



COMMUNICATION MEMO

Office of the President
Office of the Vice-President Academic and Research
Office of the Academic Dean

2020-09-28

MEMO: **Delivery of Academic Programs and Courses for Winter Term 2021 (21W)**

TO: Algonquin University Faculty, Staff, Students, Administration, Board of Governors

FROM: Asima Vezina, President and Vice-Chancellor
Donna Rogers, Vice-President Academic and Research
István Imre, Acting Academic Dean

There is, as all are aware, much uncertainty about how the global pandemic will continue to affect our work and our studies, and uncertainty about when the borders will open to allow students to travel to Canada. Despite this uncertainty and the rapidly-changing advisories from federal and provincial governments and public health authorities, we recognize that decisions need to be made for 21W.

Throughout the decision process, we have continued to consult widely inside and outside the University. We have spoken with Department and Faculty Chairs to understand the needs of their faculty and students, across our three unique campus communities. We have been in touch with university leaders and health officials across the province and across the country, to learn from what they are planning and doing, in order to make the best possible decisions for Algonquin University.

For the 21W term, the majority of Algonquin University's academic programs and courses will be delivered remotely.

Timmins: All instruction at the Timmins campus will be remote.

Brampton: All instruction at the Brampton campus will be remote

Sault Ste. Marie: Most instruction at the Sault Ste. Marie campus will be remote, with limited in-person instruction:

- Courses are being evaluated for in-person delivery in accordance with safety criteria, student and faculty needs, and the public health context
- A list of the specific courses and labs planned to be available in person for 21W will be available before October 9

- Students may decide to relocate to Sault Ste. Marie for the winter term in order to take one or more in-person classes, but they are not required to do so. If any student cannot take a particular course in person, the course will have a remote option.

In considering the delivery of academic courses and programs, there is consensus to:

- support student success in every possible way
- promote and protect the equity of access to and progress in academics for students
- empower faculty and staff to deliver excellent programs and supports, safely
- begin to offer some face-to-face teaching and learning opportunities, as part of a phased Return to Campus plan

We are working very closely with public health officials in all our campus communities. If changes to our instructional plans are required, we will communicate them as soon as possible. In the meantime, our collective success depends on all of us continuing to follow public health protocols to protect against the spread of COVID-19: wear your mask in all public places, practise physical distancing (2 m/6 ft), wash your hands often, and follow group-size restrictions mandated by the province at all times.

For all COVID-19 updates, please visit the dedicated [Coronavirus Information](#) page on the Algoma University website.