

From: Sergey Nizkorodov
Date: May 19, 2020 at 6:00:59 AM PDT
To: Michael Dennin
Cc: Michelle Aucoin, Charles A. Smith, James Steintrager

Subject: Approval of on-line courses

May 19, 2020

Re: Approval of on-line courses

As mentioned in the May 11 e-mail from Chancellor Gillman, most classes will be offered remotely in the fall 2020 quarter. To help reduce confusion about whether existing courses have to be formally approved by the UCI Senate for on-line delivery, the Subcommittee on Courses & Continuing, Part-Time, & Summer Session Education (SCOC) and Council on Educational Policy (CEP) have offered the following guidance:

- There is no need for the undergraduate programs to seek formal approval for existing in-person courses that will be offered in a remote format as a temporary measure to counteract the COVID19 restrictions for in-person classes.
- SCOC will continue considering proposals for online courses intended to have an online component on a long-term basis. The central question that SCOC always asks when evaluating online course proposals is whether the quality of the proposed course is likely to meet or exceed that of the more traditional in-person version. Proposed courses that use online tools to enhance the learning experience beyond that of an in-person course are more likely to be viewed favorably.

SCOC meets monthly from October to June of every academic year. SCOC will not be meeting during the summer to approve rush proposals for the fall quarter. If your undergraduate program is interested in creating a new online course or creating an online version of an existing in-person course, we recommend that you work with the Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation (DTEI) during the summer and fall quarter to create an online course that adheres to the best pedagogical practices and submit the proposal during the next academic year.

Sergey Nizkorodov, SCOC Chair
Tony Smith, CEP Chair