



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

March 9, 2026

Dear colleagues,

I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well. I am writing to follow up on the [guidelines shared with you on March 3](#) regarding the continuation of teaching and learning and the academic arrangements in place during this period. I would also like to acknowledge your efforts in sustaining teaching and supporting one another in these trying times.

1. Classes will continue to be offered **synchronously online** at their regularly scheduled times **until the university announces the resumption of in-person classes on campus**.
2. You may offer your **classes in hybrid modality** at the regularly scheduled times using our technology-equipped classrooms across all faculties/schools. This means that students who are able to be present on campus may attend in person while others participate remotely in real time. If you are considering this option, please coordinate with your faculty/school.
3. **Recordings of synchronous sessions** and other relevant materials **should be made available to your students** as soon as possible, so that those who cannot attend live sessions can still engage with the course content. Regular communication with students and the availability of online office hours remain essential during this period.
4. You are encouraged to **diversify assessment methods rather than relying primarily on exams** and to **offer flexibility with deadlines** based on students' circumstances. Since the [last day of classes is April 29](#), it is important to minimize the implications of concentrating the remaining assessments within too short a period. **Scheduled exams may therefore proceed beginning Thursday, March 12**, and final exams will be limited to a maximum of 40% of the total

course grade. Please provide your students who are unable to take exams with suitable arrangements.

5. Courses with **experiential learning components** that require physical presence (such as labs, studios, rotations, and community engagements) **will resume gradually beginning Monday, March 16**. If you offer any such courses, please coordinate the next steps within your faculty/school and communicate with your students accordingly, while providing suitable arrangements to those who cannot attend.
6. Any changes to course requirements, including revisions to assessments or their weight in the overall course grade, should be communicated to students promptly. These changes should also be reflected in an **updated syllabus shared with students** so that course expectations remain clear.
7. Please maintain activities related to **student advising and mentorship** as well as **graduate research supervision**.
8. Please **remain attentive to students who may be facing particular challenges during this period**. Some students may not be able to join synchronous sessions or access Moodle regularly due to displacement, connectivity problems, or other circumstances. Where possible, help ensure that these students are provided with additional support.
9. **Service activities** including committee work, administrative responsibilities, and processes related to faculty appointments and promotion **should be maintained**, with the expectation of on-campus presence for in-person meetings and activities.
10. The **campus remains open for faculty, researchers, and students** to access libraries, workspaces, research laboratories, academic and administrative support offices, athletic facilities, and student support services within faculties and schools and at the [Office of Student Affairs](#).
11. Students have been informed that those who choose to travel outside Lebanon must submit the "**Petition for Travel Notification**" to be able to continue their coursework while abroad. These petitions will be reviewed by the relevant department chairperson and the Student Services Office in each student's faculty/school.

Some colleagues have asked about the possibility of traveling for a limited period while continuing their teaching, advising, and service activities remotely. Faculty members considering travel should consult with their chairpersons and deans to discuss their plans and any related academic arrangements, with the expectation that they will return promptly to Lebanon as soon as in-person teaching resumes.

Academic Continuity Teams have been activated within all faculties/schools and you may receive additional guidance from your chairpersons and deans. The Office of the Provost will continue to share updates on a regular basis, and will be holding a **virtual Q&A session with faculty members on Wednesday, March 11 at 3pm.**

We are in this together and remain hopeful for a de-escalation of the current situation in Lebanon and the region.

Take care,

Zaher Dawy, PhD

Provost
