



**ASBURY UNIVERSITY**

*Academic Excellence & Spiritual Vitality*

## **FALL 2020 ACADEMIC AND CLASSROOM FAQ**

**For Students & Parents**

*For Immediate Release - July 17, 2020*

*We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.*

*-Philippians 4:13*



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–Philippians 4:13*

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## What is the schedule for the fall semester?

- APS and Grad courses will take place in their regular 8-week (or other) format.
- All courses that are currently fully online will continue in their regular format.
- TUG Classes will start as scheduled on August 17, 2020.
- TUG Class instruction will end on the Friday before Thanksgiving, November 20, 2020.
- TUG Final exams will take place digitally starting Monday, November 30 -- ending on Thursday December 3, 2020.
- This will shorten the semester by one calendar week. Instructional time will be reclaimed in the following way:
  - Classes will be held on Labor Day (September 7, 2020).
  - Classes will be held during what would have been fall break (October 15 & 16, 2020).

## How will my classes be “delivered” in the fall?

- Our plan is to have classes available in a HyFlex format which will provide for both face-to-face and real-time internet-based instruction.
- The HyFlex format:
  - Combines traditional in-seat instruction with participation in the course via ZOOM (either synchronously or asynchronously).
  - Allows Asbury to accommodate at any given time: traditional in-seat learning, synchronous remote learning, fully asynchronous learning.
- Course materials will be available through Discovery, the Asbury Learning Management System.
- Students who are approved to access the course remotely will typically join the scheduled class session using ZOOM.
  - Our goal is for the professor to be able to interact as naturally as possible with both Local and Remote students simultaneously.
  - The professor will act as the ZOOM Meeting host and the Remote students would join the meeting at the scheduled time.
  - The professor will screen share any presentation for all students to see.
- In specific situations, some students may need to access the class session in an asynchronous fashion through a recording of the live class session.

## Will I be required to wear a mask in class?

- Students are expected to wear masks while in class.
- Students, faculty, staff, and campus guests are required to wear a mask in any situation, both indoors or outdoors, that places themselves less than 6 feet from another person.
- Students are expected to have a mask on before entering campus buildings and while passing through hallways and stairs, or riding elevators.
- Students are not expected to wear masks while alone in an enclosed space or working alone in an open space at a social distance of at least 6 feet.
- Due to the nature of certain courses, a faculty member may allow students to remove their mask once the students are stationary, in their seats, and social-distancing standards have been met or exceeded. Under these conditions, students may choose to continue to wear their masks while others remove them.
- If a faculty member changes the seating arrangement to less than the 6-foot social-distancing standard, then ALL students must wear a mask.
- If a student feels that wearing a mask creates a serious health risk or hazard they are asked to contact Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources. Please see specific instructions below under “What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?”



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## **Will my professor be wearing a mask?**

- Faculty members will either wear a mask while in class, wear a face-shield, or stand behind a protective barrier.
- Faculty at greatest risk for COVID-19 may need to use ZOOM exclusively for managing their classes, student meetings, and advising.

## **Will I be allowed to take off my mask once I am in class?**

- Students are expected to wear masks while in class.
- Due to the nature of certain courses, a faculty member may allow students to remove their mask once students are stationary in their seats and social-distancing standards have been met or exceeded. Under these conditions, students may choose to continue to wear their masks while others remove them.
- If a faculty member changes the seating arrangement to less than the 6-foot social-distancing standard, then ALL students must wear a mask.
- If a student feels that wearing a mask creates a serious health risk or hazard they are asked to contact Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources. Please see specific instructions below under *"What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?"*

## **Will my classroom allow for social-distancing?**

- Classrooms will be set up for 6-foot social distance spacing.
- Facilities has done a survey of classroom spaces and determined occupancy limits based on current social distancing requirements.
- The registrar has worked to schedule classes in a manner to optimize social-distancing protocols.
- If a faculty member changes the seating arrangement to less than the 6-foot social-distancing standard, then **ALL** students must wear a mask.

## **Can I "attend" my class remotely?**

- Most courses will be available for students who need to learn remotely.
- Students will NOT have freedom to choose to be in-seat or attend remotely.
- Remote access is only for students who have been approved and/or scheduled to be remote, including:
  - Students approved to live off-site due to COVID.
  - Students who are residential but have a temporary approved need to stay out of the classroom.
  - Students that the University schedules to be out of the classroom on a rotating basis.

## **How will course assessment be managed if students are both in-seat and remote?**

- Course assessments will be available online.
- To minimize opportunity for academic dishonesty, the integrity of assessments, exams, and finals will be managed using a technology solution which will assist with delivering and proctoring course assessments.

## **Will I have access to my professor outside of the scheduled class time for advising and conversation?**

- Faculty will continue to make themselves available to students for advising, mentoring, and conversation, although with these COVID-19 modifications:
  - Faculty can meet with students in their own office space if social distancing protocols can be maintained.
  - Faculty may require students to wear a mask.
  - Students will need to follow the Asbury social distancing and mask protocols while outside the faculty office.
- In the fall, we often have nice weather through October or even early November. We encourage faculty to meet with students and hold "office hours" outdoors, or in well-ventilated indoor areas, as much as possible.



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- Faculty may also employ ZOOM for student meetings. Faculty at greatest risk for COVID-19 may need to use ZOOM exclusively for student meetings and advising.
- Students who have been identified as at risk for COVID-19 (or sick or under quarantine) will need to use ZOOM exclusively.
- Students, faculty, staff, and campus guests are required to wear a mask in any situation, both indoors and outdoors, that places themselves less than 6 feet from another person.

## **What do I do if I want to live at home for the semester?**

- The residential requirement has not changed. In keeping with current policy, students must complete an application to be approved to live off campus.
- Please consult the guidelines and reporting procedures outlined on the [Asbury University COVID-19 information page](#).

## **What do I do if I'm concerned about attending class in-person?**

- For health concerns related to COVID-19, students must have a **high-risk condition as listed by the CDC** and documented by a medical professional, as well as approval by Health Services.
- Students who experience any symptoms of COVID-19 will be expected to remain at home or in their residence hall rooms and report symptoms to Health Services and Residence Life staff.
- Please consult the guidelines and reporting procedures outlined on the [Asbury University COVID-19 information page](#).
- If a student feels that they are eligible to be excused from attending classes in person, they are asked to contact Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources. Please see specific instructions below under *"What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?"*

## **Will I be able/allowed to take a class if I fall within a high-risk classification?**

- Our plan is to have classes available in a HyFlex format which will provide for both face-to-face and real-time internet-based instruction.
- Students who are approved and/or scheduled to access the class remotely will either ZOOM in to the class at the regularly scheduled time and/or access the class-session through a recording of the live session.
- If a student feels that they are eligible to be excused from attending classes in person, they are asked to contact Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources. Please see specific instructions below under *"What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?"*

## **Will I still be able/allowed to continue in a class if I am required to quarantine part way into the semester?**

- Our plan is to have classes available in a HyFlex format which will provide for both face-to-face and real-time internet-based instruction.
- Students who are approved and/or scheduled to access the class remotely will either ZOOM in to the class at the regularly scheduled time and/or access the class-session through a recording of the live session.
- If a student feels that they are eligible to be excused from attending classes in person, they are asked to contact Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources. Please see specific instructions below under *"What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?"*

## **What do I do if I have health concerns and/or want to request to be a full-time online TUG student?**

- A student may request to be a full-time online student by contacting Dr. Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources ([victoria.slocum@asbury.edu](mailto:victoria.slocum@asbury.edu)). Dr. Slocum will provide the student with an application which must be returned to Dr. Slocum for consideration by a committee made up of representatives who are experts on a variety of topics ranging from Financial, Health, Academic Accessibility, Mental Health, Student Development, and International Students.
- Requests to be a full-time TUG student online may also be initiated through a variety of sources: Registrar's Office,



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Financial Aid, Student Accounts, COVID questions, Student Development, AAR, CAE, Wholeness/Wellness etc.

- Once the review committee has decided, the Registrar and Student Development will be notified by Dr. Slocum if the student has been approved to take their classes online. An email will also go out to the student, academic advisor, and the student's professors.

## **What are some examples of reasons that a student may be considered to take the fall semester as a full-time online TUG student?**

- Documented health issue that places student at severe or more likely risk of a severe illness as a result of COVID-19 as per the CDC high risk guidelines.
- The student is age 60 or over.
- Academic accessibility issues of being on campus have increased to a level that creates great hardship on the student (hearing impaired, masks will be not be feasible to the student).
- Mental health concerns of anxiety disorder etc. that are directly in relation to COVID-19 and family support is necessary.
- Extended family severe concerns (mother/father is in chemotherapy and needs extra support and now student must assist at home and not be exposed, or family is not able to care for immunocompromised sibling without support of student).
- International student issue (as SEVP regulations allow).

## **What if my class is not in a campus building?**

- Students participating in courses held at the Equine Center or through the Adventure Leadership program will maintain a 6-foot social distance or wear a mask with a minimum of 3-foot social distance.

## **What do I do if I have an Internship or Student-Teaching practicum?**

- Students are expected to follow the guidelines of the specific site location.
- When returning to campus, students should take every precaution with hygiene and sanitization of personal belongings.
- Please consult the guidelines and reporting procedures outlined on the [Asbury University COVID-19 information page](#).

## **Will I be allowed to travel for non-academic and non-Asbury personal reasons during the semester?**

- Students are strongly discouraged from traveling out of state during the fall semester. Students will follow state guidance on recommendations regarding out-of-state travel and quarantine.
- However, if travel is necessary, students should take every precaution while away from campus and self-monitor carefully for illness for 14 days following their return to campus.
- Students should avoid travel to COVID-19 "hot spots" as determined by the CDC and updated on the [Asbury University COVID-19 information page](#).
- Travel does have significant implications for the health of the community. Please use every precaution for the health and safety of fellow community members, keeping in mind that all travel introduces risk.