

**From:** [GSSW Academic Affairs](#)

**Subject:** [col-sw-stu-MSW-concentration] GSSW COVID-19 Fall & Winter Updates

**Date:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 6:59:47 PM

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Dear Denver Campus Concentration MSW Students,

Thank you for all the extra effort that students and faculty have taken to see ups safe and able to learn together on-campus, in our field internships, and online. We appreciate all that you are doing and recognize the added stress that we are under with the pandemic, the election season, and the ongoing and urgent calls for racial justice.

We write now to restate the message about access to Denver Campus for the remainder of Fall Quarter, and to share updates for Winter and Spring Quarters. Please read all of the details in this email.

**Fall Quarter:** Following public health guidance, the City of Denver will be on Level 3: Safer at Home Restrictions, as of October 28, 2020. The University of Denver (DU) is allowed to continue our modified, in-person course, as described in the [recent email](#) from the DU COVID-19 Coordinator. ***Yet, students and faculty that are accessing Denver Campus must restrict their activities off-campus, including field internships.*** Students who are engaged in in-person learning activities at your field internship must either:

- Attend the remainder of your Fall Quarter courses virtually. Your instructor will provide Zoom access information for your course(s) within Canvas.
- Or, work with your agency supervisor and GSSW field liaison to enact remote learning activities for your internship from October 28, 2020 until November 20, 2020 (the last day of Fall Quarter classes). If a remote learning plan is not available at the agency, you must attend your courses virtually. Alternatively, your GSSW Field Liaison could support you to pause your internship, if needed.

As we prepare for registration, we wanted to share these updates and instructions.

**Winter and Spring Calendars for GSSW:** All GSSW courses and field internships will remain on the same academic calendar, even though DU has altered the calendar for undergraduate students to allow more time for quarantine and testing as they move back to campus.

- Monday, January 4, 2021: First day of GSSW Winter Quarter classes and field
- Monday, March 15, 2021: Last day of GSSW Winter Quarter classes (no final exams at DU)
- Wednesday, March 31, 2021: First day of GSSW Spring Quarter classes
- Tuesday, June 8, 2021: Last day of GSSW Spring Quarter classes
- Friday, June 11, 2021: Graduate Commencement

**Return to Campus Protocols before Winter and Spring Quarter** (See specific details [here](#)):

- A minimum of 10 days quarantine is required before attending in-person classes, so we will anticipate the first two weeks of classes will be fully online to allow for this quarantine time.

- Everyone will be required to have a negative nasal swab PCR test for the virus that causes COVID-19 to have campus access.
- Everyone will be required to have proof of a 2020-2021 influenza vaccination by December 15, 2020.

**Field Internships:** As long as city and state public health guidance allows, you will continue to have the option to engage in your field internship in-person, if your agency can support unperson learning activities safely. Please consider taking online classes to mitigate the risk of exposure to the clients and communities you serve in your in-person internships, especially during the winter season.

**Course modalities:** GSSW will offer courses in both fully online and on-campus formats, similar to Fall Quarter. The [DU Online Schedule](#) lists course modalities (with 'lecture' format indicating on-campus sections).

**Registration:** Your advisors are available to consult on registration. You can review drafts of the schedule, description of newly developed *SOWK 4990: Special Topics* courses, and registration toolkit resources [here](#). You will be able to access the schedule in PioneerWeb to use the Prepare for Registration and Plan Ahead features on November 2, 2020. We are committed to offering the required courses in the modality and times listed by November 2, 2020, yet some changes in instructors may occur after that date.

We are here to support you and to answer your questions. Please join Denver Campus Director Kate Ross and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Leslie Hasche at our weekly virtual office hours on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00 am - 12:00 noon at this [link](#) (passcode: SW2020). You can connect with other GSSW Student Services Team members per the information posted on the [Contact Us](#) tab of the GSSW Student Resource Portal.

We have made it to Week 7 of the quarter, and we are sending everyone well wishes of health, community, and impactful social change. Please continue to provide care for everyone in our community during these times.

Thank you,

Kate Ross, Denver Campus MSW Program Director

Leslie Hasche, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

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