

Dear Meredith community,

As we near the end of the fall semester, your health and safety remain our top priorities. Thank you for the vigilance and adaptability you have all demonstrated to help keep our community safe during the pandemic. Students, faculty, and staff have adhered to our [community standards](#) and embraced new ways of learning and living, helping us to have a successful semester despite a global health crisis.

Winter Break

As the extended winter break approaches, we encourage everyone to get a flu shot. We also remind residence students that flu shots are required in order to continue living on campus. We need everyone to continue adhering to safety practices so we can have a healthy and successful spring semester. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has issued interim [guidance for the Thanksgiving holiday](#). No matter where you spend the holidays and your break, it is imperative that you follow safety guidelines to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. By doing so, you will be helping to protect your own health as well as the health of your family, friends, and loved ones.

Spring 2021 Calendar

While it is our intent to return to a more traditional academic calendar, planning for the spring semester is ongoing. As previously announced, we anticipate beginning spring semester classes on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. We also intend to hold spring break from Monday, March 15 through Sunday, March 21, but that could change depending on disruptions from COVID-19 or, for that matter, winter weather. Consequently, circumstances may require us to revise the academic calendar at any time during the year, so we strongly encourage you **not to make non-refundable travel plans for spring break**. In fact, we strongly discourage any travel over spring break. The College will not be sponsoring any spring break travel.

The complete spring calendar is available [here](#).

Questions

If you have questions about the College's spring semester plans, I encourage you to email them to covidupdates@meredith.edu. While we may not be able to respond individually to every email, your questions will be addressed in future campus-wide briefings from me, faculty messages from Provost Poslusny, and/or student messages from Vice President Jackson. We will also post answers to the most commonly asked questions from students in the FAQ section of our Staying Strong website.

Stay strong and safe,

Jo Allen, '80 and the Executive Leadership Team