

H1N1 ADVICE FOR FACULTY – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

As you know, we will see cases of swine flu on campus this fall. Weeks ago you received a copy of the policy CC sent to students and parents. It reflects many conversations of CC's Pre-EMPT committee as well as the advice of the CDC to college campuses. The following clarifies how you need to prepare students for their or your absence from class.

H1N1 (swine flu) is highly contagious and the classroom is a likely place for the spread of the virus. **NEITHER YOU NOR YOUR STUDENTS SHOULD ATTEND CLASS IF YOU EXPERIENCE FLU SYMPTOMS. IT IS AS IMPORTANT TO AVOID SPREADING THE VIRUS AS IT IS TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF IF INFECTED.** For healthy people, rest and fluids likely suffice.

IF YOU OR YOUR STUDENTS GET ILL, YOU SHOULD NOT RETURN TO CLASS UNTIL 24 HOURS AFTER THE SYMPTOMS SUBSIDE.

Please emphasize the following on the first day of class:

For your students:

1. Instruct students not to come to class if they experience flu symptoms (fever, sore throat, fatigue). If they feel ill in class, ask them to leave and urge them to take care of themselves.
2. Make whatever arrangements are appropriate for students who must miss class to make up the work.
3. If they must miss class for several days, the college will apply the rules for excused grades, withdrawal from a class without penalty through Tuesday of the second week of a block, and incomplete grades. If students must withdraw from the course, remind them that they can make up the course in the summer using their Wild Card. Our policies allow students in exceptional circumstances to switch grade tracks at any point in a block. They petition to do so through you, and you may want to support this option.
4. Please inform the Student Life Office that you have a student who is ill so that Residential Life can care for the student and reduce the spread of the illness in the dorms.

For yourself:

1. Please do not come to class if you have the flu. Do whatever you can to avoid getting ill. The usual measures (adequate rest, healthy food, and exercise) mitigate the likelihood of contracting the flu.
2. Work out a plan for your absence and explain it to your students in advance. You may want to incorporate a three-day window into the syllabus, with flexible assignments for students (research papers, group projects). It might help to identify class sessions you could eliminate if necessary.

3. For extended periods of absence, let your chair and the dean's office know so they can try to work out a solution.

A moderate case of H1N1 flu produces high fever, fatigue, and upper respiratory problems. If you have a serious case or other pre-existing health complications, contact your doctor. Boettcher is not staffed to take care of faculty and staff. Send students to Boettcher.

If you have questions about the illness, check out the CDC website: <http://www.flu.gov>. You may also contact the faculty representative to Pre-EMPT and resident expert on the flu, Andrew Price-Smith, x8224 or aps@ColoradoCollege.edu.

For questions about college policies, contact the registrar's office, x6610, or the dean's office, x6682.

Pre-EMPT and the dean's office will provide further details as the situation develops.