



***Elizabeth G. Lobo, Ph. D.***  
***Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs***  
***Office of the Provost***

October 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

With the announcement on Friday, October 8, that the SMU campus has transitioned to masks as optional, with the understanding that faculty can continue to require masks in their classrooms and labs, we have prepared a few resources in case they are of use to you. The [faculty FAQ here](#) has also been updated.

First, you can still require masks in your classrooms. If you previously submitted [this form](#) and added language about mask requirements to your Canvas syllabus at the beginning of the semester, then the only action we strongly recommend would be for you to communicate clearly with your students ahead of time via SMU email and the Canvas announcements function. If you have not yet submitted the form or added masking requirement language to your syllabus, and wish to do so, [please confirm your choice at this link](#) and communicate with your students.

Please note: If you had already added to your syllabus at the beginning of the semester that a participation/professional grade of up to 10% was tied to mask compliance, then it remains in effect. If, however, you did not have a participation grade tied to mask

compliance in the syllabus at the beginning of the semester, then the grading policy cannot be changed half-way through the semester. In these cases, you can still require masks, just not use the professionalism grade.

Finally, there is a point person in each school (see list below) to facilitate mask dissemination, in the event that you would like to request additional masks for their classrooms.

Cox: Julie Maas

Dedman Law: Becca Henley

Dedman College: Tom Carr

Lyle: Jim Dees

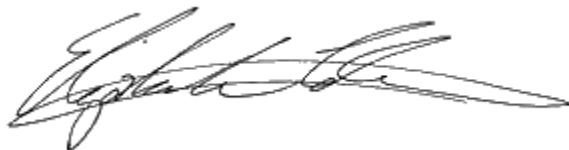
Meadows: Gretchen Smith

Simmons: Tim Jacobbe

Theology: Joe Monroy

Thank you for everything you are doing to contribute to the academic community and to the success of our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth G. Loba". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Elizabeth G. Loba, PhD

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Southern Methodist University

<https://www.smu.edu/provost>

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## World Changers Shaped Here