Our Department’s COVID-Safe Policies
FAQ Guide (Spring 2022)

COVID-19 has changed how we live and work. Central to our public service mission is to collectively work together to continue to use empathy and kindness as we move from a pandemic to an endemic. This FAQ serves as a guidepost. If there is an unanswered question, contact Dr. Sara Rinfret (sara.rinfret@umontana.edu), Acting Dean & MPA Director.

1. Do I need to wear a facemask for in-person classes?
   a. Thru March 2, 2022 (required)
   b. Effective March 3, 2022; strongly recommended.

2. Do I need to wear a facemask for in-person office hours for the Department of Public Administration & Policy?
   a. Yes, until further notice.

3. How do I make up my school-work if I am impacted by COVID-19?
   a. Your professor will provide options for you to receive missing material (e.g. send PPT slides or recording of lecture). Make sure to notify your professor in advance. We realize this may occur periodically throughout the semester and will support you in your educational success. DPAP (PUAD and NPAD) specific classes are unable to offer a hyflex option at this time due to limited staffing and because we regularly provide fully online classes.
   b. If your illness persists, you will set up an appointment with the department Acting Dean/MPA Director to come up with a plan of action to successfully complete the semester.

4. What if I don’t feel comfortable taking an in-person class for the remainder of the spring semester?
   a. Some of your professors may shift some of your in-person class to remote (zoom) for the remainder or a portion of the semester due to confidential public health concerns. Your professor reserves the option to pursue this course of action and will communicate any changes with you directly, with a syllabus amendment, if necessary.
   b. Student accommodation requests should be sent to UM disability services this semester.
   c. Hyflex is not an option for students this semester since our department already offers classes fully online and via robot. Robots are currently fully enrolled for Spring 2022. See #3 for additional guidance.

5. What if I get sick or I am in contact with someone exposed to COVID-19?
   a. If you are sick, please do not come to class.
   b. Please notify your professor and Acting Dean/MPA Director; follow guidance here based upon your vaccination status.

6. What if I need an incomplete for my course?
a. It is individual instructor’s discretion. Please review their syllabus. If awarded, review our department’s handbook for length to complete an incomplete.

7. **How do I get in/out of the School of Law?**
   a. The School of Law uses a card swipe system to enter the building, accessible using your Griz Card. Your 790 has been entered into our system.
   b. **In preparation, make sure to obtain a UM Griz Card.**
   c. If you forget your griz card, [call campus safety](#) to let you into the building.