

Re: USC Marshall Graduate Student Fall 2021 Semester Update
Date: July 28, 2021

Dear USC Marshall Graduate Students,

We hope this update finds you well. As the beginning of the Fall semester approaches, we look forward to seeing you all back on campus. USC has entered [Phase 5](#) of its reopening plans, and we are pleased that the Marshall School of Business will be able to conduct our Fall 2021 classes in person without classroom occupancy constraints.

We don't yet have all the answers, but our expectation is that all Marshall classes will be taught in person and on campus during the Fall 2021 semester with only a small number of exceptions. In consultation with the University, Marshall has prepared guidelines for both our faculty and students.

Marshall will accommodate students who are unable to attend classes in person for the following reasons and by approval only:

- 1) Students for whom it would be medically unsafe to attend classes.
 - These students should promptly contact [USC Office of Student Accessibility Services \(OSAS\)](#) regarding the registration process for accommodations.
 - If students receive an accommodation letter from OSAS, they must notify their program's academic advisor and elective course instructors.
- 2) Students who are overseas and unable to enter the United States prior to the start of the Fall semester because of visa or travel restrictions beyond their control.
 - These students should promptly contact their program's academic advisor regarding the request for accommodation process.
 - If students receive approval, they must work with their program advisor and elective course instructors regarding the accommodation.

Course instructors will provide reasonable accommodations for students registered in their classes who fall into the above categories only; all other students are expected to attend in person. Please note non-Marshall students taking classes at Marshall must consult with their home school's academic advisor to discuss accommodation policies.

For updates on USC's Restart framework, please visit [here](#). As the campus opens, the health and safety of the entire USC and Marshall community continues to be our highest priority. Per [USC's policy](#), all students, faculty, and staff are expected to be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus or to present an approved medical or religious exemption. Currently, USC is requiring everyone to wear [masks indoors](#) in line with the LA County Department of Health Public Order. In accordance with the July 22, 2021 [memo](#) from USC Chief Health Officer Sarah Van Orman, anyone with COVID-19 symptoms is advised to please stay at home (do not go to work, attend class, or any other campus activity) until you are able to test.

We realize that you may have many questions about how the semester will play out. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this transition together. We can't wait to welcome you back to campus.

Fight On!

Suh-Pyng Ku
Vice Dean for Graduate Programs