

UNIVERSITY *of*  
DUBUQUE

*Shaping*  
OUR RETURN

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UD COVID-19 Response Plan

# Shaping OUR RETURN

University of Dubuque intends to offer synchronous and flexible classes in fall 2020, giving students the ability to participate in a class at its scheduled time face-to-face or remotely, as needed.

Traditional undergraduate fall classes will begin Thursday, August 27, 2020, and LIFE classes begin the week of August 25, 2020. Residential students will receive their August move-in schedule from the Office of Residence Life in early July. Coaches will provide move-in information to their student-athletes. Spartan Start, UD's three-day orientation and welcome event for new traditional undergraduate students will be August 24, 25, and 26.

UD's Shaping Our Return was developed based upon guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), and various other national, state, and local agencies. The plan will be refined as information and understanding of COVID-19 evolves. To find the most up-to-date information, please visit [www.dbq.edu](http://www.dbq.edu).

## UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE COMMUNITY

### UD and Our Students

UD has a missional, moral, and ethical responsibility to fully educate each one of our students in a supportive and safe environment. In order to do this, we have carefully considered and are implementing how to accommodate our students during the COVID-19 pandemic to help ensure a safe campus experience.

### UD and Our Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff are committed to the University's *Mission* of fully educating our students, and we welcome the challenge and opportunity to be active and caringly intrusive in students' lives. UD is also committed to caring for each and every member of the campus community. The steps we take to limit the spread of COVID-19 is an articulation of the care that we place in our community.

### UD and Our Christian Commitment

We are a community that practices our Christian commitments by educating students, pursuing excellence in scholarship, and challenging students to live lives of worth and purpose. We are committed to being a hospitable Christian environment that respects other faith traditions. Our care for one another and stewardship to all of God's human and natural resources is an extension of our commitment to being a community where Christian love is practiced.

### UD and Our Overall Response

We continue to collaborate with extremely gifted researchers and medical providers in service to the safety and comfort of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors as well follow guidance from the CDC, IDPH, and various other national, state, and local agencies. We are committed to being adaptive to the implementation of strategies to help mitigate and reduce the number of active COVID-19 cases that we experience. Our top priority is to the well-being of our entire campus community and to the community in which live and learn.

# UD MANTRA: PRACTICE COMMON SENSE



GOOD HYGIENE



SOCIAL DISTANCING



FACE COVERING

## A New Mantra to Mitigate COVID-19

As we work through a phased reopening of our campus, each of us at UD has an important part to play in campus operations. We will all need to learn and live by practicing the new UD mantra to mitigate the spread of the virus: *Practice common sense – good hygiene, social distancing, and wear a face covering for yourself and for others.*

## Students on Campus: Continuing to Shape Lives of Exceptional Ability, Worth, and Purpose

UD is committed to our students and our *Mission* of shaping lives of exceptional ability, worth, and purpose as we implement and practice strategies to help mitigate the spread of the virus. To fulfill this commitment, we have established two platforms of operations for teaching and learning this fall:

- Create campus-wide precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19 and implement academic strategies that will allow for synchronous teaching and learning.
- Consider additional strategies should a widespread COVID-19 resurgence occur to further protect the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

It is our belief that through the implementation of the following strategies and by all of us working together, we can help ensure the safety and well-being of our campus community.

This plan addresses, but is not limited to, the following general University Practices:



ACADEMICS



RESIDENCE LIFE



FOOD SERVICE



INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS



HEALTH OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY



# ACADEMICS

Faculty are excited to welcome students back to campus and LIFE sites this fall, and we are developing and updating our courses with the success of our students as our first priority. For the 2020-2021 academic year, all undergraduate and graduate on-campus and LIFE site classes will be synchronous and flexible. Face-to-face synchronous classes allows students to participate in the class at its scheduled time. Flexible classes will give students the ability, on an as needed basis, to attend classes remotely through videoconference technology.

## **Optimize the potential for safe face-to-face interactions**

We recognize that as a community, we will all need to make modifications to address safety concerns. The following are a few of these strategies we will implement:

- We are reviewing each course to determine the best tools to provide a safe and engaged face-to-face learning environment.
- We are developing policies for faculty and students that will address unique health concerns that might require modification in how or where learning takes place.
- We developed health protocols for classroom learning to take place such as requiring face coverings in classrooms and ensuring proper social distancing is maintained.

## **Synchronous delivery and flexibility of delivery**

Our goal is for everyone to participate in classes at the scheduled class time either face-to-face or remotely. The remote learning option will require some administrative set-up work on the part of faculty and we are developing a process by which students can formally request that option. LIFE students will receive class meeting plans from their respective instructor prior to the class start. The following protocols will help limit any disruption to teaching and learning:

- We are streamlining our course management platform (known on campus as UD Online or Moodle) so students have a more consistent and user-friendly course experience.
- We are expanding the kit of technology tools available to faculty and students.
- We are providing training and assistance for faculty and students in using technology tools.



# RESIDENCE LIFE

The Office of Residence Life is committed to the safety and security of each and every student who has made the commitment to call UD home by implementing new protocols. We can't wait to welcome you and help you transition to life at UD.

At this time, UD does not intend to set occupancy limits within its residence halls. Roommates and suitemates will be considered a family unit. Students will not be asked to wear face coverings within rooms. However, face coverings will be necessary in common areas and students will be asked to practice social distancing in common areas and hallways.

## **Arrival and Fall Move-in**

Residential students will receive their move-in instructions in early July, which will include information on safety protocols and the implementation of a staggered move-in process in August to help manage the need to social distance and reduce congestion in high traffic areas.

Every student who arrives at UD will receive a packet of information that will outline our new health protocols for the safety and well-being of the entire campus community. Students will be provided with a UD branded reusable face covering. We also recommend that students bring their own face coverings. There will be areas on campus where face coverings will be required, such as classrooms.



**UD students, faculty, and staff will be provided with a UD branded face covering. We also recommend students bring their own face coverings.**

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## **Guests and Visitors**

After moving in, only residents of each residence hall or building will be allowed in that residence hall or building until further notice. No outside guests or visitors will be allowed.

## **Good Housekeeping and Disinfection Practices**

UD will implement increased cleaning and disinfecting practices on high use surfaces and in high traffic areas. This includes cleaning and disinfecting common areas, communal restrooms, and lounges. In addition, we will encourage students to wash face coverings and bedding regularly.

## Smeltzer-Kelly Student Health Center

New to campus this fall is the Smeltzer-Kelly Student Health Center. The health center will be a valuable resource for students' physical and brain health needs. The center will be staffed with health professionals who can provide personalized, quality health care for all our students. This new facility will complement our existing relationship with UnityPoint Health-Finley Hospital. The center is conveniently located on campus at 1994 Grace Street.



## FOOD SERVICE

Aladdin, our food service partner, will implement general health guidelines in the Barbara and Jack Smeltzer Dining Hall, CyberCafé, and the juice bar in the Chlapaty Recreation and Wellness Center. Requirements for social distancing for seating, serving, and line up will be posted in each area. In addition, food service employees, depending on their particular tasks, will be required to wear face coverings and gloves. There will also be increased cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting of all surfaces.

These guidelines may be adjusted based upon changes from the CDC as well as local and state officials.



## INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

The Department of Athletics is working hard to prepare for the return of our student-athletes and for fall and winter athletic practices and games. UD is committed to the safety and well-being of all our student-athletes as they practice and compete. We continue to receive and study guidance from the NCAA and American Rivers Conference, in compliance with the CDC as well as federal and state health officials for the return of intercollegiate athletics. We will share updates as we make new decisions and implement new plans.

### **A guide to campus athletics**

- All student-athletes, coaches, trainers, and other athletic staff will receive additional education and training on safety and minimizing risk of infection. This training will be delivered upon their return to campus.
- Student-athletes will be screened for infection each day during their sport's season. Any student-athlete showing symptoms will be isolated in order to protect teammates and staff.
- All student-athletes and staff members are expected to follow University guidelines and protocols for proper hygiene including washing hands and using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

- UD will implement increased cleaning and disinfecting practices on high use surfaces and in high traffic areas including locker rooms, weight rooms, and other athletic facilities.
- When appropriate, athletics staff will utilize video conferencing or other communication methods for team meetings.
- The Department of Athletics will continue to follow all guidelines of the state of Iowa, NCAA, American Rivers Conference, and University of Dubuque.



## HEALTH OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Each and every person on campus can do their part of help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Students will be asked to fill out our COVID-19 Health Assessment Survey at least two days prior to coming to campus. UD health services will send this assessment to all students through UD email via DocuSign. Faculty and staff will be asked to fill out a Health Screening Survey.

- Students, faculty, and staff will be asked to check their temperature each day before leaving their residence hall or coming to campus. They will be asked to stay in their residence hall or at home if their temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher. For a list on who to contact, visit [www.dbq.edu/COVID-19](http://www.dbq.edu/COVID-19).
- In each building on campus, there will be health and wellness signage stressing the importance of practicing social distancing and good hygiene such as washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. The entire campus community will be following and practicing UD's mantra: *Practice common sense – good hygiene, social distancing, and wear a face covering for yourself and for others.*
- In addition, there will be PPE stations with single use face coverings and hand sanitizer located throughout campus.
- Students, faculty, and staff will be encouraged to not share personal items that may be difficult to clean such as electronic devices, books, and utensils.

University of Dubuque continues to remain focused on maintaining a safe and healthy campus. We encourage students and families to continue monitoring the University's website for regular updates. This fall will surely be different in ways that we can't completely anticipate, but we are confident that we will, nevertheless, be together. We're all committing to getting used to our new mantra: ***Practice Common Sense – good hygiene, social distancing, and wear a face covering for yourself and for others.***

*We look forward seeing a busy campus community this fall.*

For more information about COVID-19, please visit [www.dbq.edu/COVID-19](http://www.dbq.edu/COVID-19)

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