Department of History Guidelines Concerning Potential Changes of Teaching Modalities on Account of COVID-19

adopted by the Department Executive Committee
Jan. 21, 2022

The Department will accommodate requests from instructors to change the modality of courses to allow instructors to go remote or hybrid if conditions to an in-person class change in a way that substantially interferes with the teaching and learning environment. The Executive Committee will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis, but offers the following general guidelines:

1. in cases where the instructor contracts covid, the Executive Committee hereby authorizes an immediate transition to remote learning for two weeks. Instructors are of course entitled to take sick days if they are symptomatic. Instructors are required to notify the Chair if they test positive for covid and modify their teaching modality. As a reminder, TAs are not expected to take on additional duties due to covid-related circumstances.

2. in cases where individual students are unable to be in class on account of covid-related circumstances, the Executive Committee encourages faculty to allow students to participate remotely for in-person classes via streaming or class recordings. The Executive Committee does not need to be notified for such minor modifications.

3. in cases where an instructor feels it best to move the entire class to remote learning, the Executive Committee will review petitions on a case-by-case basis. Instructors are to write to the Chair explaining the rationale for such a transition. The rationale will be shared with the Executive Committee. Any such allowances are, per the Provost and Dean, to be short-term in nature and any request lasting longer than two weeks will require a review after such a time.