

ONLINE INSTRUCTION @ BECKER COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH

Welcome (or welcome back) to Becker College! We are thrilled to have you with us this fall, and we are just as disappointed as you are that we can't see you (and teach you!) in person. While we really hoped to have our students with us on campus this fall, our top priority is safety. We want to protect all the members of the Becker family as much as we possibly can, and we understand that by making this change for the fall semester, we can help stop the spread of COVID-19 and therefore ensure that everyone is back on campus as soon as possible!

We know you must have a lot of questions about what your courses will look like this semester. While you all experienced remote learning last semester, either here at Becker or in your previous school, we want you to know that we are better prepared for an online learning environment this time around! Over the summer, faculty at Becker developed a number of teaching strategies and resources to create a rich and engaging learning environment for our students. These teaching techniques, paired with new technology, will help you have the best semester possible. Below are some commonly-asked questions to help get you started on the fall!

What will lecture courses look like?

Becker utilizes an online learning platform called Canvas, where the faculty in each of your classes will post learning materials for you. These can include recorded material from your instructors, interactive activities, videos, reading material, and much more. Some of your classes may be “synchronous”, in which you will meet with your professor and the rest of your class online at scheduled times, much like a regular class. Other classes will be asynchronous, in which you will work through the material on your own time and at your own pace. If you are unsure from the description whether a course is synchronous or asynchronous, please reach out to your professor.

Canvas will also be where your instructor posts assignments, announcements, quizzes, and discussion topics. In most cases, you can upload your assignments directly to Canvas, where your professor will grade them. Your grades are posted immediately in Canvas and you can communicate with your professor with any questions. Please check Canvas several times a day to make sure you are keeping up with your assignments!

What will labs look like?

Labs will vary in their delivery, depending on the course. Some labs will be utilizing a “virtual” lab option, in which students will be learning concepts by doing lab procedures in an online format. These can include demonstrations, simulations, interactive dissections, and other options. Faculty will also be able to record and/or stream live lab demonstrations, so you can

observe the laboratory procedures in real time. You can find out more about your labs on their specific Canvas pages and by asking your instructor.

What if I want to make changes to my courses?

You can still add or drop any classes until the deadline on August 31st. If you wish to make any changes to your fall schedule, please contact your academic advisor.

What about my internship/externship? Can I still do that this semester?

It is still possible to complete an internship or externship this fall! However, many sites now have closed or placed restrictions on student interns, so it's important to check in with the faculty member in charge of your course. While some sites are no longer accepting interns, other opportunities have appeared in the last month and it's important to be proactive about ensuring a placement. Please reach out to your professor or your academic advisor to make sure you get set up for this semester if you haven't already!

Please note that internships/externships are separate from the off-site placement in facilities that will teach essential hands-on skills required by the AVMA for our Veterinary Technician program. For information on that program, please refer to the FAQ's document for that program specifically.