

May 11, 2020 – South University Update: Spring and Summer

Based on the most recent social distancing guidelines and current executive orders from state governors where our campuses are located. South University is now preparing for a phased approach in our return to on-campus instruction and operations.

At this time, we will be working with the College Deans and University Leadership to safeguard our students and their educational pathway to graduation. To do so responsibly we will begin to introduce hybrid instruction for specific programs, requiring a mix of in-person lab instruction, as well as, continuing with virtual remote didactic lectures to complete the elements required to progress in their courses.

South University will begin to allow some small groups to meet on campus and to follow the recommended guidelines for in-class instruction for clinical and lab requirements:

SPRING QUARTER 2020

- SPRING QUARTER 2020: All **Non-lab and non-clinical** course instruction will continue Virtual Remote (South VR) for the remainder for the Spring 2020 Quarter per the April 23, 2020 communication.
- SPRING QUARTER 2020: Courses with **lab** instruction will continue Virtual Remote (South VR) for the course lectures. Hands-on lab activities may begin after June 1, according to each location's state and local orders. Specific details on dates will be provided by campus presidents/directors who will coordinate the date and plan with instructors.
- SPRING QUARTER 2020: Courses with **clinical rotations** will continue Virtual Remote (South VR) for the course lectures and specific details about clinical rotations will be provided by the course instructor.

SUMMER QUARTER 2020

- SUMMER QUARTER 2020: All **Non-lab and non-clinical** course instruction will be through Virtual Remote format (South VR) for the Summer 2020 Quarter.
- SUMMER QUARTER 2020: Courses with **lab** instruction will be Virtual Remote (South VR) for the course lectures and will be held on-campus for the lab instruction. Specific details will be provided by the course instructor.
- SUMMER QUARTER 2020: Courses with **clinical rotations** will be Virtual Remote (South VR) for the course lectures and specific details about clinical rotations will be provided by the course instructor.

The university will provide instructions and protocols for on-campus lab participation that adhere to the most current CDC, federal and state guidelines, including limiting the number of individuals in the lab, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing.

Staff and faculty working at the campus, along with students and visitors, will continue checking in and out at the front desk. Everyone will utilize social distancing practices staying six feet apart, avoiding gatherings, frequently washing hands and electively wearing masks.

Precautions have been implemented to increase cleaning and disinfecting campus common spaces, including all doors, labs, restrooms, lobbies and break rooms.

Students returning to campus to participate in lab-based instruction can expect to acknowledge their responsibility to adhere to all safety precautions, including staying home if sick or symptomatic, utilizing social distancing, complying with temperature checks and wearing provided Personal Protective Equipment. No more than nine students and one faculty member will be allowed in a lab at a time. There will be time allowed between small groups exiting and entering lab classrooms to allow for proper cleaning.

In between use, lab classes will be cleaned and disinfected with a quality commercial grade disinfectant product that fast, safe and effective.

Our health professions and pharmacy students require face-to-face, hands-on learning to acquire the clinical and applied competencies that are essential to the practice of their professions. It is imperative that these students receive the education to which they are entitled as future health care professionals.

There are still many questions that remain unanswerable, and just as we did with our campus implementation of remote instruction, we will also work together to make our return to campus work. For any additional questions, please reach out to your academic counselors or instructors.