

Michaelmas Teaching 2021

 15 September 2021

Undergraduate lectures

The University has said:

Undergraduate lectures involving cohorts of at least 100 students may be delivered online for Michaelmas Term

What will happen in the Department:

- LT2 won't be used for undergraduate lectures
- We're open to the use of LT1 for undergraduate lectures
 - We are in the process of assessing ventilation and mitigations
- Labs will still go ahead as usual

What to do instead of in-person lectures?

Pre-recorded lectures

- If you have good videos from last year (or before) then reuse them
- Spend some of the saved time doing good-quality examples classes or Q&As
 - These could be live if we split the cohort into several groups

Live streaming is another option

- Consider where to stream from — is your internet connection good enough?

Please tell us what you want to do by the 24th September

All courses

Blended teaching methods are welcome for pedagogical reasons

- Need TMC / PEC approval if this differs from last year or pre-pandemic

All lectures, modules and UoAs must be recorded

- Due to students self-isolating / quarantining / not being in Cambridge

Everyone should plan for situations where they need to self-isolate or are ill

- Self isolation \implies e.g. remote delivery
- Illness \implies e.g. reschedule lecture, reuse recorded lecture

MPhil modules & Part II UoAs

We intend for all of these to be in-person

- If you have specific concerns, liaise with Dinah / Lise about mitigations

Part II UoAs need a substantial amount of in-person teaching

- E.g. pre-recorded lectures combined with labs

MPhil modules need 16 hours contact time

- Blended learning still feasible, e.g. flipped classroom or in-person practicals

Need a good-quality microphone to capture discussions

- Please get in touch if you don't already have one

Face coverings in lectures

The University has said:

The use of Face Coverings is strongly recommended in all internal multi-occupancy buildings; they can be removed, but with an ongoing consideration for others who may prefer to use them

What will happen in the Department:

- We will consult with students to get buy-in to...
- Require face coverings to be kept on by everyone, unless speaking
 - Lecturers and students can opt to wear a face covering even if speaking
- This applies to lectures, modules, UoAs, labs, etc.

Social Distancing

The University has said:

Faculties, departments and Colleges should continue to plan for as much in-person teaching in Michaelmas Term as possible, and without regard to specific social distancing targets

What will happen in the Department:

- We'll avoid using LT2 (and LT1 if necessary) for undergraduate teaching
- Other courses have been timetabled in larger rooms than normal
- We have been told we have to enable students to socially distance in lectures
- It appears that students really want in-person lectures

Actions for everyone

Everyone should test themselves at least twice a week if coming into work

Please now decide whether you will teach in-person or not

- We would like to know what you will do by the 24th of September

Please consider how you'll manage a swift change in circumstances

- For example, a short lockdown is introduced

Please let us know if you have any equipment requirements

- By contacting the Teaching Admin Office or Postgraduate Education Office