**Continuation of Instruction**

**1 message**

**UCA Academic Affairs <academicaffairs@uca.edu>**

Reply-To: noreply@uca.edu  
To: FS <fs@uca.edu>

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Dear Colleagues –

In preparation for a possible change of campus operations due to COVID-19, all faculty must be prepared to quickly pivot to Blackboard for delivery of instruction.

Official communication regarding the University and operations as they relate to COVID-19 is updated daily at uca.edu/coronavirus. In addition, President Davis will continue to communicate regularly to campus.

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) personnel have gathered several resources on one site: https://uca.edu/cte/campus-closed-class-open/. This site will continue to be updated with resource materials over the next days.

I understand that many of you operate within the Blackboard LMS shell with regularity. If you are not familiar with the platform, you are encouraged to access your Blackboard course(s) and verify that syllabi are uploaded, you can locate your class roster (users), and use the grade center. In addition, please ask students to verify that they have access to and can navigate Blackboard courses.

To prepare for a possible pivot from face-to-face to online instruction, all faculty should do the following:

1. Ensure your students know your preferred means of communication and explain clearly to students how communication will be maintained during alternative course delivery. (Be flexible recognizing students’ potential resource limitations, e.g. lack of access to Wi-Fi, high-speed internet…)
2. Visit the CTE site and begin planning how to take advantage of Blackboard and other tools for continuation of instruction.
3. Revisit syllabi to adjust parameters for class/course engagement as necessary.
4. Prepare to adjust any final or capstone presentations/assignments such that they can be completed in an online environment.
5. Be prepared to communicate with students regularly and responsively during any campus closure while instruction is expected to continue.
6. Understand it is not an option to default to assigning “X” grades (Incompletes) in case of a campus closure with continued instruction.

Programs with courses requiring off-site attendance (i.e. practicum, clinical, internship) to meet licensure, certification and/or accreditation standards will be required to document plans for completion and/or adherence to accreditation or licensure requirements. These plans should be kept in the departmental office, with copies submitted to the office of the college dean and the provost (academicaffairs@uca.edu).
If you see your colleagues in CTE, please take time to thank them for all they have done and continue to do to assist us in continuing delivery of education. I appreciate your flexibility, creativity, and practicality during the days to come.

Please refer to the uca.edu/coronavirus website for the most current information.

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Office of the Provost
Division of Academic Affairs
University of Central Arkansas
Conway, AR 72035
(501) 450-5073
provost@uca.edu

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