

Hello All:

In 1918 a pandemic was caused by an avian flu virus. It infected 20% of the world's population and killed over 50 million people within a year. This 1918 virus was a novel virus (i.e. a novel virus is a new virus so nobody has resistance to the infection). Today's virus, the CoVID-19 is also a novel virus and people have no immune resistance, just like the 1918 virus. So it is likely that the CoVID-19 will infect 50% to 70% of the people in the United States over the next year.

These are very serious times. We need to follow the directions from our healthcare community. Don't overlook the simple things: washing your hands, don't touch your face, keep at a safe social distance, stay away from people exhibiting symptoms, and if you feel sick call your doctor then isolate yourself. The pandemic is going to “inconvenience” how we want to live our lives, however. If you fail to do what is right, than the pandemic will be longer, more deadly, and collapse our healthcare system. You don't want to image what this would look like.

But you also need to continue your education. Yes, we will have to make compromises as we go forward but it does not mean that we have to lower our expectations or your education. We will just have to work differently. And we will need to figure out how to do this as we move forward. The good news, you already have a complete Web site with all the lecture and lab resources for our course. You have been accessing the site for the face-to-face sessions.

We can assume the Unit Two Exams will occur on the first day when on campus sessions resume. So you need to continue to review this material as if the exam is tomorrow. At the same time, we need to follow the Unit Three Lecture-Lab Schedule. Everything is going to be the same but you will not be coming to campus. For the lecture you will do the preparation: read the book, study my chapter power point slides, complete the chapter study guides, and watch specific “homework videos”. Here I am going to make it a requirement for you to watch certain video. I will require you to watch the video and then submit comments about the video as part of your unit grade.

You will also need to study the anatomy learning objectives. I have images for the lab wall charts and models on the Web site. You know the routine for learning the lab objectives. Budget your time so every day you learn a few of the lab objectives. The Science Department will have more to say on how we will test you on lab objectives.

While we are conducting our class online, I plan to change the grading rubric to rely more on the homework assignments that you turn in for credit. We also may have the option of taking “quizzes” online. I also want to encourage students to collaborate with other students using email, telephones, or chat rooms. I know some students are already doing this.

To be successful, we will need to work together. I will try to communicate with you daily using the message board. I plan to use the lecture resource page to post homework assignments that you need to submit via email for credit. (e.g due date of chapter study guide or watch video and submit comments).

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