



Dear Campus Community,

We can be very proud of our success in staying face to face for so much of the term. This significant accomplishment far exceeds most institutions and reflects our collective dedication to each other and Hanover College.

As mentioned in last week's update, we have seen a concerning uptick in positive cases of COVID-19 within the Hanover College community (currently 49 cases), and it appears to be an upward trend, mirroring the rest of the state, region and country. In addition, extensive contact-tracing efforts have resulted in a substantial number of our students quarantining off campus.

To continue ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff, we are implementing the next steps in our COVID-19 response strategy.

We know many students would like to finish the term on campus or need to for various reasons, and the College wants to make this possible. We are also aware that many students would prefer to finish the term from home.

**Plans for the Remainder of the Term:**

To respect the needs of all students, we announce the following:

- All courses will **move to remote instruction** no later than **Monday, November 9** (labs, studio art and some other experiential learning courses may be exceptions). Your faculty members will be in touch about specific plans for their courses, so please check email and Moodle frequently for this information.
- **Residential halls and Greek houses will remain open to students until 6:00 PM on Friday, November 20.** Students will be able to request a late checkout. This process will be explained in the closing communication distributed soon by the Office of Student Life.
- **Students have the option** to either **return home any time after their last class on Friday, November 6** or **stay on campus up until Friday, November 20.**
- The last day of course instruction remains **Tuesday, November 24.** Exam week will still begin **Monday, November 30.**
- Students **identified as close contacts are now quarantined**, primarily off campus, and will be required to **present a COVID-19 test result** prior to returning to campus. Students' return-to-campus date will be determined by the Contact Tracing team.



- Students placed in **isolation or quarantine on or after November 6** will be **required to move home** and will not be able to return this term, as it will be within the 14-day window of residence halls closing.
- **Athletic practices for the rest of the term will be handled on a team-by-team basis** according to the number of students testing positive or in quarantine. Coaches will be communicating with their teams in the days ahead.
- There will be **no in-person** student life activities scheduled after **November 6**.
- Although we **prefer students to take their meals to go when possible**, current dining arrangements are not changing at this point. Meal plans will remain in effect and are non-refundable.
- Students who choose to remain on campus until November 20 should continue limiting their exposure to others and be vigilant about following health and safety protocols. **Overnight off-campus travel is strongly discouraged** and may result in students having to return home sooner.
- We will be **continuing our random testing of students and athletes**. If selected, please respond quickly to an email you may get from Ashley Eden from the Office of Student Life.

As we implement this strategy, **everyone must recommit** to following our health and safety protocols:

- Wear a face covering (over nose and mouth) when required
- Practice social distancing even when outside and wearing a face covering
- Do not participate in large gatherings or parties
- Wash hands frequently and use hand sanitizer when available
- Limit off-campus travel
- Do not ride in vehicles together
- Do not share drinks or utensils
- Politely ask others to follow the guidelines

Students who willfully ignore these safety and health protocols will be asked to leave campus.



### Key Next Steps:

- All students will be **automatically moved to remote instruction** on November 9. Students do not need to make a remote learning adjustment through the Office of Student Success.
- The Office of Student Life will be providing **more details on the check-out process**, requirements and how to request housing extensions in the days ahead.
- The faculty are prepared for a **seamless move to remote instruction** and will be communicating their specific plans to you over the next week.
- All **campus offices and facilities will remain open and operational** on their current schedules.
- We are also still planning for a return to face-to-face instruction for Winter Term beginning **Monday, January 11**.

### Thank You!

Although this is not exactly how we envisioned the end of the term, we are pleased at how the College community came together during this crisis. We will finish strong by giving students more control over where to spend the final weeks of the term. Be on the lookout for additional communication in the days ahead.