




IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost

Course Delivery Modes

	Face-to-Face (FF*)	Hybrid (HYB*)	Online (WWW*)	Arranged (ARR*)
				
Description	Face-to-face (FF) is on-campus in a physical learning space using social-distancing practices. 75% or more of instructional time is face-to-face. Aligns with the Higher Learning Commission guidelines.	Hybrid (HYB) courses combine face-to-face and online course delivery into one integrated experience (synchronous and asynchronous). The mix of delivery modes will depend on an instructor's teaching strategies and course learning objectives. A substantial component (25% or more) of the instruction occurs online. Aligns with the Higher Learning Commission guidelines.	Online (WWW) is interacting online only using distance learning technologies. Each online course should contain at least 1-hour of active faculty-student interaction per credit hour/per week - ideally spread out over multiple sessions. Aligns with US Department of Education guidelines.	Individual or small group format including research projects, internships, and independent study where students work closely with faculty or industry partners.
Place	On-campus learning space (classroom, lab, studio, etc.)	On-campus learning space and online	Online only	On-campus learning space and online
Time	Meets at class times according to the ISU Schedule of Classes.	Face-to-face meets at class times according to the ISU Schedule of Classes and online work schedule determined by the instructor.	Synchronous online interactions meet at class times according to the ISU Schedule of Classes and online work schedule determined by the instructor.	Meeting times are arranged between student(s) and instructor.
Synchronous (occurs in real-time)	Engage in course content (lectures, discussions, group work, etc.) at scheduled times face-to-face in an on-campus learning space.	Engage in course content (lectures, discussions, group work, etc.) at scheduled times either face-to-face or online.	Engage in course content (lectures, discussions, group work, etc.) at scheduled times online.	Engage in course content (research group meetings, discussions, group work, etc.) at scheduled times either face-to-face or online.
Asynchronous (not at the same time)	Prepare for class, complete homework, etc. outside of scheduled class time; online or in small groups. Access available online content anytime.	Engage in interactive course content (pre-recorded mini-lectures, assignments, discussions, etc.) at anytime.	Engage in interactive course content (pre-recorded mini-lectures, assignments, discussions, etc.) at anytime.	Engage in interactive course content (pre-recorded mini-lectures, assignments, discussions, etc.) at anytime.

Course presence in Canvas required for all modes

*Course delivery modes are noted in AccessPlus (<http://accessplus.iastate.edu/>) and on the ISU Schedule of Classes (<https://classes.iastate.edu/>). Students, who wish to change their schedule to achieve more online or face-to-face courses, or switch sections of the same course, may do so in AccessPlus.

Before you register...

As you register for the fall semester, it is important to understand how your classes will be delivered (face-to-face, online, hybrid, or arranged), and the factors that led to these decisions.

How course delivery decisions are made

The selection of courses and delivery modes is a careful and deliberate process that begins at the program level and requires approval from department chairs and college deans.

Face-to-face instruction is the default mode of instruction for the majority of courses, particularly those targeted to first-year students, and those with experiential learning components such as labs, studios, capstone, and team-based learning courses.

Offering a variety of course delivery options provides needed flexibility for students who learn better in a virtual environment, or who need to accommodate work schedules or family obligations, or to address health risks. You may be surprised to know that most online courses are taken by students who live on or near campus, and who are simultaneously enrolled in face-to-face courses.

Prioritizing safety for students, faculty, and staff

While classroom capacities, face-to-face courses, and student activities are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels in the fall, Iowa State will continue to make decisions regarding campus operations with health and safety as our top priority. We will also be prepared to change course if conditions warrant, acknowledging that some decisions may be beyond the university's control.

We are also committed to keeping you on track toward your Cyclone degree. Any changes to campus operations, including course delivery modes, will be communicated to students as soon as they are known.