

We are CU Boulder: Teaching Excellence Independent of Modality

As the University of Colorado Boulder rededicates its strong efforts in teaching and technology, online and distance learning, we affirm that our faculty and staff are committed to using these powerful tools to serve our students, current and future. CU Boulder, as a public research university, is a community created to pursue teaching and learning, the discovery of new knowledge and the creation of new art. It is also a community that exists within an amazing hub of intellectual, cultural, and entrepreneurial creativity and that sits within the incredible beauty of Colorado's Front Range. We want our students, no matter location, to feel a connection to our institution and this place. All of our students will be able to say, "We are CU Boulder."

At CU Boulder, we embrace a teaching continuum from in-class traditional education to completely online courses and experiences, all with the same expectations, accountability and rewards for educators. This is the core of who we are, not auxiliary. Our education is embedded with our faculty, with all of our departments and colleges ensuring that enough of their courses are available online to effectively and flexibly enable both residential and remote students to participate and succeed. Our deans, chairs, and faculty are charged with the accountability, assessment and academic oversight for their online and distance education courses and degrees, as well as for developing a path that leads to enhanced technology use in the classroom.

- **By using educational technology to promote equity and accessibility, we are extending our university and projecting its value to meet our students' and our communities' needs, wherever they are.**

We are committed to leveraging technology to bring our faculty and our knowledge into our community, supporting higher education partnerships and institutions across our state, and extending our footprint globally with an emphasis on providing degrees that only we can do and do well. We create a shared sense of community that has at its core a purposeful commitment to inclusion and accessibility and a practice that builds curiosity, innovation and passion, regardless of physical location or ability.

- **We are committed to a culture of continuous online teaching innovation and excellence.**

We are creating an Innovation Hub that experiments with next generation education technology and translates these discoveries into the mainstream in a timely and scalable way. By bringing the accountability and academic oversight of online experiences and degrees into departments and colleges, we give interested faculty and their units the ability to tailor the programming and methods of assessment to ensure that they are relevant to their students' academic needs: one size does not fit all.

- **We are reimagining teaching and learning, pursuing for our faculty the ultimate flexibility to use technology and online platforms to meet our students' expectations and push beyond.**

We are committed to providing the technical infrastructure and pedagogical professional development that supports this work campus-wide, creating a culture that gives faculty permission to change their approach to teaching to meet their educational desires and the needs of our students, including permission to fail in order to innovate.

[see the Academic Futures Final Report, Project 4:

https://www.colorado.edu/academicfutures/sites/default/files/attached-files/academic_futures_report_100118_final.pdf]