

Remote Curricular Delivery Policy

Origin Date: May 11, 2020

Last Evaluated: April 2026

Responsible Party: Program Director

Minimum Review Frequency: Annually

Approving Body: Principal Faculty

MPAS Associated Forms: None

ARC-PA Associated Standards:

- **B1.04** The program ensures comparable and equivalent course content, instructional material access, and student experience when:
 - a) didactic instruction is conducted at geographically separate locations
 - b) didactic instruction is provided by different pedagogical and instructional methods or techniques for some students.

Background and Purpose

The Master of Physician Assistant (MPAS) curriculum, in total or in part, may be delivered remotely under certain circumstances. The Remote Curricular Delivery Policy provides Faculty, staff, and students with information regarding MPAS program expectations related to various aspects of remote education and assessment. Please see the Student Assessment Policy for further information regarding remote assessment.

Policy Statement

Decorum in the Online Classroom

At all times, even when classes are delivered remotely, students should conduct themselves to reflect the dignity and standards of the medical profession. It is important that physician assistant students participate in a manner that is respectful to their professors, classmates, patients, and other interprofessional, and administrative colleagues. The High Point University Department of Physician Assistant Studies guidelines for decorum in the online classroom are as follows:

- Follow any instructor directives on how to use the technology platform identified for that course. Contact the course director and/or High Point University IT department for any difficulties encountered when using the classroom platforms.
- Students must possess the hardware, software, and internet capabilities as outlined in the Technology Policy. If the student encounters any technology issues impeding their ability to participate in the course, it is their responsibility to notify the course director as soon as possible.
- Students must follow the syllabus and closely monitor their High Point University email and Blackboard Ultra accounts for course information. It is the student's responsibility to ask the course director for clarification if there is any uncertainty in expectations.
- Course directors must respond to student questions and concerns in a timely manner to ensure clear communication of course expectations.
- Students are expected to keep up with the scheduled lectures, coursework, and learning experiences as outlined by the course director in the syllabus. Likewise, changes made in the course schedule, coursework, or due dates must be clearly communicated to students in a timely fashion by the course director.

Synchronous Classes

- Students must follow the MPAS Attendance Policy for synchronous classes. If unable to attend a synchronous lecture, the student should follow the reporting procedure outlined in the MPAS Attendance Policy.
- Students must follow the HPU PA Program Guidelines for Professional Dress when attending synchronous classes online.
- Students must maintain the required professional behaviors outlined in the MPAS Academic Performance, Professionalism, and Progression Policy.
- Students should participate in class in a distraction-free room. If a virtual background is utilized, use something that is respectful to all. Remain muted with video on unless otherwise requested by the course director or instructor. While participating in group discussion, students should ensure they are in a quiet environment, free of background noise that could be disruptive to the instructor or classmates.
- Students must maintain the digital etiquette outlined in the MPAS Technology policy which states that during formal learning experiences the use of electronic devices is at the discretion of the course instructor; when permitted, it is expected that students will only use electronic devices for context-specific professional learning purposes. To mitigate potential distractions, and to facilitate increased individual participation and overall class engagement, the use of electronic devices for the following purposes is prohibited during formal learning experiences:
 - Conducting personal business (e.g. email, text messaging)
 - Engaging in social media and/or playing video games
 - Watching/streaming non-course related video or any other non-course related content
 - Searching for course-related content without the express permission of the class instructor
 - Any other activities that may interfere with an optimal learning environment
 - Working on material for other courses
- Students are expected to stay on task during the learning experience and should not conduct any personal business (e.g. cleaning the house, brushing teeth) while in class
- Only enter classes, online groups, or teams to which the student is assigned.
- Do not screen share unless it is requested by the course director or instructor.
- Do not use the chat function unless otherwise requested by the course director or instructor.

Asynchronous Classes and Activities

- Students are expected to keep up with the scheduled lectures, coursework, and learning experiences as outlined by the course director in the syllabus. Likewise, changes made in the course schedule, coursework, or due dates must be clearly communicated to students in a timely fashion by the course director.

Academic Integrity in the Online Classroom

- Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the online learning environment. The MPAS Academic Performance, Professionalism, and Progression Policy will be upheld during online instruction.
- Violation of the above will be considered a breach of professionalism and may be subject to disciplinary action.
- See the Student Assessment Policy for further information specific to Remote Assessment.

Approved by: Principal Faculty

Modified

May 2021

May 2022

April 2024: Changed DPAS to MPAS where indicated.

Next Review: Spring 2027