



January 31, 2022

Dear Members of the AU Community,

I hope you and your family are well and safe.

As you know, we began the Spring semester remotely due to the number of COVID-19 infections. In our previous communication with you, we indicated that we will monitor the pandemic situation in South Florida and bring back as many courses as possible in person/on campus. As such, starting January 31<sup>st</sup>, we will have more students on campus. We are working closely with your Academic Program Directors and faculty to ensure that this process is seamless and does not cause any undue burden to you and your obligations to work and family.

As we continue to move forward we will work within the learning models below. It is critical to define issues related to *live on-campus*, *live online teaching*, *student attendance* and *student behavior* during live online teaching (synchronous virtual modality), so that you understand what is required of you during this transition period:

- **Live In-Person Teaching:** Following our Shared Governance Model, Academic Programs will seek faculty input to determine the number of hybrid courses on campus to meet, using a synchronous model. The majority are assessment, lab and ESOL courses.
- **Live Online Teaching:** Our Live Online Teaching modality means that faculty teach **fully online (or hybrid) and synchronously**. This modality requires that faculty interact live with you on scheduled days and times in an online environment, as they would in their in-person classes.
- **Attendance:** Students will be asked to attend their Live Online courses, as scheduled. If unable to attend, students must provide a documented excuse, accepted by their professor as an ‘excused absence.’ The faculty include attendance details in their syllabus.
- **Student Behavior during Live Online Teaching:** During class time, students must secure a stable WIFI environment, where they are free of distractions, noises, etc. You should not attend class from your automobile. You must keep your camera on at all times. During class time, you are required to interact, ask questions, respond to queries, present, and discuss, as you would in a regular face-to-face course.

Please note the following:

- Starting January 31<sup>st</sup>, all labs and assessment courses are on campus. Each Academic Program Director will send out an amended schedule to their respective students informing them of any courses that will be changed to campus face-to-face meetings.
- All departments are open during regular business hours and observing social distancing. However, we encourage students to schedule virtual appointments with departments like Financial Aid, Library, Finance, Student Services, etc. to ensure the level of customer service remains top notch. This will also keep our students, staff and faculty safe.
- The use of masks and other safety and hygiene measures are in place.
- The Goodman Center will continue to offer services in a hybrid format, combining telehealth and face to face, as appropriate.
- International Students will adhere to SEVIS regulations and will be contacted by their program director for more detailed information on their courses.

**Miami:** 305-593-1223 2173 N.W. 99 Avenue, Doral, Florida 33172-2209 [Albizu.edu](http://Albizu.edu)



- ESOL courses will be held on campus and will adhere to social distancing. Students will be allowed to log in their hours remotely to satisfy their hour requirements.
- Staff meetings will be held via ZOOM if social distancing is not possible.

Our main objective continues to be the safety and well-being of our Albizu community members and supporting our students throughout their educational journey. While we know that vaccinations are not mandatory and are an individual choice, we encourage all of our students to get vaccinated. Data shows that those who are vaccinated are less likely to be severely ill and hospitalized if they contract the Covid-19 virus and its variants. You can locate a vaccination site near you by accessing the Student Success Portal in Bb under the link: *Covid-19 Protocols and Vaccination Locator for Students*.

If anything remains unclear, please contact your Academic Program Director for program specific information and the office of Human Resources for all other matters. We urge you to continue implementing appropriate safety measures and look forward to seeing you on campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tilokie Depoo".

Tilokie Depoo, Ph.D.  
Chancellor