

Academic Continuity Planning

Dear Campus Community,

As we continue to assess and prepare for the implications of COVID-19 (also referred to as the novel Coronavirus), please know that the well-being of our faculty, staff, and students is the top priority of campus leadership. We will continue to monitor the situation as more is learned about the virus and will provide updates as additional information becomes available.

We also are planning how to continue our core functions, including the delivery of coursework, while protecting the health and well-being of everyone involved. To this end, we are asking our instructors to consider the following:

- For instructors who are teaching in-person or hybrid courses, we are developing resources to help you temporarily shift all or part of your class online, which will help us prepare in case of a temporary campus closure. **This action would be at the discretion of the president and the provost, and we are hoping that it will not be necessary.** Additional information and specific resources will be forthcoming soon; as a starting point, we have attached guidelines to help you prepare should you need to move your course online.
- Please be flexible in working with students. This is a time of great stress for many individuals, so assure your students that their health and well-being is of paramount importance.
- Please offer students understanding and accommodations such as make-up exams, alternate assignments, consideration of attendance, and flexibility regarding off-campus internships or experiential learning experiences.

We will be communicating with students so they know this is a possibility; we have also begun continuity planning with key student services to ensure that student support such as tutoring and advising would be available. We are also reaching out to students to identify those who do not have reliable internet or computer access at home.

If you have any questions, please contact Edith Fernández, Vice President of College and Community Engagement, who is working closely with Gregg Maye from the University Police Services' Office of Emergency Management.