

# FAQs

March 16, 2020

[Why is GU moving classes online?](#)

[Why did GU change plans?](#)

[When do classes resume?](#)

[How will students know what to do?](#)

[How long will this last?](#)

[Does this change anything for online students?](#)

[What if students need to pick up mail or belongings?](#)

[What about students who stayed at GU during Spring Break 2020?](#)

[What about athletics, music, conferences and other events?](#)

[What about Commencement?](#)

[Why did GU move classes online?](#)

Our responsibility to students, their families, staff, and faculty require that we utilize different learning approaches for the remainder of the semester.

We care about the health and well-being of our students, employees, and the surrounding community. The COVID-19 pandemic changed rapidly. A new case was diagnosed March 12 in an adjacent county. The governor of Illinois recommended avoiding large gatherings. In light of these changes, we wanted to help the members of our on-campus community avoid large gatherings and self-isolate to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We gave the decision great thought and understand that it disrupts the lives of our students, our faculty and staff, parents, and community members. We genuinely regret the loss of our unique, in-person educational experience for our students and look forward to returning to that model of education as soon as we safely can.

You are not alone!

[Why did GU change plans?](#)

We based our decision on rapid changes in the COVID-19 pandemic and new recommendations from government and public health officials.

[When do classes resume?](#)

Effective Friday, March 13, we extended spring break for face-to-face classes through March 20. This extension allows faculty and students to pause and prepare for the transition to online classes. Classes resume March 23. (Online classes already scheduled to begin Spring Block B on March 16 continued without interruption.)

### How will students know what to do?

Read your email.

All face-to face-classes resume via remote instruction March 23, 2020. Students transitioning to remote instruction will receive information from community life and from their professors by email. We understand that the transition will be difficult. Contact student success at [studentsuccess@greenville.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@greenville.edu) if you have special circumstances that inhibit online learning.

Greenville University is continuously monitoring the situation and will have to remain adaptive. Please continue to check email as this will be the main form of communication for class updates, housing accommodations, and other important information.

### How long will this last?

All classes will continue in an online format through the end of spring semester. We are saddened by this inconvenience and the loss of the enrichment in-person education adds to the lives in our community. We look forward to the day when we can again gather safely.

### Does this change anything for online students?

Regular online classes will continue as scheduled with no disruption. For example, Block B for both undergraduate and graduate level courses online started March 16, 2020, as scheduled.

### What if students need to pick up mail or belongings?

We are extending spring break through Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The goal is to minimize the number of students returning to campus all at once, as well as to practice as much social distancing as possible. Unless you absolutely need to return to campus, please practice social distancing and do not return without notifying us at [community.life@greenville.edu](mailto:community.life@greenville.edu).

### Students Who Planned to Return to Campus

If you were living in student housing, we want to understand your needs and get you as much information as possible. Please help us by filling out this [form](#) to let us know if you need to return to campus. We understand that plans change so please continue to use [this form](#) if you need to update us on your plans.

### Exceptions

We understand that a few groups of students do need to return:

- International students (please continue to work with the International Office)
- Students who were here for Spring Break
- Students who had already booked flights and are unable to make changes this late

### Residence Halls Locked

The residence halls are locked. You need prior approval to be let in. A staff member is available at the Rec Center to check people in before they go anywhere else on campus. Once again, unless you absolutely must return to campus, please wait to return.

### **Books**

Before making any plans to return to campus to pick up books, computers, medicine or anything else you need immediately, contact us at [community.life@greenville.edu](mailto:community.life@greenville.edu) so we can work with you directly. We are also working on plans to make as many textbooks as possible available online so you are able to work remotely on your coursework. We will be sending more information soon.

### **Mail**

The mailroom understands that packages and letter mail will still be coming to campus or has already been delivered to campus. Please give us time to complete a plan that will ensure students receive their mail. All letters and packages that have been delivered to campus will stay here until we have a plan in place. Once the plan is set, we will reach out to everyone to make you aware of those plans.

### **What about students who stayed at GU during Spring Break?**

On-campus housing remains open to students currently living in the residence halls with prior approval. These students may continue to stay, and GU will continue to assess health risks.

The library will remain open and services such as dining, counseling, health service, and tutoring on campus will continue. We may limit the hours those services operate, however, depending on the volume of students who choose to stay. Stay on top of your email. You will receive specific instructions for next steps.

### **Students Who Are Here**

Please know we are here to support you. The Dining Commons is open at mealtimes serving grab and go meals. Fresh Ideas has taken extra precautions to keep the environment clean and safe. Fresh Ideas will also provide dry snacks for you to take back to have in your rooms. You will not go hungry!

### **Use Social Distancing**

Students should not sit in groups to eat meals on campus. This is a recommended precaution from the CDC to keep everyone on campus safe.

We will continue to send all information through email and post it as well on the GU Alert website.

### **What about athletics, music, conferences and other events?**

All scheduled events have been canceled through Sunday, April 5. Please check back on this page for updates about events beyond April 6.

### What about Commencement?

We will continue to review and assess the situation and let students know as we make decisions about future events like Commencement.