



March 13, 2020

Dear Majors:

By now you undoubtedly know that all classes and advising have been moved online for the rest of the semester. At least for the short term, Rochester will no longer function as a residential college. All of us in Economics regret this to be the case, but all of us are committed to doing the best we can in these difficult circumstances and ensuring your well-being. It is likely that these events will impact all of us, in ways we cannot fully predict, but we are confident that we will be able to meet the challenges ahead. Department faculty and staff are busily preparing for the start of classes on Wednesday. Please expect to hear from your faculty, most likely through Blackboard, how your specific class will function. You should anticipate some changes in the curriculum that was originally designed, but that it will be the goal of each course to provide an experience comparable to what you would have received in the classroom. Unfortunately, it is likely that there will be opening day glitches accompanying the shift to online instruction. I hope you will be patient as both you and your faculty learn to operate in a virtual environment.

For students seeking advice, please go to our departmental web pages for contact information for faculty advising. There are likely to be many specific questions to which University policy has not yet been formulated. Please be patient as information is rolled out. Should you not have answers to your questions by the start of classes, that might be the time to begin contacting the department.

For graduating seniors, at this point we have no word on Commencement plans. We anticipate hearing further information on this in the weeks ahead. Be assured, that we will work to ensure that you meet the qualifications to graduate.

We wish you a smooth transition to the challenges ahead.

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