

Frequently Asked Questions for International Students about Remote (Online) Instruction

What is digital or technology-enhanced (online) instruction?

You will study online, using the Internet, a learning-management system called “[Canvas](#),” and a web-conference software tool called **Zoom**. You will receive instructions via e-mail on how to access Canvas. Within Canvas, in your course menu or Conference Room area, you will find instructions on how to use tools such as Zoom. Please check your email often.

Why are my classes online and not in a classroom?

Because of the global COVID-19 health emergency, UCLA and UCLA Extension want to do everything that we can to prevent the spread of the virus, and to protect your health by delivering your education through online instruction.

How is learning online different from learning in the regular classroom?

There are some things that are different and some things that are similar to the physical classroom experience. For example, your instructor will determine when the week starts for your course—if your instructor states that Tuesdays start the week, then your assignments will be due by midnight (PT) on Monday.

Differences: Students meet in a virtual (online) classroom, not a physical classroom on campus. With reliable Internet access, you can attend your class from home or choose another quiet, comfortable location. You will interact with your instructor and classmates using your computer camera and the Zoom program, which is inside of Canvas. Your lessons will be posted online in weekly modules featured in Canvas.

Similarities: Just like in a regular classroom, students can submit assignments and homework, take exams, and have discussions with the instructor and your classmates. This all takes place online. The teacher can also put you into pairs or groups to communicate and work on your lessons. If your class is synchronous (all students logged in at the same time), you will talk, write, and ask questions live in real time during your scheduled class time on Zoom.

Will I be learning the same content online as in a regular classroom?

Yes. Students will follow the same lessons, learn the same skills, and use the same textbook.

Will my class be held online at the same time it was to be held in the classroom?

Yes. If you have returned to your home country and are studying online, please be aware of the time you will need to log in to your online class given the time difference. **Note:** While it is preferable and sometimes required that you attend live lectures offered synchronously, lectures may be recorded. Please check with your instructor and refer to your course syllabus to determine the specific requirements of your course.

Will all my classes be online?

For 2021 [Summer and Fall quarters](#), UCLA Extension International Programs will be offered in a hybrid (online and in-person) format. Students without an F-1 visa, who wish to study in the U.S. and enroll in one of our hybrid format programs, will meet U.S. Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) eligibility requirements for an I-20 form to obtain an F-1 visa.

Students who are already in the U.S. with an F-1 visa can transfer to UCLA Extension and maintain F-1 status. Transfer students are not required to participate in an in-person class to maintain their visa status at this time.

Current UCLA Extension students living in the U.S. with an F-1 visa are not required to participate in an in-person class at this time. You may enroll in fully online courses for Summer and Fall quarters.

How will I set up and start my remote courses?

Students will receive an e-mail explaining how to log into your class on Canvas. You will then access Zoom, which is integrated into the Canvas course menu or Conference Room area. Directions on how to use Zoom can be found in Canvas. You can also read [Student Resources - Course Resources for Online Learning](#) for more details.

What technology is required?

You will need access to:

1. A laptop, tablet, or desktop computer with video and audio capability (Canvas also works via smartphone app);
2. Access to the Internet and headphones;
3. A [supported Internet browser](#)

Will I be able to meet with my teacher in person, face to face?

While students will not be able to meet an instructor in person, you will see your teacher online through the learning-management system (Canvas). Also, your teacher can answer questions before or after class on Canvas.

Will UCLA Extension offices remain open?

Our buildings are currently closed, but UCLA Extension team members are working remotely from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (PST), Monday through Friday. Team members are available by phone, e-mail, and Zoom web conferencing.

How can I communicate with my instructors?

You will be able to communicate with your instructors through the “Inbox” function in Canvas.

Will there be a different price if the classes are taught online?

Certificate Programs and individual courses:

There will be no price difference from the published fee of your program or course on the UCLA Extension website.

American Language Center (ALC) programs:

Fees will be reduced for students studying remotely from their home countries to reflect the waived health insurance fee requirement. Additionally, the \$150 application fee will be waived for all students for Summer 2021 only.

Please see the updated [ALC information](#) on the UCLA Extension website.

How will remote instruction affect my student visa (F-1) status?

- Students applying for a new F-1 visa, who wish to study in the U.S. must enroll in one of our hybrid format programs, in order to meet U.S. Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) eligibility requirements for an initial I-20 form.
- Transfer I-20s will be issued to students already in the U.S. and wishing to transfer to UCLA Extension
- Continuing students with I-20s issued before the COVID-19 pandemic can maintain their F-1 status whether they choose to take programs from their homes in L.A. or from their countries. Please note that this is a temporary exception to current SEVP regulations and is subject to change.

If I have questions about my visa or about traveling, whom do I contact?

Please contact our International Student Services office: iso@uclaextension.edu

Will there be any changes to paid or unpaid internships?

Yes, out of an abundance of caution for the safety of UCLA Extension students, changes have been made to internships.

- x **Face-to-Face (In-person, Onsite) Internships:** These internships have been suspended (discontinued) until further notice.
- x **Remote (Virtual, Online) Internships:** These internships will be approved, but must meet the following requirements:
 - o The director of the student's certificate program must evaluate and approve the viability of the remote internship.
 - o Once the director has approved, the internship site supervisor must agree to accept and approve the remote internship.
 - o Both the director and the internship site supervisor must complete a form indicating their approval of the remote internship.

If my internship is suspended or not approved, what do I do?

In order to remain in compliance with the terms of your F-1 visa, students should contact their academic advisor for assistance in selecting other UCLA Extension courses to fulfill the 12-credit requirement and remain in status. Contact information for UCLA Extension academic program departments can be found [here](#).

Is there any other information I can have about COVID-19 as a UCLA Extension student?

For additional information, please visit our [Student Resources](#) webpage.