

Friday, September 4, 2020

Dear Students:

Many of you may be planning to travel over the holiday weekend----remember, however, that **classes will meet as usual on Monday**. In order to complete classes by Thanksgiving, we started a little early, will not have Labor Day off, and have reduced fall break to one day. Take care and be safe---whether you are staying here or traveling.

Remember that on campus or off, inside or outdoors, you will be safest when you are wearing a mask, maintaining at least six feet of social distance, and washing your hands frequently. The people around you will be safest if you and they do those things as well.

Please do so to protect yourself and those around you. Please do so to protect your fellow students. Please do so to protect the faculty and staff here at Meredith who are doing all they can to help you: teaching your classes, planning events and activities, preparing and serving your meals, cleaning carpets and door knobs, doing repairs, delivering your mail and packages, writing stories about and posting photographs of you, cutting the grass and keeping the campus beautiful, giving you medical attention, listening to you, coaching you, advising you, protecting you, keeping the library open for you, awarding scholarships and keeping records of your academic work, doing the bookkeeping, and the many other tasks it takes to run Meredith, in many ways a small city.

Think about all the people who help make it possible for Meredith to open each day. Some of them have serious illnesses and still do their work each day. Many of them have families. Some of them care for small children and ailing parents. Some of them have spouses or partners who are coping with serious illness. None of the people you know here at Meredith or any of the people they love deserves to be sick because one of us decided not to follow the community health standards. No one deserves to get sick because one of us got careless. No one deserves to get sick---ever.

So do your part: wear the mask, stay at least six feet apart, and wash your hands. Remember to do those simple tasks every day, every night, wherever you are in contact with others.

Be safe and be careful---and still have a nice weekend. Have a nice weekend because you are protecting yourself and others.

Jean Jackson, '75

Vice President for College Programs