



COVID-19 Programming Information

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Overview

All programs and departments in the College of Health and Human Services will be providing instruction and other educational experiences to students and the community while adhering to the principles described in the [GSU Fall 2020 Operating Plan](#).

Our programs prepare students for careers in social work, health care, education, and many other settings impacted by public health concerns. Most programs require students to engage in some degree of real-life, hands-on experiences such as fieldwork, clinical internships, public school practicum, and clinical skills courses and laboratories. These requirements are necessary parts of our training programs, allowing students to meet criteria for credentials such as state licensure and professional certifications, but they also present special challenges under the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, we have developed more detailed information for students on how their programs will be delivered in this college.

We have continued to admit new students and keep all of our students on track to timely completion whenever possible in the frequently-changing context of the COVID-19 pandemic. When public health measures do not allow us to operate on campus or in the field, we work to meet student learning outcomes through remote instruction, simulations, virtual labs, and other alternatives to classroom-based experiences.

Off-Campus Learning Experiences

However, some experiences and learning outcomes can only be accomplished with in-person, hands-on, or field-based instruction. We will continue to arrange these experiences as much as possible, while following public health guidelines such as limiting group sizes, requiring personal protective equipment, and exercising universal precautions.

In contexts outside the university (such as medical settings and schools), if more stringent requirements exist, students and faculty are required to follow whatever precautionary measures are associated with those contexts.

When health and safety precautions result in delaying a student's progress, departments will put in place options that allow the student to complete the required work at an alternative time.

Department Information

Each department in the college has plans for how to continue with instruction while complying with all laws, rules, regulations, and guidelines pertinent to their programs. These plans are will be posted on the department's main webpage as they are written and updated.

Department of Addictions Studies and Behavioral Health [Click Here](#)

Programs: Addictions Counseling, Community Health

Department of Communication Disorders [Click Here](#)

Department of Health Administration [Click Here](#)

Programs: Health Administration, Health Informatics

Department of Nursing [Click Here](#)

Department of Occupational Therapy [Click Here](#)

Department of Physical Therapy [Click Here](#)

Department of Social Work [Click Here](#)

COVID-19 Site Acknowledgement

Governors State University appreciates your site's willingness to provide an on-site learning experience for our students. The University has the utmost concern for the safety of all students and business partners as we help our students achieve their educational objectives. Challenging situations have been created by the global pandemic related to COVID-19 and we want to partner with you to ensure reasonable steps are taken to provide a safe environment for our students and university community.

At GSU, we:

1. Observe, to the best of our ability, the COVID-19 guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as applicable federal, state, and local restrictions.
2. Require all students and employees to complete a training module on management of COVID-19 risks.
3. Require students in off-campus field experiences to comply with all site specific procedures and requirements, including those for mitigating risk of spreading infections and for reporting a positive diagnosis.
4. Request that students self-report a COVID-19 exposure or diagnosis on the GSU COVID-19 page www.govst.edu/COVID-19. We ask that students in field experiences provide information there that will allow us to coordinate reporting and notifications.
5. Forward self-reports to the Illinois Department of Public Health.

As our partner in providing field experiences, we ask that you:

1. Observe, to the best of your ability, the COVID-19 guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as applicable federal, state, and local restrictions.
2. Provide students with training on the site-specific risk mitigation and reporting procedures at your site.
3. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) or provide advisement to the student(s) on obtaining adequate PPE.
4. In the event of exposure of the COVID-19 virus at the site related to the student(s) work, cooperate with the University in taking reasonable steps to mitigate the spread of any COVID-19 exposure amongst University student(s).