

September 1, 2020

To all students

Executive Director and Vice President, Education and International Affairs

Second-Semester Classes in the 2020 Academic Year

Second-semester undergraduate classes beginning October 1 will in principle be held on campus as we continue to take measures against coronavirus infection. However, to support containment efforts, remote learning will be used for classes that can be taught online or in cases where it is likely to be highly effective educationally.

The university is currently in the process of compiling how each class will be taught, whether on campus or online (on-demand or in real time). You will be notified promptly via the Live Campus academic system when this information becomes available.

We ask that undergraduate students be prepared to start classes on campus.

In contrast, graduate classes will generally be held online.

Please note that depending on the spread of coronavirus infections in the future, we may need to resort to holding all classes online.

Details

To support coronavirus containment, first-semester classes (two quarters of this academic year) at the university were generally held online for remote learning. This essentially consisted of on-demand content, with some real-time instruction. Experiments, exercises, and drills that must be conducted face-to-face were held after the summer break while taking measures against infection from contact or airborne droplets.

As you are aware, coronavirus infection is now more widespread than when the university decided to conduct classes online last semester. However, the government has introduced basic measures against infection and recommended new lifestyle habits intended to prevent infection from spreading. At schools from elementary to high school level, in-person classes are already resuming.

At the university as well, this has led us to review the format of second-semester classes. Policies on holding second-semester classes while preventing the spread of infection were decided at a July 31, 2020, meeting of a virus task force. The president's message on this date outlined the upcoming schedule, which reflects our acceptance of the current task force recommendation that second semester beginning October 1 should be held as in normal years—generally on campus, as we continue to take coronavirus measures—but that to support containment efforts, remote learning should be used for classes that can be taught online or in cases where it is likely to be highly effective educationally.

We acknowledge that some students or their families may disagree with university's decision to resume in-person classes in principle from the second semester. However, the decision was made

taking many factors into consideration, including effective education, as discussed in a July 27, 2020, publication of the University Promotion Division, Higher Education Bureau of MEXT on considerations for classes held during the second semester and next academic year.

Needless to say, when holding in-person classes, the university will take necessary steps to prevent clusters of infection on campus. We will also familiarize faculty members with these issues, keep students informed, and provide guidance. To this end, we will require those entering school buildings to disinfect their hands and wear a mask, for example. Seats for in-person classes will be spaced farther apart, and classes for which a safe distance cannot be ensured because of the number of students will be held online. For those using remote learning to study before or after in-person classes, vacant classrooms and their wireless LAN environment will be available, as will computer rooms.

Additionally, for students who can no longer attend in person because of infection or high risk of having been infected, and for students who can no longer commute due to high risk of infection, the university will take measures as needed to enable virtual attendance of on-campus classes in real time via an online videoconferencing system or the like, or make recorded classes available. If you require these services, contact the Academic Affairs Division of the Shinagawa Campus or Academic Affairs Section of the Etchujima Campus.

Thank you for understanding that this decision applies to current conditions. Depending on future conditions of coronavirus infection, the university may revert to holding classes online.

Message from the President (Attachment) Upcoming Schedule (Revised July 31, 2020)

https://www.kaiyodai.ac.jp/overview/president/post_208.html

Reference: July 27, 2020, publication of the University Promotion Division, Higher Education Bureau of MEXT on considerations for classes held during the second semester and next academic year

https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20200727-mxt_kouhou01-000004520_1.pdf