

## Addressing disruptions related to the face covering policy.

**Date: 19 August 2021**

All students and employees are required to adhere to the Face Covering guidance which is available online here: <https://covid19.arizona.edu/face-coverings>. In rare cases, a student might not wish to adhere to this guidance, thereby disrupting the classroom and / or risking the health and wellbeing of others in the classroom.

Below, we provide sample language for instructors to consider using in addressing such circumstances, prepared by the Pandemic Academic Coordination Work Group and the Dean of Students.

Liesl Folks, SVP and Provost

## Scenarios and approaches

### If a student enters a “mask required” space without a mask;

(Calmly)

Hi, I’m Professor X, and this is the COURSE NAME class.

OR

Hi, my name is X and I am the TA for this course XXX section.

What’s your name?

As a reminder, masks are required in this class!

Would you please put on your mask now?

### If they respond that they have *forgotten* to bring a mask with them;

Oh, let me see if I can find one for you!”

Hand them a mask from the stash of disposables in every classroom! If you can’t find one, ask others if they have a spare one handy to share.

### If they respond that they *refuse* to wear a mask;

I understand. I regret that you will need to leave this classroom space now.

Please keep up with your work via remote means, based on the posted materials in D2L.

If you have questions, please follow up with me during my office hours with any questions.

**If they become *verbally combative*;**

*The Instructor of Record (rather than a TA/GA or staff member) should lead the discussion from this point, if at all possible.*

The university policy is unambiguous that we are required to all wear masks in this classroom to ensure the health and safety of the whole class.

If you choose to not wear a mask, you must leave this space immediately, or you will be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

**If they *continue to refuse to leave the space*;**

I am forced to report you to the Dean of Students for disrupting this class, and you will be disciplined accordingly.

As an interim measure, you may not return to this class until the Dean of Students Office has resolved a path forward.

*Then, please do report the disruption to the [Dean of Students Office](#) on the day of the incident.*

**If they *continue to passively refuse to leave the space*;**

To the whole class:

I very much regret that I am cancelling the class for today.

I will share a make-up time and location with you via email / D2L.

Exit the classroom swiftly with the other students.

*Then, please do report the disruption to the [Dean of Students Office](#) on the day of the incident.*

**If they become *aggressive, shouting, or threatening*;**

Call UAPD for support.

Use the LiveSafe app to do this discretely, and / or perhaps signal for someone else in the room to do so.

To the whole class:

I very much regret that I am cancelling the class for today.

I will share a make-up time and location with you via email / D2L.

Exit the classroom swiftly with the other students.

*Then, report the disruption to the [Dean of Students Office](#) on the day of the incident.*

## Next steps

Any student who has been reported to the DOS for disrupting class over any COVID-19 mitigations will be contacted swiftly (often on the same day), and the concern will be addressed using our established actions for disruptive student incidents, under ABOR's Student Code of Conduct.

While these cases have been rare so far, they are taken very seriously.

## Useful links

Dean of Students Office Incident Report Form: [https://arizona-advocate.symplcity.com/public\\_report/index.php/pid664030?](https://arizona-advocate.symplcity.com/public_report/index.php/pid664030?)

COVID-19 Response and Campus Mitigations: <https://covid19.arizona.edu/>

LiveSafe App for iPhone and Android: <https://www.livesafemobile.com/>

ABOR Student Code of Conduct: <https://public.azregents.edu/Policy%20Manual/5-308-Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>

Dean of Students Office: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/>