

Several golden wireframe geometric shapes, including rectangular prisms and pyramids, are scattered in the top-left corner of the slide.

# Supporting Students through the Fall Semester

Preparing for student absences and Isolation /Quarantine

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# Good news!

- Currently, we have very low numbers of student testing positive for Covid, and VERY small numbers of students in isolation and quarantine
- When students have become ill, they are mostly mildly ill and have been able to keep up with their courses while in quarantine

# Challenges to Instructors

- Students have been staying home when they feel ill
  - We want to encourage this as good public health practice
  - BUT this means absences even outside students in isolation & quarantine
- There is still a possibility of future increases in cases
- The increase in cases in September was early in the semester. Absences now mean missing deadlines and tests
- As we prioritize encouraging students to stay home for public health reasons, there will be students who take advantage of the circumstances; we just have to accept that as a reasonable cost

# Think ahead about your class and assignments

- Delaying an exam or assignment date for a student
  - Isolation/quarantine lasts 10 days
- Allowing the student to do an alternative test or assignment
- Re-weighting other assignments and allowing students to miss an assignment
- Taking an incomplete to allow a student to finish after the end of the semester (in Emory College, this needs OUE approval)

What is best may depend on the timing, the student, and the assignment

# Communicate what you want to students ahead of time

- Make it clear you do not want them to come to class when they are sick
- Do you want them to document why they are absent?
  - A direct email to you explaining their absence
  - OUE's absence form:  
<https://collegeconnect.emory.edu/register/self-cert-student-absence>
  - A copy of their email from Student Health confirming an appointment (for MAJOR assignments only, if you want to make sure they have connected with student health)
- Keep in mind that some illnesses don't require medical care but only home-care—some flexibility might be necessary