

August 25, 2020

Dear Wolves,

Throughout our communications about what WOU will look like this fall, we've promised to update you with changes. After holding out hope that the status around COVID-19 would improve to a level that would allow us to safely hold many in-person courses, we've decided to "embrace the now," and move forward according to our current reality in order to reduce uncertainty.

This fall, courses will be mostly online -- about 95% -- with a few exceptions for lab sections of some science courses and some creative arts classes. The <u>class</u> <u>schedule</u> will be updated by Sept. 1 to reflect changes.

We know it is frustrating that we continue to be in this situation and continue to experience such a radical disruption to class delivery and campus life. However, we've seen in the news that universities that have opened with in-person classes have been forced to reverse course as a result of COVID-19 outbreaks. The safety of our students, employees and community is our priority. We've done a great deal of work and preparation since spring term, and we are eager to provide you with personalized support while helping you reach your educational goals in our environment as it stands

We are certain you will have many questions about various aspects of student life. There will be an online information session at 2 p.m. Sept. 1, which will be <u>livestreamed</u>. For now, please read below for updates and links about online classes, tuition and fees, Housing and Dining, Student Engagement, Athletics, Hamersly Library, safety protocols, WOU:Salem and many other topics. We'll continue sharing information about other services as they are finalized.

In the meantime, we can all play a role by doing our part to limit the spread by observing physical distancing, wearing face coverings, washing our hands for 20 seconds, avoiding crowds and staying home when ill.

Let's Embrace the Now and meet the future together because Together We Succeed.

Sincerely,

Rex File

Rex Fuller, President

