

Dear College of Idaho Community,

In response to the risk of exposure to COVID-19, on Friday we communicated a [plan](#) for a timely transition to online class meetings following spring break. Later that day, information emerged regarding a visitor to campus who had prior exposure to a person who later tested positive for infection. As per the [update](#) we sent out Friday evening, the visitor has not tested positive for COVID-19, and thus, any exposure to the College community is a full step removed from direct contact.

Nonetheless, in light of this new information and following consultation with our leadership team, we are advancing the timetable for the transition to online class meetings. Specifically:

- **All classes will be canceled on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** to enable faculty members to shift their curriculum online. This time is intended to accelerate the transition originally scheduled for March 20. Make-up sessions for the canceled class meetings will be scheduled later in the term and communicated at an appropriate point going forward.
- Classes will resume on Wednesday, March 18, in an online format only and continue through the end of the week, Friday, March 20.
- No classes will occur during spring break, March 23-27.
- Classes will resume in an online-only format on March 30 and continue as originally scheduled through the end of the semester, Tuesday, May 19. Additional information will be provided regarding final examinations and end-of-semester projects.

Advancing the transition of academic courses to an online format in this manner will allow greater flexibility for students living on campus to move out of the residential facilities (please follow the [guidance sent yesterday by Residence Life to facilitate your check out](#)). Regardless of when they depart during the coming week, students are asked to leave with the understanding that they will not return to campus for the remainder of the Spring Term. In order to facilitate social distancing, students are expected to return to their permanent residence. Those who cannot return home for any reason, however, may remain on campus during the break and thereafter as they complete their courses online. All other provisions made in the [plan](#) advanced on Friday remain intact.

In closing, we wish to affirm our confidence in the spirit of this community and its capacity to rise to meet these challenges. We have already witnessed the amazing speed with which various groups on campus have responded, as well as the grounded thinking and humane care so characteristic of the YoteFam. We recognize that the very features that make our community so distinctive—the small classes, personal contact, commitment to mentoring, and powerful co-curriculum—make a transition to online classes far more difficult than is the case for many other schools. But together we will succeed, and if the past is any guide to the future, we will do so in ways that make us all proud.

Sincerely,

Co-President Doug Brigham  
Co-President Jim Everett