

From: [GSSW Academic Affairs](#)

Subject: [col-sw-stu-MSW-DEN] GSSW Updates for Winter 2021 Quarter

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 4:51:04 PM

Dear MSW@Denver Students,

We are grateful for all that you have done to promote everyone's health and safety during this Fall Quarter. We appreciate how you have helped prioritize all in our community, including the clients and organizations with whom we work. We understand that the pandemic has created differential stress and strain for so many of you and changed how we all live, creating collective trauma and grief. We sincerely hope that you will experience deep rest and will be well in the weeks and months to come.

We write now to wish you well as you finish the Fall Quarter and to offer updates on what to expect for Winter Quarter. We also conclude this email to share how GSSW services and supports will continue to be available to you during the Winter Interterm.

Online Courses in Fall & Winter Quarters

Please know that we share your concerns for the rising numbers of COVID-19 in Colorado and across the country. We continue to message faculty about how to connect students to supports and resources, as well as how to offer grace and flexibility for learning expectations.

Field Internships:

We want you to be safe and supported as you learn in your 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 in-person learning activities safely.

- Students beginning a new placement must complete the [Acknowledgement of Risk](#) Form.

- Students continuing a placement from Fall Quarter should only submit a new form if you decide to switch learning modalities (ex- if you originally indicated remote only learning on the form, and now will be completing in-person learning at your internship). If you are currently in an internship and need to switch to remote learning in your field internship, please coordinate with your agency field supervisor and your GSSW field liaison.

- If you have not begun your placement yet, please consult with your Placement Specialist. Once you begin your internship, your GSSW field liaison can help support you in these decisions, any needed changes, and to answer questions.

Student Services & Support:

GSSW and DU support services will continue to be available during Winter Interterm 2020. You can find resources, mental health and wellness supports, [links to the emergency student](#)

assistance funds, and engagement opportunities within the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#).

-Additionally, many GSSW teams—including Academic Affairs, Career Services, Registrar, Professional Advising, and Student Engagement—have established regular, virtual office hours to support you, including during Winter Interterm. *Some even have direct messaging/chat available through Microsoft Teams.* For more details, please visit the [“Contact Us”](#) tab of the GSSW Student Resource Portal.

-Please note the University of Denver is officially closed November 26-27, 2020 and between December 25, 2020 – January 3, 2021. During these dates, some resources may not be available.

-The [My SSP](#) tele-mental health, student support program is accessible 24/7 and will be available during the Winter Interterm, as well as the University closure.

We wish you safety, health, wellness, and connection as we enter Winter Interterm, which is the longest break from academic courses for MSW@Denver students. Please take the time to care for yourself, for each other, and for our communities. DU and GSSW will continue to offer virtual services and supports during the interterm, so please stay connected with us, too.

Take care,

Stephanie George, MSW@Denver Program Director
Aneesha Bharwani, Assistant Dean for Field Education
Deana Ahmad, Assistant Dean for Students
Leslie Hasche Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Amanda Moore McBride, GSSW Dean

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