

Subject: Summer 2021 classes will remain online
Date: Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:44 AM
From: Peyre, Sarah (Warner School of Education)
To: Warner School Faculty & Staff; Warner Students

Dear Warner Community,

As we look ahead to summer, we know that 2020 has uniquely proven our ability to adapt and work well together through the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year has also provided us with many valuable lessons, experiences, and practices for 2021. With all that said, I am writing today with updates about summer semester.

We plan to stay the course and sustain what has worked from the fall in terms of coursework and the safety and well-being of our entire Warner community. Accordingly, all **Warner 2021 Summer session courses (e.g., Summer A, Summer A+B, and Summer B) will remain fully online.** In remaining with the [Academic Calendar](#), the summer semester will begin on Monday, May 24 and run through Friday, August 13. They will continue to be offered as appropriate for the learning goals of the course using synchronous and/or asynchronous instruction, and will occur at the times/dates indicated on the Summer 2021 course schedule.

While COVID-19 has disrupted our personal and professional lives the past year, our guiding principles at Warner have always remained the same:

- **Safety.** Keeping our community safe, and for our many students working in schools and community agencies, keeping those organizations, their employees, and their students, patients and clients safe.
- **Quality of education.** Providing a high-quality education that is responsive to the times and prepares our students to contribute to solving some of our most pressing challenges, especially as so much of our teaching, learning, and collaboration continues to take place in online spaces.
- **Manage the uncertainty.** Preparing for continued uncertainty with regards to the availability of the COVID-19 vaccine, and the likelihood that there will be no vaccine available to children in the immediate future. An early decision allows faculty, staff and students to best plan and prepare for a successful semester and manage the needs of work, families, and study.
- **Keep students on track in their programs.** Supporting our students to continue making progress in their programs and toward their degrees, regardless of where they are residing, while creating additional opportunities to engage as a vibrant learning community.

With the above in mind and in preparation for summer, we have encouraged all of our students to take the brief Warner Survey for Summer 2021 Semester sent earlier this week. Of those who completed the survey, 63 percent chose fully online as their preference, 15 percent chose in-person, and 22 percent were undecided. Your responses to the survey gave us a better understanding of your preferences, which we have also taken into consideration as we prepare for summer.

As always, I welcome the opportunity for your feedback and to reflect on our practice. To our faculty, staff, and students, we know this comes as a relief to many, for reasons outlined in our guiding principles above, and a disappointment to others who are eager to be on campus again.

I fully understand and will continue to listen to each of you. I invite you to share how things are going and what changes might improve the online learning and community experience for you.

We are currently discussing and working on plans for May commencement and the fall semester. As soon as we have decisions, we will send separate communications about those plans. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, ideas, or concerns. Thank you for always being flexible, supportive, and engaged as a learning community.

Lastly, the summer schedule will be posted soon. If you have any questions regarding which summer courses to take, please reach out to your program advisor for guidance.

Meliora,
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