

March 12, 2020

Dear Students,

As we are all acutely aware, the crisis surrounding the coronavirus is accelerating rapidly. While only a few days ago we thought that we could use spring break to assess what actions we should take in response, it now seems crystal clear that we need to take steps right now to assure that you and the whole law school community can continue their education this semester remotely. We can thereby avoid any additional risks of exposure by attending classes.

So, beginning with Monday classes after spring break, we will be moving to a Zoom platform which will allow students to “attend” remotely. Instructors will be able to teach from the regular classrooms and at the regular time (although some may prefer a different venue). Students will receive an invite via email to attend each class session. We will send out more detailed instructions on how to access and utilize Zoom in the next few days. One important aspect, is that you should endeavor to ensure you have a stable internet connection from wherever you plan to “attend” class.

For today, we will be holding in-person classes. However, if anyone is ill or concerned regarding exposure and so decides not to attend class today, that will not be counted as an absence.

For the few classes that have midterms scheduled following Spring Break, we will be addressing that issue separately.

If your professor has a class website, please check it regularly, as the professor will likely post regular class specific updates there.

The campus will remain open. There will still be study space available. However, with classes held via Zoom, we can minimize close contact and maintain sufficient social distances.

We know this is a huge change, which will require some advanced planning and adjustments for all of us. But the safety of all of us, our students, staff and faculty, as well as the safety of our communities in which we live, requires that we do everything we can right now to allow social distancing and help slow the spread of this virus.

Thank you all for your consideration and willingness to adapt to the present circumstances.

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