

FA 21 SOM Protocols

University Covid Policies

- See UNC's [vaccination policy](#) for information about vaccination requirements and reporting.
- Masks are required in public indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status. Read the [Aug. 12 mask update](#) for more information, including exceptions.
- Faculty, Staff and Students are reminded to check the [UNC Coronavirus Website](#) and the [FAQ page](#) regularly for university-wide guidance and updates
- Students, faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to get tested weekly.
- Students or faculty who do not comply with masking policy or who misrepresent their vaccination status will be referred to the Dean of Students for follow up.

SOM Specific Guidance: All classes will be delivered through face-to-face instruction, with additional safety precautions for the type of course, as described below. Delivery modalities may not be changed without Dean's office approval.

Academic Classes

- Classrooms will operate at 100% capacity and masks are required at all times. Faculty who believe the limited exceptions included in the mask policy may apply to their classroom should confirm with the School Director.

Applied Lessons, Studio Classes and Methods/Techniques Classes

All applied lessons, studio classes and methods classes will be delivered through face-to-face instruction, making use of the limited exceptions needed for applied activities/techniques as follows:

- Lessons and coachings will be taught in regular faculty teaching studios or in larger spaces, e.g., classrooms, rehearsal rooms and/or outdoors as appropriate.
- There should be 10 minutes of air change time between lessons, collaborative rehearsals, and studio classes.
- All wind players and singers must wear a properly fitted mask over the nose and mouth when not playing or singing. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted.
 - Singers should maintain physical distancing of 6 feet between themselves and all individuals if singing while masked, and 12 feet if singing unmasked.
 - Wind players should maintain physical distancing of 3 feet between all individuals while playing. 6 ft is strongly recommended.
- Students playing string, percussion, and keyboard instruments must wear a properly fitted mask over the nose and mouth during lessons, studio classes and methods classes at all times. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted.
- Applied faculty members and collaborative pianists must wear a properly fitted mask over the nose and mouth during lessons, rehearsals, and studio classes at all times. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted. Wind and voice faculty who are fully vaccinated may remove masks to demonstrate but must reapply the mask immediately when finished.
- The sharing of mouthpieces is prohibited. The sharing of musical equipment and instruments is prohibited unless absolutely necessary, and sanitation should occur between users. Sanitary wipes should be available in every classroom and are refilled by facilities each night. Contact facilities if supplies are running low.
- Voice lessons will take place in person with masks worn by all. Singer, pianist, and instructor will all maintain a distance of at least six feet. When the instructor needs to see the voice student more clearly, the student may be invited to wear a face shield for that portion of the lesson. Ten minutes will elapse between lessons for the air to clear in the lesson space.

Ensemble and Performance Classes

All Ensemble and Performance Classes will be delivered through face-to-face instruction, making use of the limited exceptions needed for performance activities as follows:

Instrumentalists

- Wind players should maintain physical distancing of 3 feet between all individuals while playing. 6 feet of physical distancing is recommended where possible.
- Trombone and trumpet players should not be seated or be standing directly behind other players, but rather staggered so they are playing to open space.
- Trombone and trumpet players must be seated 6 feet from other players if they are situated behind other players.
- Strings, percussion, and keyboard students/faculty must be seated a minimum of 3 ft apart.
- Wind and Brass players may remove their masks for all rehearsals and concerts once seated.
- String, Percussion, Keyboard and all Rhythm Section players will be required to wear masks for all rehearsals and concerts.

Singers

Choirs

- Singers should maintain physical distancing of 6 feet between themselves and all individuals if singing while masked, or 12 feet if singing while unmasked.
- If possible, singers should not be seated/standing directly behind other singers, but rather staggered so they are singing to open space.
- Singers in proximity (less than 3 feet) must always wear a properly fitted mask over their nose and mouth. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted.
- All singers in choral ensembles must wear a properly fitted TMF singers mask at all times, including while singing.
- Faculty members, staff members, and collaborative pianists must wear a properly fitted mask over the nose and mouth during rehearsals and performance classes at all times. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted. Wind and voice faculty may remove masks to demonstrate but must reapply the mask immediately when finished.
- Depending on conditions at the time, masks may be removed for dress rehearsals and concerts.

Opera

- Singers must maintain physical distancing of 6 feet between themselves and all individuals if singing while masked, or 12 feet if singing while unmasked.
- If possible, singers may not be seated/standing directly behind other singers, but rather staggered so they are singing to open space.
- Singers in proximity (less than 3 feet) must always wear a properly fitted mask over their nose and mouth. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted.
- All singers in opera rehearsals must wear a properly fitted TMF singers mask at all times, including while singing.
- During dress rehearsals and performances, vaccinated singers are allowed to unmask and/or wear face shield (depending on conditions at the time); unvaccinated singers will be asked to stay masked.
- Opera students will have temperature checks at the beginning of each rehearsal performance. Staging will be socially distanced, and frequent breaks will be provided to clear the air in the room. Use of hand sanitizer is recommended.

Classroom Spaces and Practice Rooms

It is extremely important that students, faculty and staff occupy only the rooms that they have reserved, and do not arbitrarily grab an empty room.

- Classrooms and practice rooms may be used only by those holding a reservation. The scheduling of these spaces includes 10 minutes of clearing time between reservations.
- All spaces must be vacated immediately following class or rehearsal. No student/staff/faculty occupancy outside of class and rehearsal time is permitted without a reservation.
- Practice rooms will be reserved using the same [online reservation system](#) implemented last academic year. Keyboard majors will continue to arrange practice times through their area protocols.