Dear University College students,

Chancellor Martin communicated an update about the campus response to the COVID-19 virus earlier today. It spells out some significant changes to our regular teaching and learning practices, including that spring break will be extended one week through March 22, and that all classes will then go online through at least April 30. We realize that this is big news and that we are asking a lot of our students, faculty, and staff. This is a major international, national, and local health challenge; thank you so much in advance for adapting with us in an effort to keep everyone in our community as safe as possible.

If you have never used Canvas, which is the university's online portal, do not worry. It is quite intuitive and easy. I was a new user myself in January and have been able to adapt to it. Assuming you have internet access, you might try logging in at mycanvas.wustl.edu to make sure that it works and that you see your classes listed. You can also download the Canvas student app for your mobile device. If you do not have easy access to the internet, we will help you to address this. I recommend that you contact Elizabeth Fogt (efogt@wustl.edu) or Elisa Wang (elisa.wang@wustl.edu) about that or any other concerns.

You will receive an email communication from your course instructor(s) sometime next week, which will detail more information. Meanwhile, please know that University College faculty and staff are working together to transition all University College courses to an online format; some were online already. Spring break is extended to allow faculty to complete that work. Classes will resume on March 23 in their online form.

We ask that students taking undergraduate courses do not come to campus, and that those taking graduate courses avoid coming to campus unless absolutely necessary for research. While in-person access is not possible, the advising team is available by email, phone or zoom to assist with questions and to have regular academic planning discussions. Please let us know if you have concerns about anything not addressed in the University’s prior communications. As a reminder, up to date information about COVID-19 can be found at https://emergency.wustl.edu/coronavirus-disease-covid-19

Thank you for your patience and flexibility. We’re in this together!

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