

Law School Return to Campus Frequently Asked Questions

This is a list of common questions we've been receiving and will be updated periodically.

Will Orientation be in-person or remote?

Orientation will be held remotely. There will be a mix of asynchronous and synchronous components. More details will be sent to all incoming students as it becomes available.

Why did we move the Fall 2021 start date to August 17th?

The earlier start date allows us to avoid the risks associated with students traveling over Thanksgiving Break and returning to campus.

We understand this may cause concern for some students with their summer employment. If this new date impacts your employment end date and you're unable/have concerns about changing it, please email vlacademiclife@vanderbilt.edu.

Will all classes be graded on a P/F basis again?

No, the Law School will return to its standard grading policy and practices for the 2020-21 academic year. For more details, please refer to the [Student Handbook](#).

Can any student choose to do remote learning or only those that are immunocompromised or ill?

All continuing and LLM students may choose to take one or all of their Fall courses via remote learning. When you enroll, you will be offered the option of enrolling in each course either in person or via Zoom/remote learning. If you choose to take a class in person, you can still attend Zoom if you are ill and need to miss a class. Students who experience any symptoms at all, however minor, are instructed to stay home and attend classes on Zoom as long as the symptoms persist. If you select Zoom/remote learning for a class, you will not be able to attend that class in-person during the Fall semester. You will receive a registration email from Academic Life that explains how to sign up for classes in detail.

If you are an incoming 1L student, you will may either take all doctrinal course in-person or all online. 1L students who would like to take all of their courses remotely should contact vlacademiclife@vanderbilt.edu.

Will in-person classes be capped at a certain number of students?

Yes, the number of students who can attend each in-person class will depend on the classroom where the class is taught. In-person capacity in each classroom will be limited to comply with social distancing protocols.

Students will have the option to select a mix of in-person and online classes. If you are unable to get into an in-person class due to the cap, you can choose the Zoom/remote option for that class.

Will Fall semester exams be administered in person or remotely?

This is yet to be determined. Fall exams will most likely include both in-person and take-home exams. We will release the exam schedule before open enrollment begins.

Will Spring semester also be in person and/or remote?

This is yet to be determined. We will provide updated information about the academic schedule for 2020-21 on an ongoing basis, as decisions are made.