

Good afternoon, everyone. I hope each of you is well.

For those of you who have completed your finals, CONGRATULATIONS! For those who are almost finished, THE FINISH LINE IS IN SIGHT. And, for those who will be graduating this May, CONGRATULATIONS ON ACHIEVING YOUR GOALS!

We wanted to update you regarding the Summer Session. It has been our consistent goal to conduct the Summer Session in person, and we have been hoping that the external environment would improve sufficiently such that we would be able to do so.

But, the health and safety of each member of our community remain our constant focus. In addition, local and state orders remain in effect. Quite simply, we are not yet able to open the building for classes.

Therefore, Summer Session courses will be delivered remotely this year.

For some, this news will come as a relief, as they had concerns about attending in-person classes. For others, this will be a disappointment, as they prefer in-person classes.

As with the transition to online teaching this spring, this is not a decision that is taken lightly. And, we considered starting the Summer Session online and postponing a decision regarding the latter half of the Summer Session, but opted against that. By deciding now that the entire Summer Session will be online, faculty can tailor their classes to an online format, and students can make housing decisions for their entire summer.

This necessarily leads to some questions:

1. Will Summer Session classes be graded?

Yes. In addition, a committee of faculty is looking at options to ensure exam integrity.

2. If a student wants to add or drop a summer class, what's the deadline to do so?

June 1 is the last day of Add/Drop.

3. Will the Fall Semester be on campus and in person?

We are planning on holding on-campus, in-person classes this fall. As always, the health and safety of every member of our community is paramount, and we also will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local guidelines and directives. We will send updates immediately if there are changes to these plans.

4. Will campus be open to students this summer?

We are making plans to open the building **as soon as we can do so safely and are permitted to do so.** That way, students who want to study, prepare for the bar exam, and the like can do so.

5. Will the faculty teaching each course be available for office hours?

Yes. Please review the syllabus for each course for details. And, please take advantage of those office hours -- perhaps even more so than in the in-person world -- to maximize opportunities for communication and community.

In the coming days, we will send an update regarding the policies that will apply to the Summer Session. And, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to registrar@stcl.edu or to questions@stcl.edu.

Thank you for your patience and support as we together work through all of the issues brought on by the pandemic.

Until we meet again on campus, be safe, and

All the best,

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