



NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCES

December 4, 2020

Dear BS Biology & MS Forensic Science Students,

Due to COVID-19, National University is conducting most courses exclusively online to protect the health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff. With support from executive administration, the NU Safety Management Team has put together a limited reopening plan for several NU campuses. The purpose of the reopening plan is to enable our students needing to take lab courses and other licensed or accredited disciplines to continue with the classes in their programs that require on-site attendance. **You are in a cohort that needs to take lab courses onsite to progress in your program. These will start in the January Term and continue into 2021 as indicated by programmatic need.**

The Spectrum campus, where your lab courses will be held, has undergone significant upgrades and safety preparation to minimize risk so classes can safely resume on-site, following both CDC guidelines and the California Department of Public Health guidance for Colleges and Universities. There is now a security check-in with daily temperature screenings required. Signage has been installed in all classrooms, in the hallways, and in the bathrooms. Dispensers for hand sanitizer have been installed throughout the building.

We have addressed aspects of risk within our control, however, responsibility for minimizing behavioral health risks also lies with our students. Please know that you are able to attend classes on-site at the discretion of University leadership and **will only be allowed to remain if everyone adheres to the University expectations (see attached PDF for NU Student Acknowledgement) and the safety measures issued by the CDC, which are reinforced by the posted notices around campus.**

I am asking for all students, staff, and faculty on campus to rigorously adhere to the following:

- Stay home when feeling ill or testing positive for COVID. **DO NOT come to campus if you feel ill or test positive for COVID-19. Please stay home, consult a medical professional, and report a positive test to Safety@nu.edu as soon as possible.** Also contact Student Accessibility Services (sas@nu.edu) if a continued absence will be required.
- On-site screening. Participate in all on-site screening when entering campus. Be mindful of safety of others on campus and be honest when answering screening questions. Temperature checks are required at all campuses/administration buildings.
- Face coverings. All persons are required to wear a face mask before entry into NU buildings. Face masks or face coverings must be worn by all persons working or volunteering on campus when in the presence of others and in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., common work spaces, meeting rooms, classrooms, etc.). Appropriate use of face masks or coverings is critical in minimizing risks to others near you. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. A face covering or mask is not, however, a substitute for social distancing.
- Social Distancing. Keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to the COVID-19 virus and slowing its spread. Since asymptomatic carriers may spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others whenever possible, even if you have no symptoms. Social distancing is important for everyone,



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especially to help protect people who are at higher risk of getting very sick. Staff, faculty and students either working or learning on-site should follow these social distancing practices:

- Stay at least 6 feet (over 2 arms' length) from other people at all times
- Do **not** gather in groups
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid gatherings
- Handwashing. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing, or touching your face. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer/ABHR that contains at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and wash your hands after touching your face.
- Using Restrooms. Use of restrooms should be limited based on capacity to ensure at least 6 feet distance between individuals. Wash your hands thoroughly afterward to reduce the potential transmission of the virus.
- Using Elevators. No more than one person may enter an elevator at a time, so please use the stairs whenever possible. If you are using the elevator, wear your mask or face covering and avoid touching the elevator buttons with your exposed hand/fingers, if possible.

We are here to support you both as faculty and through our Student Wellness Team. Please explore additional resources available to you at: nu.edu/studentwellness.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with all the measures outlined in this letter. We wish all of you continued success at National University.

With best wishes,
Carol Richardson, Ed.D
Dean, College of Letters and Sciences