

November 3, 2020

Subj: Reopening the University – Message 26

Dear Colleagues:

For a number of reasons, the buildup to this Election Day has been unlike any other. Though it may be several days or perhaps longer for all the votes to be tallied, we continue to hope for and work toward unity and civility both within the Notre Dame community and beyond. For your awareness, Campus Ministry is hosting an Election Night prayer service for students on the Bond Quad at 7:30 p.m. tonight as a way to promote healing and unity after what has been a contentious campaign season.

This continues to be a busy time on campus. Here is a brief update.

Big Weekend on the Horizon

We host Clemson in football this Saturday, which will once again bring ESPN College GameDay to our campus. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, GameDay will broadcast from the field inside Notre Dame Stadium without the usual crowd of cheering fans. Though we know this will be the most exciting football weekend of the season at Notre Dame, we are asking students, faculty, and staff members to please follow health and safety protocols whether on or off campus. For the safety of others, anyone selected for surveillance testing this week who does not show up for testing will not be allowed to enter Notre Dame Stadium for the game Saturday.

Winter Session Update

Plans for Winter Session are shaping up nicely. The course offerings, which range from novel one-credit exploration and discovery courses to a number of three-credit courses that fulfill University requirements, will be posted online at wintersession.nd.edu on November 9. We also have a variety of internship, research engagement, and community service opportunities in the works. Students will register for Winter Session opportunities as part of regular registration for the spring semester, starting December 2.

Spring Academic Calendar

The University Registrar recently published the calendar for the [spring semester](#) and it is shown below:

Feb. 3	Wednesday	First day of classes
Feb. 10	Wednesday	Last date for all class changes at Notre Dame
Mar. 2	Tuesday	Mini-break: no classes and no meetings
Mar. 29	Monday	Mid-Term deficiency reports submitted through InsideND by 7:00 p.m.
Apr. 2	Friday	Good Friday, no classes and no meetings

Apr. 7	Wednesday	Last day for course discontinuance at Notre Dame
Apr. 21	Wednesday	Mini-break: no classes and no meetings
May 11	Tuesday	Last day of classes
May 12, 13, 16	Wed/Thur/Sun	Reading days
May 14-15	Fri/Sat	Final exams
May 16	Sunday	Reading day
May 17-19	Mon/Tue/Wed	Final exams continue
May 21	Friday	Noon: final grades due for graduating students
May 22-23	Sat/Sun	Commencement
May 25	Tuesday	Final grades due for remaining students by 3:45 p.m.

Student Exit Testing

Student exit testing will take place November 9 through 21, with students whose home countries or states require COVID-19 testing for entry receiving first priority for registering for a slot. The University will test all students, either through a scheduled appointment or by mandatory surveillance testing, before the end of the semester. For the protection of others, students who test positive or are close contacts of those who test positive will be cared for in quarantine or isolation at Notre Dame until cleared by University Health Services to depart.

Library Hours for Finals Preparation

Below is the Hesburgh Library Building's schedule of extended hours for final exams as well as hours for the upcoming Winter Session. To learn more about hours, access, and services, including the holiday closure schedule, please visit the [Hesburgh Libraries Service Continuity website](#).

Sunday, November 8 – Thursday, November 19

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m.

Monday to Friday: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday, November 20: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Winter Session – November 21 to February 2

Every day: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Holiday: CLOSED November 25-27

Christmas Holiday: CLOSED December 24-25

New Year Holiday: CLOSED December 31 – January 1

* Notre Dame ID card reader access during open hours starting Monday, November 23.

Closing Thoughts

While the semester has been challenging, we encourage you to take a moment to congratulate yourself on what you have done.

Whether faculty, staff, or student, you have worked enormously hard to make a Notre Dame education possible under the most challenging of circumstances. We are so impressed with all of you. Our little friend, Elizabeth Marie, daughter of Victoria St. Martin and Richard Jones, both faculty in the Gullivan Journalism Program, learned how to clap last week just so she could applaud you!



Please remember:

- Wear your mask
- Practice physical distancing
- Wash your hands regularly
- Complete your daily health check
- Show up when selected for surveillance testing

Yours in Notre Dame,

Marie Lynn Miranda, Provost
Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President