

**From:** Brian Lenzmeier

**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 2:05 PM

**To:**

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Online teaching resources and plan for next week's training -- Coronavirus Update #5

Hello Faculty Colleagues

The shift to remote teaching comes at a time when many are already navigating new and unsettling circumstances. To ease your transition we have assembled a team that has been meeting daily and working long hours to provide resources and support for all of you.

Remember, we have time. Classes do not resume until March 30. The goal here for faculty is to do the best we can to support student learning remotely. There is no expectation that you must use a certain technology to do that. We need to keep students in mind. Like you, their lives have been massively disrupted. They will have distractions, inconsistent connectivity, and many worries. Communication will be essential and inclusivity paramount.

**I want to highlight two resources here:**

- 1) a [dedicated SharePoint site](#)
- 2) a [workshop series](#) we will offer next week.

Please visit the [Online Transition SharePoint site](#) where on the homepage you will see a detailed message from Jamii Claiborne on behalf of the team that will provide you with information, resources, and steps for getting started as you move your courses to remote learning. That initial message is lengthy, so read it when you have capacity. It provides details about first steps, minimum requirements, student support, etc. The site also has many resources for you to browse and use as is helpful. Go there when you are ready to begin.

We consider next week as our official gear-up week and suggest this as a schedule:

**Monday: Getting Started**

Use Monday to self-assess, organize, and plan. Access the [Online Transition SharePoint site](#) homepage message to build a context for the transition and then work through the Getting Started items that will guide you through initial thinking and planning. Then, self-assess based on what you wish to do to further student learning, where you'd like more information or skill-building. You can then sign up for workshops that will be offered Tuesday – Friday. At all times, keep in mind that students may have uneven access to learning materials, technology, and internet, so you'll need to build that possibility into your courses.

**Tuesday – Friday: Learning & Modifying**

The rest of the week will be dedicated time for you to receive additional information, training, and support, as well as work on your classes. The [Zoom and Canvas workshops](#) will cover beginner information and will be hands-on so that you can try out the technology during the workshop. Because of that, sessions are limited to four participants but are offered continuously

throughout the week to accommodate all schedules. All training is optional. There will also be opportunities for one-on-one help available via email and Zoom as you work.

We will continue to build support in the coming days and weeks. We realize that this is challenging work and we appreciate your efforts. In the end, we need to focus on supporting students and doing the best we can for them. Given that BVU faculty are among the most caring, connected and compassionate faculty, I have no doubt we can do this!

Finally, we are sharing information with students through email and text messaging referring students to this web page: <https://www.bvu.edu/university-resources>. Updates for faculty and staff are being maintained on this web page: <https://www.bvu.edu/university-resources/faculty-staff>.

Have a good weekend, and thank you to the team (Jamii Claiborne, Jay Benedict, John Bedward, Stephanie Frank, Scott Wunschel, Mark Lumsden, Jill Tussey, and the academic deans) for all their great work this week!

Best regards,  
Brian

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