antigen test. If the test is negative, the person can continue to come to class in a N95 mask and will continue to take an antigen test daily for 10 days. All other students in the class will be offered N95 masks. All class activities will be done outdoors or with maximum airflow in the rooms.
 - c. If the test is positive, see **Academic Protocols** below
- 4) Student testing positive –
 - a. The USC hotline will be contacted to get the advice on if any close contacts of a positive person should also be sent to the mainland and/or testing frequency if it is determined there is no reason to be sent to the mainland.
 - b. The student will be isolated in the Hyperbaric Chamber Med-room until the next available boat can take them over to the mainland. The student will execute their **personal mainland isolation plan** (either contacting USC to isolate in a hotel or home). USC will have available isolation and transportation from SCMI to the hotel for people who do not have a car.
 - c. Isolation and return to class protocol will follow the current USC procedure. Currently, the person can test on the 6th day of isolation if they are symptom free. If the test is negative they may return to class

- 5) Faculty testing positive –
 - a. The USC hotline will be contacted to get the advice on if close contacts of a positive person should also be sent to the mainland and/or testing frequency if it is determined there is no reason to be sent to the mainland.
 - b. Faculty can isolate in their apartment since these are single person units. Meals will be delivered to the door. If the faculty wants, they can be taken to the mainland on the next available boat.
 - c. Isolation and return to class protocol will follow the current USC procedure. Currently, the person can test on the 6th day of isolation if they are symptom free. If the test is negative they may return to class
- 6) Dining – All meals and any other food or drink consumption will be outdoors only.
- 7) Masking – Medical grade masks required indoors on the boat and any other transportations (e.g., vans of students doing fieldwork in the interior) and are HIGHLY encourage for groups indoors.
- 8) Distancing – Greater the 6' distancing is encouraged in any indoor space that allows it.

Academic Protocols – If a student tests positive

- 1) Any student who gets COVID and requires **and wants**, can receive a grade of "IN" and be given the top priority for next year's class.
- 2) Any student that gets COVID and requires isolation and wants to **complete** the course this year will have the following:
 - a. All lectures will be given on Zoom and recorded.
 - b. All quizzes will be given on Blackboard
 - c. Where possible, the labs will be either live Zoom or recorded and posted to blackboard.
 - d. Students will be given literature topics for presentations all presentations will be given on Zoom
 - e. Zoom office hours of at least 30 minutes each day will be offered by both the Instructor and the TA only for students in isolation. These would not be required, we just want to make sure students in isolation get some time to talk.
- 3) Any student the test positive and completes the required Isolation before the class ends (regardless of selection of option A or B above) will be put on the next boat out to Catalina and welcomed back to class

Academic Plan – If Faculty or TA tests positive

- 1) Faculty Positive –
 - a. If health permits,
 - i. The Professor will continue to lecture over Zoom while in isolation.
 - ii. Student presentations will be done on Zoom and the Professor will continue to grade the presentations
 - b. If health conditions do not permit the Professor to lecture remotely, back-up professor will coordinate to deliver lecture material by Zoom or in person.

2) TA Positive

- a. If health permits,
 - i. The TA will continue to deliver pre-labs over Zoom while in isolation and grade materials.
 - ii. Student presentations will be done on Zoom and the TA will continue to grade the presentations
- b. If health conditions do not permit John to lecture remotely, the Professor will take over all of the TA's responsibilities.

3) Both Faculty and TA test positive

- a. If health permits,
 - i. The Professor will continue to lecture over Zoom while in isolation.
 - ii. The TA will continue to deliver pre-labs over Zoom while in isolation and grade materials.
 - iii. Lab's will be covered either by course TA or WMSC Lab Staff
 - iv. Student presentations will be done on Zoom and the Professor and TA will continue to grade the presentations
- b. If health conditions do not permit either to work, back-up professor will come out and take over as Instructor and TA.