

Below is an FAQ compiled to answer the most asked questions from students. We appreciate your assistance in sharing these with your faculty and staff, especially your advisors.

Answers to these questions and for more student related information visit <https://coronavirus.miami.edu/information-for/students/index.html>. This website will continue to be updated.

### **What happens to my classes?**

Faculty are working to transition all classes to a virtual/online delivery. No class will take place in a physical classroom environment when they resume following Spring Break and until further notice.

We are doing everything that we can to put your health and safety first while also helping you learn and get the credit you need to graduate. All faculty are making sure that their materials, lectures, notes, and other necessary materials are on Blackboard so that you can finish the semester.

### **I am concerned about advising and course registration for next semester. What should I do?**

All academic advising is being transitioned to phone calls and Zoom/Skype. In-person meetings will not take place. Please watch for communications from your academic advisors on how to sign up for meetings and complete your advising appointment on CaneLink.

### **I left for break and now all my materials are on campus/in my off campus apartment. What do I do?**

Faculty will be asked to use Blackboard or other secure systems to provide secure access to curricular and reference materials that may have been left behind. In some cases, they may be on Blackboard or they may be available via the Library's digital resource center. We expect to be able to provide materials identified in the course syllabus.

Faculty will be provided specific guidance on how and what materials can be offered to students securely online without violating copyright protections. Reach out to your faculty directly if material that you need is not provided following March 23.

### **What happens to the deadlines that were included in my syllabus?**

Faculty were asked to modify how they deliver their courses, and to include consideration of the lengthening of Spring Break. Faculty have until Monday, March 23 to upload their updated syllabus on Blackboard, although many have already posted their updates.

### **What happens to my exams?**

Faculty members are modifying exams, tests, and quizzes. Some might take place online, others might take on a different form. Check your updated course syllabus on Blackboard or consult with your faculty member.

### **How are labs or experimental courses going to be conducted?**

Faculty have been working to recreate the lab environment in an online setting. That might include videos of labs, virtual reconstruction of labs, and more. Your faculty will give details as to how your lab will take place.

Laboratory and experiential courses present specific challenges, and we have made excellent progress in ensuring minimal disruption to student learning. Special requirements in the School of Nursing and the Miller School of Medicine (i.e., clinical rotations), the School of Law and the Frost School of Music (i.e., recitals and special performances) have already provided guidance to their students. Each student should consult specific guidance and updates from their schools/colleges in addition to updates from the University of Miami, generally.

All schools and colleges have special experiential (i.e., "lab") courses. For the past several days and now weeks, each has been preparing for the potential need we are now faced with regarding the movement to online instruction. For example, the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Physics began filming laboratory experiments at the beginning of Spring Break with the lab coordinator or instructor performing the experiments, and filming will be complete by the end of the extended Spring Break. The videos will be made available to students via Blackboard, enabling them to analyze the data and write lab reports that they will submit for grading according to the regular course schedule. In addition, labs in several courses were completed early in anticipation of closure, while for some others the instructor can provide sample data allowing students to complete the write-up. In another example, the Department of Biology will have students complete remaining labs remotely. Students will be directed by their instructors to existing online virtual lab modules and/or be given instructions for experiments that can be done outside the classroom with limited resources. As of this time, a plan is in place as described above for all lab courses in the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics with other departments and schools responding similarly.

We take our responsibility to ensure your academic success and experiential learning seriously. We are fortunate that we are half way through the semester and many experiential opportunities have been completed.

### **What happens to the music ensemble rehearsals?**

Until further guidance, only very small ensembles of 2-5 members will be permitted to meet during the campus online period, practicing social distancing and sanitary protocols. Some larger ensembles have already met for a sufficient number of hours this semester based on course credit requirements. In other cases, instructors of large ensembles are making alternative, remote assignments. Students will be kept informed by the professors.

### **How are art/performance courses going to be conducted?**

Degree-required student recitals are permitted to proceed, provided social distancing and sanitary protocols can be met. Audiences will be limited to fewer than 50 UM community members (students, faculty, and staff). Some school-sponsored ensemble concerts may also proceed based on the guidelines above and student availability.

### **What happens to Architecture studio courses?**

Starting March 23rd, all courses at the School of Architecture will shift to remote learning, including design studio courses. Your instructors will be in communication with you throughout the week (March 16-20) to establish the terms, media, and methods for continuing your courses remotely and ensure a smooth transition to online instruction. Access to studio space will be restricted during the remote learning period and will require authorization by studio course instructors and/or Associate Dean Carmen Guerrero.

### **I am doing research for credit/for my thesis. What happens now?**

You should reach out to your faculty to discuss next steps.

### **I have an internship that I might not be able to complete. What do I do?**

All internship courses are offered under a faculty member's guidance. Please reach out to your faculty member. You may have to complete alternative assignments in order to fulfill the course requirements associated with your internship course, but only as directed by your faculty.

### **Should I contact my faculty with my questions?**

Yes, please direct questions about individual classes to your faculty member teaching the class. Please understand that there may be elements that are unclear or uncertain at this time. We are all managing in a very uncertain environment and appreciate your patience and flexibility. Your faculty member is the best person to contact about tests, deadlines, and expectations for the remainder of the term.

If you have additional questions or a particular concern contact the department chair and then academic dean for that school or college.

Lastly, if you have a question that you need additional guidance on, you may submit an [ombudsperson case](#) if you need additional assistance.

### **What happens if my faculty member insists on us meeting deadlines that now fall within the extended Spring Break?**

Please start by talking to your professor, then to the department chair, then to the School or College Dean. You may also reach out to the academic ombudsperson, Michael Stokes; you can reach him at [m.stokes1@miami.edu](mailto:m.stokes1@miami.edu) [or complete an online submission](#).

### **I am an international student. What happens to my visa if I study online?**

Per new guidance from SEVP, international students who are currently enrolled in a program of study may engage in full-time online study until on-campus classes resume. Therefore, international students who choose to stay in the US for the rest of the semester will be considered to be in F-1 student status while taking a full-time load of online classes until on-campus classes resume this semester.

### **I am an international student. What happens if I return to my country?**

For international students who plan to leave the US and re-enter the US after on-campus classes resume this semester, note that further travel restrictions may be implemented with short notice and some international students may not be able to return to the US in time. At this point, their SEVIS record may have to be terminated if they do not physically attend classes when UM decides to resume on-campus instruction.

For international students who will or have departed the US for the rest of the semester, being able to complete the semester online will depend on their professors/academic departments. At this point, their SEVIS record may have to be terminated since they do not plan to return to the US to continue their studies.

### **I am a junior/senior and was planning on going to Toppel. Are they still open?**

## Academic FAQ's for Schools and Colleges

Individual appointments will occur remotely, in a Zoom environment. Please find more information here: <https://hireacane.miami.edu/about/going-virtual/index.html>.