

Dear BMGT student,

In this message you'll find information related to course delivery this fall, immigration and travel advice, and additional resources to support your wellbeing.

Make Academic Plans

If you'd like to be on campus but are concerned that you might not be able to travel to begin or continue your studies in September, or if, for any reason, you would prefer to access courses online, you can learn more about course delivery options for the 2021/22 Winter Session and get information on which courses will be offered online, here. We also encourage you to revisit the information in the course calendar to see what delivery options are already available for the courses in which you are registered. Once classes start, your course syllabi will indicate what provisions will be available in your situation.

For help planning your course schedule and for options, you can <u>meet with an Academic Advisor</u>. They can discuss options available to you, such as which courses you can complete online, the possibility of being granted a <u>Letter of Permission</u> that allows you to study at another institution, or the option of deferring your education for a term or more.

Over the past 18 months, UBC's Okanagan campus has incorporated significant additional flexibility into teaching and learning activities, using mechanisms ranging from policy adaptations through to individual instructor approaches rooted in care and compassion for the challenging circumstances in which students find themselves, but please note that not every course on campus can be adapted.

A number of measures are being implemented to support students accessing their courses:

- All MGMT courses can be completed online.
- Students can search the course catalog for online courses.
- Where possible, flexibility has been built into course and assessment planning.

For updates on UBC Okanagan's approach to the Fall semester 2021, please see <u>UBC</u> Okanagan's COVID-19 Response Information.

Find Support

We know that uncertainty or confusion around arrangements for the 2021W Session may impact your plans and may cause additional anxiety or worry during an already challenging time. There are multiple resources available that can help you navigate these experiences. You may reach out to multilingual counselors who are available to speak with you 24/7 through UBC's Student Assistance Program. The Student Assistance Program is a free, 24/7 wellness resource that is available online, by phone, video chat, instant messaging, or mobile

app. The Government of B.C. has <u>support for post-secondary students</u> affected by the travel suspension. Additionally, you can find <u>student resources and support on our website</u>.

The situation regarding Covid-19 is rapidly changing, as is direction from the Canadian Federal and Provincial Governments, including Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). Please note the guidance offered in this message is based on the information currently available on the day that it was written. Please keep yourself updated on the situation as it evolves via the links that are provided above.

If you're an international student, the following information from the Global Engagement Office may also be useful:

Check Your Immigration Status

From an immigration perspective, you can begin or continue your studies online outside of Canada, even if your study permit application has not been processed yet, since you are not technically required to have a valid study permit for the purposes of studying online outside of Canada.

If you intend to apply for the Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) after you complete your studies, check how your eligibility might be impacted by studying remotely. Or if you are considering dropping to part-time or taking a break from studies starting in September, find details on UBC's international student <u>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)</u> page.

Read thoroughly and continue to check the <u>Travelling to Canada Guide</u> for the most updated information on who can travel to Canada at this time (step 1), self-quarantine and COVID-19 testing requirements (step 3) and what documents you should carry with you for entry to Canada (step 4).

The Government of British Columbia also has a list of supports available for <u>post-secondary</u> students affected by India and Pakistan travel restrictions. You can find additional UBC support and resources on the <u>Student Services website</u>.

International Student Advising

If you have further questions or concerns regarding your immigration status, travel and/or transition to Canada, please reach out to our Global Engagement Office directly, and they will do their best to assist you. Immigration Advisors are currently available to support students virtually through video-based appointments and email. To request an appointment or support, email geo.ubco@ubc.ca (Please include your student number in the subject line).

The most current COVID-related guidance for returning to campus including vaccine recommendations and requirements and COVID testing requirements can be found here">here.

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, by all means reach out to the Faculty via fom.bmgt@ubc.ca.

We very much look forward to seeing you virtually or in-person on September 7th, and for sure will continue to support you as much as we possibly can as you progress on your academic journey.

Best regards,

Roger

Roger Sugden
Professor and Dean | Faculty of Management
The University of British Columbia | Okanagan Campus
Unceded Syilx Territory