

UCD School of Computer Science
Programme Delivery 2020/2021 Spring Trimester
21st December 2020

This document is an update on plans by the School of Computer Science for delivery of our programmes in the Spring Trimester of the 2020-2021 academic year.

As you will be aware, all Computer Science modules in the Autumn Trimester were delivered remotely/online, in line with public health recommendations and Government direction.

All Computer Science Programmes, and almost all Computer Science (COMP) modules, will run in the Spring Trimester. It is the expectation that the current Government restrictions will still be in place at the beginning of the Trimester. In the case of Computer Science modules, this means that all classes, lectures, tutorials and practicals, will be delivered remotely at the beginning of the Trimester.

Should the situation pertaining to Covid improve to the extent that public health guidelines are modified and Government restrictions are relaxed, it may be the case that some face-to-face classes may take place later in the Trimester. This will only happen where it can be done in compliance with public health guidelines and where it is deemed educationally appropriate. However, even if some classes do take place face-to-face, the School commits to retaining the remote/on-line delivery option, so that students who are not living in Dublin can complete their modules remotely. This means if students choose to live outside Dublin next Trimester, they will not have to relocate if the guidelines change and the restrictions are relaxed. The University Management Team has given this commitment and the School of Computer Science is confirming it so that students can plan for how and where they will study next Trimester.

Students will be contacted by their respective Module Co-ordinators to confirm the exact mode of delivery and technology and platforms that will be used, and to confirm whether lectures, tutorials and practicals will follow a particular schedule or whether, for example, recordings will be made and whether these will be made available outside of a given schedule.

We believe that we delivered a high-quality learning experience in the Autumn Trimester, even though students were not able to be physically present on campus. Throughout the Trimester, we kept in touch with students, Class Reps, Tutors, Demonstrators, and Teaching Assistants to solve problems and make improvements as went along. We will continue to do this in the Spring Trimester.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have *any* questions. A list of key staff contacts is provided at csintranet.ucd.ie/contacts/.

We hope that all students will have a restful and safe holiday.

The information contained in this document is accurate to the best of our knowledge as of the date above. Due to the dynamic nature of the COVID19 response, planning for the academic year is necessarily subject to change.