

Fall 2020 Learning Environments:

UNDERSTANDING STUDENT COURSE SCHEDULES AND SCHEDULE OPTIONS

The health and safety of the entire Suffolk University community is of the utmost importance, and we understand that necessary public health requirements and travel challenges may complicate our students' ability to attend classes this fall. Suffolk has prepared to accommodate these requirements and challenges while continuing to provide the best possible experiential and transformational learning opportunities.

Courses will be delivered through a variety of formats, whether you will be attending on-campus in Boston or participating remotely. This will give you the flexibility to easily adjust how and where you attend classes if your circumstances change during the semester. Whether you attend your classes on campus or online, Blackboard—Suffolk University's learning management system—is the primary way that you will access course materials such as assignments, recordings, and Zoom meetings.

Please note that any class may need to shift to being delivered entirely online as a result of a change in circumstances, such as public health directives issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the City of Boston. University faculty are prepared to make this shift at any time while maintaining continuity of learning.

When you search for courses in WebAdvisor or look at your fall 2020 course schedules, you will see LOCATION codes that indicate the format in which particular courses will be delivered. (Please note that different sections of a course may be offered in different formats.)

You will see the following chart in WebAdvisor:

Location	Definition
Boston-Hyflex	Course delivered on campus. Students may choose to attend on campus or online. Students may attend the entire course online.
Online	Course delivered completely online. Asynchronous courses will not have meeting information.
Hybrid	Course delivered with a mixture of HyFlex/on-campus and online instruction.
On campus only	Course delivered on campus only. Students must attend on campus.
Online-MBA Short Term	Short term course delivered completely online. Graduate students only.



Below are definitions of terms you may see in WebAdvisor, on your course schedule, or on a syllabus for a particular course.

Asynchronous: online and at any time; WebAdvisor does not provide meeting information for asynchronous courses; some asynchronous courses may have a synchronous final exam time identified as “web chat.”

Flexible students: those unable to participate face-to-face and/or in real time for some or all course meetings.

F2F: face-to-face; students attending and/or instructor delivering course in person on campus.

Hybrid: instructor delivers some proportion of class meetings F2F and some proportion online; in most courses, students may attend classes with a HyFlex option to attend F2F or online. Hybrid delivery formats vary by course or course section. Click on “Meeting Information” for individual course sections in WebAdvisor for further details on which dates are online and which are F2F. Here are some examples to help you understand how hybrid courses work:

- In Hybrid Course A, every week the instructor delivers three hours of course meetings F2F on campus. The fourth meeting hour (“recitation”) is delivered online at a time identified with the words “web chat” in WebAdvisor. All students taking the class all attend the recitation online but exercise the HyFlex option for F2F meetings: eleven attend all F2F course meetings on campus, and nine attend online—some participating synchronously and some watching recorded course meetings later.
- In Hybrid Course B, every week the instructor posts 1.5 hours of online instruction (video lecture, discussion board assignments, etc) and delivers 1.5 hours of F2F instruction (discussions, hands-on applications, computer labs, etc.) twice per week. Students complete the online class asynchronously by Monday and (to allow for social distancing) are divided into two groups (B1 and B2) to complete the F2F class. Group B1 attends F2F on Tuesday; Group B2 attends class F2F on Thursday.
- In Hybrid Course C, half of the students will have the option to attend all class sessions F2F, while the other half will attend all class sessions online.

HyFlex: instructor delivers all course meetings F2F on campus; students choose to attend F2F on campus or to participate online. Online participants may attend synchronously or asynchronously—through recordings of course meetings made available for viewing at any time.

Online: students not required to be on campus; instructor delivers course meetings 100% virtually. Instruction may be delivered asynchronously, synchronously, or with a combination of asynchronous and synchronous meetings.

Remote: online instruction; used when F2F course delivery is interrupted with little or no warning (such as a weather event preventing access to campus).

Synchronous: online and in real time. WebAdvisor identifies synchronous meeting times with the term “web chat.”