Re-Opening MIT

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Re-Opening MIT:

- Introduction to MIT & key contextual factors
- COVID Response Structures from March 2020
- Current semester (Fall 2020: Sept – Dec)
- Planning for next semester (Spring 2021: Feb-May?)
- Key sources for ongoing information (public)

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MIT Key Facts

5 Schools:
- Architecture & Planning
- Engineering
- Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences
- Sloan School of Management
- Science

~1,000 Faculty

~11,000 Students
- 40% Undergraduates
- 60% Graduate students

~10,000 Staff

Classification: Research University Very High Research Activity

MIT

The mission of MIT is to advance knowledge and **educate students** in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century.

Open Learning

The mission of Open Learning is to transform teaching and learning **at MIT** and around the globe through the innovative use of digital technologies.

Residential Education

The mission of the Residential Education team is to empower **MIT faculty** to use digital technologies to augment and transform how they teach, making it more effective and efficient for MIT students and faculty.

Key COVID Response Structures

In early March, MIT-wide Emergency Management Structure launched:

1. Academic Continuity
2. Research Continuity
3. Business Continuity
4. Medical Response
5. Student / Residential Response
6. Communications Response

Ongoing: large early morning "COVID response" calls 1-5 times/week

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Fall Reopening – September-November, 2020

Significantly reduced numbers of people on campus:

Everything that can be done remotely remains remote

Everyone accessing campus must use COVID Pass App to:

- Complete a daily health attestation
- Be tested twice a week (results in 24 hours).
  62,075 tests done in Sept: https://covidapps.mit.edu/dashboard
- Wear a mask, wash hands, keep six feet apart from others

More info on testing & tracing: https://now.mit.edu/health-testing/

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Fall Reopening – September-November, 2020

Undergraduate students:

- only seniors & students of high need invited back for the fall term
- no off campus living allowed
- Most teaching is remote, even for students on campus. ~100 out of ~1000 fall classes are being taught in person & only when specifically required, ie hands-on labs, etc...
- ~half of undergraduates who were invited back came back

Fall Reopening – September-November, 2020

Research groups: personnel density requirement of 125 square feet per person and physical distancing requirement of at least 6 feet of separation in static work conditions.

Staff: all staff who can do their work remotely expect to stay remote through the spring.

More info on campus access: https://now.mit.edu/campus-access/

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Planning for Spring, 2021

- No plans have yet been finalized, not even semester start/end dates.
- Possibly delayed start (from early February to late February; per Boston weather & public health concerns)
- Intention is to open campus for students not invited back in the Fall: all first-years, Sophomores, and Juniors.
- Assume most teaching is still done remotely; prioritize face to face instruction for where it is needed most (hands on, labs, etc...)

Key Information Sources

- MIT's COVID response:
  - January – August 2020: https://covid19.mit.edu/updates
  - August – present and ongoing: https://now.mit.edu/
- Teaching & Learning:
  - TeachRemote (curated): http://teachremote.mit.edu/
  - Open TeachRemote (fully open): https://open.mit.edu/c/teachremote
  - Remote teaching mini-cases and publications: https://tinyurl.com/mitremoteteaching
  - Teaching with Digital Technology Awards: https://openlearning.mit.edu/mit-students/teaching-digital-technology-awards
  - MIT OpenCourseWare and MITx on EdX