

MARCH 11, 2020

Dear Students,

On March 11, you received [a communication from Chancellor Martin](#) regarding new operating procedures for the remainder of the semester in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many universities are taking similar steps; however, I know this comes as a shock and a disappointment. I want to assure you that our first concern is your health and well-being. Our second concern is helping you manage this complicated situation, the disruption to your studies, and the transition to online learning that will begin on March 23.

As a follow up to the Chancellor's note, let me highlight logistics and share new information specific to the Sam Fox School.

- There will be no classes March 16-20.
- Per the Chancellor's email, you should not return to campus at all if you have been traveling.
- Students are not permitted to work or gather in Sam Fox School buildings after 5p on Wednesday, March 11.
- If you have not traveled outside of St. Louis during spring break, you may collect items from your studio until noon on Friday, March 13. Please do this as quickly and efficiently as possible. You will need to use your ID for swipe card access to the building.
- If you are not able to collect your belongings by March 13, we will work with you to get critical items from your studio that you need for online and at-home learning. The staff member coordinating this effort is Kim McCabe (kmccabe22@wustl.edu, +1 314 935-7019). More information will be shared about this process soon.
- All lectures, academic events, and field trips at or hosted by the Sam Fox School will be cancelled for the remainder of the semester.
- Faculty are now at work creating course content that can be delivered remotely through the end of the semester. You will hear from your faculty with an updated syllabus by Friday, March 20.
- Residential life is making special arrangements for international students, and announcements are forthcoming.

As artists, designers, and architects, we learn and work in creative ways, responding to rapid changes in our environment and to limitations that force new and innovative practices. With this in mind, faculty are modifying their syllabi to account for the transition to online learning. The online format will change the nature of many of your courses, from the materials and processes

you use, to the expectations surrounding the work you create. Please stay in close contact with your faculty about any concerns you have regarding access to internet or materials. Fortunately, you are well into the semester and have a track record; the faculty know you and your potential, so you are not starting from scratch.

We are in an emergent situation and things could change rapidly. I know this is frustrating, and there will be many questions we need to work through together as a community committed to problem solving and design solutions. As we do, I hope we will continue to treat one another with patience and compassion, with particular sensitivity to those who are worried about their friends and family, are unable to travel home or return from abroad, or may be facing discrimination or bias.

We will continue to share new information as soon as possible. In the meantime, please reach out to me with questions by email at colangelo@wustl.edu. I will answer you directly or pass your question to the right person to get an answer.

Thank you for all the ways you are supporting each other in this challenging time.

Sincerely,



Carmon Colangelo

Ralph J. Nagel Dean
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
Washington University in St. Louis