

Teaching formats for the 2021-22 delivery of the IB Plant and Microbial Sciences course have been reviewed with respect to safety and educational benefit of each component. Subject to changes in Covid-19 safety guidance we have prepared to deliver our course as follows:

Lectures

Lectures will be delivered live and in person in the Large Lecture Theatre in the Department. Lecture capture will be available.

Practicals

In order to maximise laboratory time whilst staying within safe occupancy limits for our Teaching Laboratory, the majority of practicals are being delivered in a blended format with a combination of in person and online components. Some practicals will be delivered online only, but many of those will still require live participation on the practical day. The online only practicals are:

- All practicals in the Molecular Techniques theme - putting this theme online helps us deliver as many of the other laboratory-based practicals in person as possible
- Computer based practicals - as there is no central provision of computer teaching rooms, where practicals require a computer and no wet lab, these will be run online. We know that this works as we used this format last year.
- Presentations - last year we found that conducting these online actually led to better engagement than that associated with everyone in a lecture theatre. We also see a long term benefit in having practised and thought about online presentations. It is very likely that to help combat climate change and to allow flexible working practices, such online delivery will be a critical skill for the future.
- Easter Week 0 Practical revision session - as this occurs before the start of full term, we wanted to ensure it would be accessible to all students regardless of travel

Supervisions

Supervisions will take place in person or online, which will be decided between discussions between supervisor and students. Supervisors will be allocated by the Department as usual.

If you have any questions about the course delivery, please contact Dr. Sonja Dunbar (sdd29, Teaching Associate) or Prof. Julian Hibberd (jmh65, Course Organiser).