

## College of Liberal Arts: Student FAQs for Fall 2020

For thorough discussions of every aspect of the approach to Fall 2020, please read the return-to-campus plan [JSU Safe](https://www.jsums.edu/jsusafe/) (<https://www.jsums.edu/jsusafe/>).

Our goal is to offer a quality learning experience. The College of Liberal Arts is designing a learning environment reflective of our commitment to student success, degree completion, and active learning. Our strategy is to maintain a healthy and safe environment while promoting our tradition as a creative, scholarly, and nurturing community.

### ACADEMICS

**Q: What is the Fall 2020 plan for teaching and learning in the College of Liberal Arts?**

Academic courses will now be primarily virtual, with some in-person and hybrid instruction for performance-based, clinical, and laboratory courses and for students living on campus. Additionally, students will have the option to take their courses virtually and every faculty member has been given the option to teach remotely.

As announced earlier this summer, the semester will start early, on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, and end on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Q: I did online class last spring and didn't like it. I want to be able to see and talk to my instructor and fellow students. What options do I have?**

Like you, faculty prefer to have robust engagement in the classroom, and the pandemic has made this challenging. Luckily, we now all will have JSU-provided Zoom accounts and a new kind of online class, known as *Online Synchronous* or *Remote*. That will mean that your class will still meet at the time on your schedule but will meet virtually. We still have some face-to-face classes for small classes, labs, and other hands-on courses. You may also consider hybrid classes that meet partially online and partially face-to-face.

Here is a link to the College of Liberal Arts planned course changes: [CLA Fall 2020 Classes](https://www.jsums.edu/liberalarts/files/2020/07/Fall-2020-College-of-Liberal-Arts-Courses.pdf) (<https://www.jsums.edu/liberalarts/files/2020/07/Fall-2020-College-of-Liberal-Arts-Courses.pdf>).

- *Face-to-face*: Students and instructors are physically in a room together during the class.
- *Hybrid*: Some instruction is delivered using technology and there are a few instances where students and faculty have face-to-face interaction. The virtual portion may be during the scheduled class time or completed by the student on their own time.
- *Online Synchronous/Remote*: The instructor and students are not physically together during the class but do meet virtually during the regularly scheduled class time using Zoom or Google Meet or some other online meeting tool.
- *Online (asynchronous)*: The instructor and students accomplish all aspects of the course without any face-to-face interaction. The content of the course is delivered via Canvas.

**Q: Can I do my classwork on my smartphone or tablet or will I need a computer?**

Every instructor will include in the syllabus the requirements for technology for courses delivered in all four modes. However, we know that you need some basic tools to be successful in your courses. To that end, the College strongly recommends that all students have the following:

- A computer with a camera, speakers, and microphone. The camera, mic, and speakers can be built in or added on.
- Access to the internet or wifi. This can be on campus, at your home, or at any number of public places. We are working on a list of places in Mississippi that offer access to free wifi. We also suggest looking at these [recommendations](#) for public wifi options, paying close attention to the recommendations for public wifi safety.
- Academic IT recommends using the Chrome web browser.
- Also, Academic IT recommends these specific tech requirements: Windows-based or Apple/Mac, i3 processor, 4GB memory, 32bit OS, 120 GB hard drive, sound card, Operating System recommend Windows 10 or Mac High Sierra 10.13 or higher.

**Q: If I want to switch to a different delivery mode, how do I drop and add classes?**

The JSU University Academic Advising Center (UAAC) has professional advisors who will work with undergraduate students to register for classes. You can reach out to advisors through the [2020 Registration Request Form](#)

Student-Athletes should contact their advisors via email: Ms. Shyandrea Glass ([shyandrea.s.glass@jsums.edu](mailto:shyandrea.s.glass@jsums.edu)) and Mr. Rafael Ordaz ([rafael.a.ordaz@jsums.edu](mailto:rafael.a.ordaz@jsums.edu)).

If you need assistance deciding which classes to take, you should always feel free to reach out to your department. The faculty there are ready to provide guidance as you navigate this new academic environment. Faculty know the degree program requirements and can help you decide on changes that will keep you on track but still allow you to take classes in your preferred mode of delivery.

## **HEALTH, SAFETY, & RESILIENCE**

**Q: Do I have to wear a face mask when I am on campus?**

Yes. Yes, we must all wear face masks in public spaces.

Properly worn face masks or cloth face coverings (covering both the nose and mouth) will be required in all classrooms, hallways, auditoriums, instructional spaces, laboratories, common areas, shared spaces, and restrooms. A face covering is required in the presence of others in all indoor spaces. In addition, face coverings will be required outside when adequate social distance cannot be maintained and you are within 6 feet of another person. All faculty, staff, students, and visitors are required to comply with this requirement.

**Q: It looks like I have a lab that is face-to-face and a hybrid class that meets once a week. How do I know that I will be safe in the buildings on campus?**

In addition to requiring face masks/cloth face coverings, we are reconfiguring classrooms to make sure there is at least 6 feet between students during class time. As well, JSU is following state guidelines for classroom capacity, keeping it at or below 25% to allow for maximum social distancing. All buildings will be well-stocked with hand-sanitizer stations, and the classrooms will be cleaned between class meetings.

**Q: What happens if I feel sick or think I have been exposed to COVID? Should I still attend my face-to-face class?**

Do not attend class if you have COVID symptoms or believe that you have been exposed to an active case of COVID. Instead, email your instructor that you are ill and contact the JSU Health Center. Faculty will be provided guidance about COVID-related absences that they will share with students, but our primary aim is to keep the campus community safe while providing options for remote work when you may have been exposed to the coronavirus.

Students with symptoms should call the JSU Health Center at 601-979-2260 (8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday). For emergency services after hours, contact JSU Public Safety at 601-979-2580.

**Q: Do I have to have my temperature taken at the campus checkpoints?**

Screenings are non-intrusive health checks on a regular, consistent basis. Screenings will include temperature checks and self-reported health questionnaires based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Mississippi State Department of Health suggestions. All residential students will be provided with a thermometer to assist in the self-screening process. Screening activities can also be facilitated with temperature check-in stations which will be placed in locations across campus. All residential students will be required to complete a temperature screening every 24 hours along with the self-reported health questionnaire. All non-residential students are strongly encouraged to complete a temperature screening and health questionnaire daily.