

School of Journalism and Mass Communications Faculty Zoom Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2020

Faculty, staff and graduate students in attendance: Julie Adam, Annalise Baines, Genelle Belmas, Kerry Benson, Gerri Berendzen, Peter Bobkowski, Ann Brill, Cal Butcher, Yvonne Chen, Jerry Crawford, Cade Cruickshank, Chad Curtis, Joseph Erba, Teri Finneman, Patricia Gaston, Mugur Geana, Penny Hodge, Carol Holstead, Jammie Johnson, Mark Johnson, David Johnston, Ursula Kamanga, Himee Kamatuka, Rob Karwath, Heather Lawrenz, Yuchen Liu, Lisa Loewen, Frances Lyons, Chuck Marsh, Dan McCarthy, Lisa McLendon, Jennifer Paasch, Barb Padget, Scott Reinardy, Janet Rose, Steve Rottinghaus, Hyunjin Seo, Fatemeh Shayesteh, Marlys Shulda, Matt Tidwell, Max Utsler, Gayle Vannicola, Mike Vrabac, Hong Vu, Doug Ward, Anthony Whaley, Mike Williams and Steve Wolgast.

Graduate congratulations (All)

Catching up, sharing news/stories (all)

Any students who need help with classes, equipment, living expenses?

Updates

KU (Brill) – target dates for annual faculty, staff evaluations and promotion and tenure review dates will be moved forward; possible extra year added to pre-tenure positions.

School (Reinardy, Marsh, Benson, McLendon, Tidwell, Lyons) – Student survey of teaching and online classes will proceed as usual including online and distance learning. There will be changes in grading. Professors will not be told how to grade and credit and not awarding credit will be an option. There has been much discussion about credit/no-credit. A deadline may be changed from the beginning of class to during class. J-School teaching will be 100% online in summer. This is partially because for the last few years on-line classes fill faster than in-person classes. Currently we are advising students to enroll in fall classes as if it will exist. Reinardy reported summer and fall classes are in place. He also sent the attached survey to students to get a feel for their readiness for the fall semester.

Brill reported there is no hiring freeze but must discuss with Provost before hiring. School hires for the upcoming fall semester are Chris Etheridge, Ever Figueroa, Melissa Greene-Blye and Rebekka Schlichting.

Brill reminded faculty and staff about students' food insecurity and to consider donating to Just Food. Dillons cards can be offered to students but they can't help with rent, only food and gas.

Seo asked about defense planning procedures. Should classes leave the room? Brill asked graduate committee to work on plan for this kind of situation.

Benson touched base with Strategic Communications professors and figuring out summer schedule. She and Annalise Baines are working on how to have presentation class on-line.

Lisa McLendon reported the News & Information news track is meeting weekly and working on the middle portion of curriculum.

Announcements

The Katich Award was not awarded this year and plans will be made whether to skip a year. Eric Thomas announced there are still plans to offer the state contest online and, if so, there will be a need for judges. He thanked the dean for help with funding. The KSPA summer camp is up in the air. Registration is closed and the camp may be online. Belmas thanked Heather for the ZOOM

Survey of Students for Fall Classes (Sept. 2)

N = 193

My grade designation is:

Freshman	25
Sophomore	25
Junior	45 (24%)
Senior	69 (36%)
Graduate student	27

I live:

In a residence hall	21 (11%)
In an off-campus apartment/house	137 (71%)
In a Sorority/Fraternity house	17
At home with parents/other family members	14
Other (please specify) _____	4

Have you received a COVID-19 test through the university?

Yes	181 (94%)
No	12
Prefer not to say	

Through the university, did you test positive for COVID-19?

Yes	6
No	170 (88%)
Waiting on results	11
I did not get tested	6
Prefer not to say	

When on campus, I follow University COVID-19 guidelines (wearing masks, practice social distancing, hand washing, etc.):

Never	2
Sometimes	1
About half the time	0
Most of the time	15 (8%)
Always	171 (90%)

When on campus, I use the CVKey App.

Never	22 (12%)
Sometimes	12 (6%)
About half the time	9 (5%)
Most of the time	30 (16%)
Always	115 (61%) (down from 67% earlier in the week)

I am comfortable wearing a mask on campus:

Never	4 (2%)
Sometimes	8 (16%)
About half the time	9 (5%)
Most of the time	44 (23%)
Always	117 (62%)

LEVEL OF COMFORT

Generally speaking, I prefer:

In-person classes	79 (41%)
Hybrid model (some classes online; some classes in-person)	51 (26%)
Online classes	41 (21%)
Skills classes in-person; other classes online	13 (7%)
Hybrid classes (some class materials online with in-person meetings)	6 (3%)
Other (please specify) _____	

How many classes are you taking this semester?

Average = 4.43

Undergraduates only = 4.80

How many J-School classes are you taking this semester?

Average = 2.26

Undergraduates only = 2.33

How many of your classes are entirely in-person?

Average = .36

Undergraduates only = .36

How many of your classes are entirely online?

Average = 2.25

Undergraduates only = 2.47

How many of your classes are hybrid (some classes online; some classes in-person)?

Average = 1.78

Undergraduates only = 1.94

I am comfortable with in-person classes when everyone wears a mask and social distances.

Strongly disagree	21 (11%)
Disagree	24 (13%)
Neither agree or disagree	17 (9%)
Agree	61 (32%)
Strongly agree	69 (36%)

I want in-person classes but with current COVID-19 conditions prefer online instruction.

Strongly disagree	17 (9%)
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Disagree	25 (13%)
Neither agree or disagree	40 (21%)
Agree	55 (29%)
Strongly agree	55 (29%)

In light of COVID-19, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications has provided a healthy learning environment.

Strongly disagree	4 (2%)
Disagree	7 (4%)
Neither agree or disagree	37 (19)%
Agree	82 (43)%
Strongly agree	62 (32%)

EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION

School of Journalism and Mass Communications online classes are just as effective as in-person courses.

Strongly disagree	24 (13%)
Disagree	51 (26%)
Neither agree or disagree	30 (16%)
Agree	65 (34%)
Strongly agree	22 (11%)

How does J-School online instruction compare to the in-person instruction you receive?

Extremely ineffective	7 (4%)
Ineffective	35 (18%)
About the same	58 (30%)
Effective	78 (41%)
Extremely effective	14 (7%)

If you are no longer attending in-person classes, could you please tell us why.

was not given the option

I did not attend in-person classes at all this semester for many reasons. This major has a very high greek life population and while I try not to be judgemental it is very obvious that a big chunk of those individuals are not taking precautions. Considering I have no idea which people in my major decide to be irresponsible, I refuse to be in an environment like that not only for the safety of my family but for the safety of myself. I plan to return to campus as soon as there is a vaccine for this virus, whenever that may be.

Two of my classes are hybrid classes, but 1 is online because half of our class has covid-19, and in the other one, it is a big class, even when it is split in two, so my professor decided to make in person optional. Since I work on campus, I try to limit my contact with people to be considerate to the customers and my coworkers.

I feel like the return to fully online will happen soon so I am just adapting to what I see is inevitable.

I don't want to chance getting COVID.

It is more convenient to stay home when my professor is requiring us to be on zoom in the classroom.
high risk

No longer attending in person while in quarantine. Tested positive for COVID a week after university test.

my sorority will not let me leave the house to attend classes

Im' not comfortable being around people that I don't know since I am not sure where they have been

I am still attending several in-person classes, but I wish that I wasn't. While in my classrooms, social distancing is mostly effective, but walking anywhere on campus or within a building feels very unsafe.

I am worried about being exposed to the virus as I can not control the actions of others and what they do outside of class.

I feel uncomfortable with the amount of cases on campus and how much they are rising. Also, it feels silly to walk all the way up to campus for one hour a day, two days a week.

I have not been able to attend an in person class as I'm still waiting on Covid test results. Hybrid class changes (switching from in person to online and vice versa) Make it very hard to keep up with where I'm supposed to be and what I'm supposed to be doing.

had all but one of classes remote and felt it was more convenient to be completely online, as well as safer to have the option to be off campus

I am currently staying home and taking online classes because of the current COVID climate. I would much prefer in-person classes where it safe enough. I would have taken the semester off had I been able to break my current lease, which wasn't possible. In light of this, the online classes aren't as effective as in person, but I do believe they are working the way instructors are intending them to. I believe it is not possible to receive the exact same instruction as in person, so we should not have to pay the same exact bill.

I am choosing not to attend in-person classes whenever possible because I live with multiple people who are immunocompromised or are in close contact with someone who is. I personally

feel fairly safe being on campus, but I want to reduce exposure whenever possible so that I feel comfortable being around those people without a mask.

Fear of exposure

I work as an essential worker at two different jobs, one of which I work with sick people at. I am distancing myself appropriately so that I can keep my job and continue to pay own my bills. My professors have been understanding and encouraged this accommodation.

I only attend one in-person course because it felt like it was needed with the type of class (lab style). I didn't want to increase my exposure for a lecture class that doesn't seem different when only conducted over zoom.

I had one class that was offered as a hybrid. I was originally excited to attend in person because I like to be on campus and the class was going to be in 303 which was so cool with the couches and stuff. There were only desks and my professor was behind a plastic barrier. The zoom class called in and we all had to also log into zoom so they could see our faces. What is the point of being in person if I am on zoom anyway? It was weird to see my face along with my classmates on the large screens. There was also feedback because the sound had to be on the tv's so we could hear the zoom students if they had a question. This made it so I would hear my professor speak in person then hear them 1 second later on zoom. I decided it made more sense to not further expose myself to others if the content was the exact same, so I stopped attending in person.

I had to quarantine due to an exposure to covid but once I am cleared I will go back to my scheduled in person classes

I decided to focus on taking classes that were only offered online, so I'm completing my minor. And, I hope that spring semester more J-school classes will be offered completely online. For me, having classes partially online but having to still be on campus once, is extremely inconvenient.

Covid-19 is transmittable via tiny air droplets and exposure time plus lack of ventilation (both elements in classrooms and around campus), even with masks and social distancing, create an unsafe environment.

I was in 3 hybrid classes. 1 has moved online except for 4 days throughout the semester and those are test days. 1 is in the process of moving online. That class however makes students in the in-person class still log onto zoom with the people joining remotely. 90% of the class doesn't want to go in-person and have to still be on zoom so are opting just to join through zoom. My third and final hybrid class had 7 people the first day and 3 this week. The other three students and I all agreed we wouldn't be going to the in-person class again as our fellow students aren't there and the lecture is the same as what the professor posted online for all

students. I want to be attend my in-person classes, but with the way the classes are being taught and how my fellow classmates are attending, I am opting entirely online.

maybe there's a pandemic and the university did not decide to close the fraternities and sororities so the infected rate continues to rise and people do not want to get infected. Worse leadership than what the orangutan is doing in the white house.

I don't feel like other students will follow the rules and didn't want to have to return to student housing during the pandemic

i have. covid

Because campus should be closed

For the past two weeks I have only been to one class on campus as I don't see a big reason to go if I can just get my lecture online. It's much more safer and students should've been given the option to opt out of in person lectures. I've contacted the course adaption email but I haven't received clear instructions on how to go about any of this.

Personal situation. While I would've done what it took to get my degree being away from my husband was hard. The ability to be online will ease my anxiety and stress.

I am satisfied with the J-School's classroom instruction this semester.

Very dissatisfied	7 (4%)
Dissatisfied	19 (10%)
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	54 (28%)
Satisfied	83 (44%)
Very Satisfied	27 (14%)

PERSONAL CONCERNS

I have adequate access to technology/internet to successfully complete my online classes.

Yes	186 (97%)
No	6 (3%)

If you do not have access to technology/internet, what resources do you need?

Wifi

I need a new laptop because I lack storage.

Internet bandwidth has been an issue in my house and is being addressed.

Adobe Suite

Better internet to actually understand what my professors are saying

There are persistent wifi outages through my provider

A laptop that can support adobe products, as they need a bunch of storage and two of my classes expect me to use the programs

Are you worried about access to food or housing, or have concerns about your mental health?

Yes	34 (18%)
No	158 (82%)

If so, what is your concern and how can the School of Journalism and Mass Communications help?

It's rough being confined to one space for the majority of the week and without having much interaction with your peers. Anxiety and stress are already a factor with school but the environment change contributes to that also.

Anxiety and stress is high due to COVID and the fact i'm higher risk and get scared. I hope to get psychological help, such as preventing depression.

I am concerned about my mental health because I did not even realize the impact COVID had on me until recently. If there is some sort of counseling or mentor available it would be appreciated.

Prolonged isolation is detrimental to my motivation and general mental health.

"My concern = mental health balance, but I'm doing okay. I'm a freshman, so a lot of that is feeling overwhelmed by homework, emails, and adjusting to a new situation. I am glad to have some in-person classes, but the online parts sometimes make me feel disconnected from other people, although that is not something I have specifically faced within the School of Journalism/Mass Communications because my journalism classes are in-person or hybrid.

Luckily, food/housing isn't an issue for me.

It means a lot when instructors/faculty try to make the most of the situation and stay positive because that helps me to stay positive. I would also say that Zooms are better than purely online work that has no feeling of being face-to-face because Zooms feel almost like a real classroom environment."

Simply just mental health reasons, which I'm not sure the J-school is prepared to do, nor do I expect that. I go off-campus for such things.

Offering ways to get out of the house/ out of my room... either through more interactive classes, events that are outside and covid friendly that give me a place to go, or projects/ tasks that require me to move around

Mental health concerns and occasionally financial concerns due to job instability

I'm pretty financially insecure and worry about having enough money to eat and pay my rent. Just knowing what options are available for help would be nice. Or a way to help me find a second job on campus would be great. I'm work study, but with COVID can't find very many on-campus jobs left.

Great question

Having to be around many students and in turn not being able to see my elderly family members

Mental health, but I use campus resources

I work full time and go to school full time. Sometimes the financial stress on top of school stress can weigh down, but grocery vouchers helped a lot last semester.

If classes are online offer mandatory discussions or do breakout rooms for lectures

Due to the inevitable conflict between KU's financial needs and prevention of transmission of COVID-19, GTAs have become the most vulnerable victims. We work more than 20 hours a week. We receive students' emails saying they are affected on a daily basis, and we are constantly trying to accommodate them with a workload that undermines our wellbeing. The in-person goal is a joke. KU should move everything online all together instead of having the most vulnerable group suffer. Please, please, please, listen to your graduate students, get to know how they are impacted by the current situation, and reach out to them with help.

the only concern I have is for my mental health because online makes it harder to stay organized and focused and makes me feel overwhelmed more easily.

I was wondering if there would be another round of the CARES Act grant for students

While in isolation, how are we supposed to get food? Why isn't there a service to help people ordered to isolate?

I am fortunate enough to where my only real concern out of those listed above is mental health

I worry that many new, giant life changes have affected my mental state adversely since the end of 2019. I'm not sure if the J-School can help me, but I'm taking actions to help myself.

Being online has eased my stress and mental health immensely as I am now able to live with my husband away from Lawrence.

If you need assistance, please enter your email address below. Thank you. (ALL HAVE BEEN CONTACTED)

Five students responded and were contacted

What concerns do you have with the J-School meeting your educational needs?

I have noticed that several instructors have difficulty using Zoom. I have had several courses that have not opened Zoom sessions or do not open them for 15-20 minutes of class time.

Particularly with JOUR 101, the large zoom size and the structure of the class is built to fail. Perhaps having smaller zooms would be better with TA's heading each smaller zoom. Our assignments are difficult to find on the Blackboard site as well.

If I am going in person then the professor who is teaching the class should make sure they are both attending to the students online and in person and to not just talk to the students online

I am not being given the chance to make up work due to being sick.

I'm worried that if I need to isolate for a certain period of time, I am going to fall behind in my in person classes.

My JOUR 420 class is not the most effective right now, but I think that is just because we are all getting used to the technology.

I think just staying on top of homework and projects

Online classes are too full and we don't get any work done.

I feel like I'm not really learning anything. I'm not as engaged because I don't have to do anything. I just sit in my bed and listen, there's no incentive to pay attention or to participate.

It is hard to understand some lecturers, when the class is fully online, as I cannot ask for repeat when I don't understand a video lecture due to accent/fast talking/etc.

The online portion of hybrid classes continuously suck ass. The audio doesn't work or the video doesn't work or the screen share doesn't work. And the IT people don't seem like they know what they're doing.

my larger class Jour 101 isn't as personal as I would like it. Break out rooms aren't effective due to students not wanting to do the work or knowing how.

So far I have no concerns, I know in the future I will have issues with technology but I know that I can always visit the J School Tech website for help

hard to really understand when everything is online. it's hard to hear when I have to listen to a zoom while half the class is actually in person. The people on zoom are missing half the class.

Nervous that my skill classes won't be as effective online

Online classes aren't effective.

I think everything is work well.

I hope it can run smoothly and keep me engaged

Having trouble with engagement, and understanding what teachers are saying. Speaking over zoom is pretty muffled.

Online learning, even for my hybrid classes, has been confusing at best. Instruction has been inconsistent and trying to figure out set dates for assignments has been very frustrating.

I am worried I am not getting the same experience as I would in person but I can not risk being exposed to the virus. I am also worried about the lack of storage on my laptop.

I am in a J-101 class with almost 300 people, so there is almost no access to the instructor, and class is a bit out of control. I'm still learning the information fine, it is just harder to concentrate with so many things happening in the online class.

I am a visual and experiential learner and so to have to change the way I learn when trying to study something I really like, I feel as though I am not being as productive and am more confused in the materials.

As a graduate student, a full-time employee, and a small business owner, I have enough to keep track of already. Trying to figure out where my classes are and what I have to do if I'm on campus is just an added stressor. With that in mind it is much easier for us to just be online. As much as I want in person classes and interaction with classmates. That's not possible right now even if we are in class. A hybrid class sounds good in theory but it's only adding to all the confusion and stress of earning a masters degree. If I wasn't halfway done with my degree I would consider quitting at this point. With that in mind it is much easier for us to just be online. As much as I want in person classes and interaction with classmates. That's not possible right now even if we are in class. A hybrid class sounds good in theory but it's only adding to all the confusion and stress of earning a masters degree. If I wasn't halfway done with my degree I would consider quitting at this point.

Making sure the quality of hybrid and online classes is the same as in person classes

Just as I stated before, Online classes are effective, but not in the same way or style that in-person classes are.

none right now :)

I need clearer instruction for the strictly online courses SPECIFICALLY Jour 608- we are confused but have no class to go into to tell of our confusion.

Online sucks

I think it's insane to meet in person and in groups for one hour (alternating the first half and second half of the class time). Why spend time commuting to campus for an hour, being around other people, then leaving to commute back home? If some classes are scheduled to be online, the whole semester can be online. Showing up at 8pm for one hour is odd planning and not necessary.

Online learning is very difficult for me. I feel I wasn't able to learn adequately at the end of the spring 2020 classes. Fall 2020 classes are very difficult for me to follow along and remember when all my assignments are due.

The same level of dedication from the teacher is there. Also that safety should be first, if it can be online, don't have us come to class

My Jour 101 class has been very ineffective online so far. The online platforms we use within class always crash due to the sheer amount of people in the class and the teacher tends to scrap most lesson plans due to this.

The jschool has done a really good job adapting to covid and online classes. While obviously online instructions can't be the same as in person, it's been done very successfully.

My J-School teachers seem to be doing the best they can to still provide valuable lessons, despite the new limitations.

It's hard to feel like I'm learning and not just doing busy-work with online classes.

i feel like i do not learn as much through online courses, it is much easier to be engaged and make the most of classes when in person

When doing classes with a large quantity of people, it's a lot more difficult to do group work and focus on zoom. The sheer amount of people causes distractions.

It's harder to focus online and I have no idea manage that

Its hard to learn as well through online instructions, but the J school is doing a very good job given the circumstances

That entirely online classes take away a large part of the education in communicating. Yes, online is necessary but it is concerning that we might lose the very form of communicating we need to be learning through the J school. Online classes are just less engaging in general. Not necessarily anything that can be improved right now.

it's hard to understand some teachers in hybrid classes while you're on zoom

None
None.

The most difficult part of instruction at this time is the hybrid class days. It is extremely difficult for professors to effectively convey their messages to a group of students on Zoom and in the classroom.

No concerns

As a senior I worry some of the critical skills learned in person during my capstone may not be as developed as other previous capstones.

My classes this semester are more compatible to an online format unlike last semester. These classes are meeting all of my educational needs.

I have a hard time understanding some of my professors on zoom, and it is easy to get confused because many of the points being made are lost in translation, making it difficult to follow along online. The blackboard pages are also very confusing because for one of my hybrid classes, there are two separate blackboard pages, one for my individual instructor and one for the entire class, which contain different assignments and different submission portals.

Professors having enough resources in helping students

I am concerned that I will not be as motivated to actually process any of the information presented to me this semester. Normally I pay attention in class and take detailed notes and I am worried that I won't be able to take this semester as seriously as I normally would. not much of a concern, but online school is harder for me to stay focused and engaged.

I feel like some professors don't know zoom well enough which makes learning more difficult. I just want to be getting the most out of the education that I'm paying for and most importantly want to be able to learn as effectively as possible.

No

I am worried i am not getting enough practical application work/experience

J101 is very unorganized via zoom. It is distracting and I do not learn anything. I feel as if I'm paying to sit in front of my laptop for an hour and 15 minutes doing absolutely nothing. I'm not worried about my educational needs not being met. I am somewhat upset with how my online J-School course (JOUR101) is going. My instructor has struggled both with technology

and with controlling the class, and I feel the pace has been rather slow. However, it's not severe to the point that I am worried about my educational needs.

My hybrid course is a little confusing at times. It is hard to interact the way I would like to when some people are in the class and others are on zoom.

I worry they will value in person participation rather than whether or not they are teaching to improve my future

N/a

None

What suggestions do you have to improve J-School classes?

Educate the instructors on how to properly juggle Zoom and in-person instruction so that those on Zoom are not at a disadvantage.

Aside from fixing the large lecture zooms, there isn't much.

To make sure that every student is cleaning there space, have someone making sure the student is using the CVKey app cause I've seen plenty of students not use it and to make sure they are social distancing and wearing masks the proper way.

Be more lenient, college students are struggling more than anyone knows right now. An online quiz isn't going to take priority over me going to get a covid test like I did yesterday.

For my in person classes, I think there should be an option to attend via Zoom if for some reason students need to quarantine. Only one of my in person classes have that option at the moment.

Do not let teachers use Microsoft teams. Just use blackboard like every other class. We already have to get used to doing everything online, we don't need to figure out another program.

Make class sizes smaller that way the internet doesn't crash and students can have a more one on one focus with professors

For fully online classes, provide subtitles or slides for lectures, as some lecturers are harder to understand.

Instead of trying to work with hybrid stuff just make it all online, it's more of a hassle to get it to work properly and effectively otherwise. Plus when I have hybrid classes, I'll have 1 in person class but I have to be on campus all day because otherwise I wouldn't be able to make it to my online classes, as I live off campus. There also needs to be more study areas, I tried to study in the agency room because it's quiet and I know the code but apparently it's a room that isn't "safe" even though I cleaned it myself and I got kicked out in the middle of one of my online classes. There NEEDS to be more study space where classes aren't being held.

If possible, smaller JOUR 101 classes, each assignment continues to get pushed back from the first day. It's my only class I slightly dread going to

I love all my J School Classes

Have all the classes online. They are too many people with COVID. Not everyone is staying safe

Maybe make the huge lectures into small groups with a TA or professor in the groups or break out rooms

If you can have the class online I would prefer that over the hybrid courses. I don't see the benefits of having a single hybrid course and having to pay for parking and housing because you have to be on campus once a week for an hour.

J-School classes would be more effective if they were fully online or a different level of hybrid. Classes where some students are in-person while some students are on Zoom are not effective and hurt the learning environment. In one of my classes, about half the class meets once a week and the professor provides a video lecture for the other day, which is much more effective and saves the professor many technical issues with "broadcasting" on Zoom during an in-person class. I think all classes should try this model, though I understand the difficulty of the situation. My class not in the J-School is entirely online, and that is also very effective, since everyone is on the same page and there is no confusion or technical issues because some are in-person and some are on Zoom.

Please let us take online classes only, please!

Let me go to class in person

It would make everything so much better if my J-School professors announced due dates ahead of time so I can make an action plan for completing my work. Everything feels very chaotic right now.

To be more understanding to those who are stressed about the virus. Also to provide more resources if students are not able to download applications like Microsoft Teams or Photoshop.

Go fully online. Also, have professors create a schedule for assignments so that those of us with anxiety can track what is due and what isn't.

See above. No hybrid classes. Too much to worry about on top of already complicated schedules and learning.

I wish for one central location for assignments etc. I find myself checking several locations to be sure I didn't miss anything.

Make as many classes as small as possible, both for online and in-person
I understand that usually, Professors would not share their powerpoints or lecture notes, however under these circumstances, and with Zoom being unreliable, it would be helpful to have access to those resources.

I just don't think the hybrid model works. Surely professors will have already said this because that's what I have heard from them in my classes. It either needs to be all online or all in person managing both at once leaves one section, either the online or in person students, as a second thought during instruction.

Virtual events? To Create community?

All in person

I don't think attendance should be taken in classes. All of my business school classes are very accommodating with not attending classes in person and have students choose if they attend the zoom session or not. The journalism school needs to do the same to allow students more flexibility during this time.

Many of my classmates seem to be unsure of how to effectively use the technology. Although they had short sessions on this during orientation, a short video that went over different things used on blackboard for group work would be helpful.

Go online. It's 2020 and we are living in a pandemic.

I know professors have a lot going on but if they could like give us occasional email updates/descriptions of when and what assignments are due.
The enrollment process via enroll and pay. I wish it was easier. And that I could actually build a schedule for my entire graduate program. And then, each semester just check the box for the class I am going to be taking. Instead, every semester I have to start all over determining what I need to take and what is available.

I would recommend having standard due dates for assignments across the program. Before the pandemic started, it was simple because assignments were due when I went into class. Last semester, my classes mostly had everything due Sunday nights at midnight. This semester, there is not that same consistency or structure. Some classes have somewhat regular due dates, but they are much different with each class. It would be a lot easier for me to stay on top of everything if there was a general time when most of the major assignments were due for every class. I worry things will slip between the cracks.

Less busy-work, it keeps piling up with the combination of all classes doing it, I think once a week tests or quizzes to ensure students are still learning and doing the work would be more effective because it kinda stresses me out having a lot of homework every day of the week.

atleast hybrid with more in-person rather than more online

Maybe assign more individual work so that it is less stressful to rely on zoom groups to get work done.

Stop hybrid. Do all online and all in person sections.

I think so far they are doing very well! I know all things are subject to change but i think a calendar/tentative schedule is very helpful

Have professors acknowledge that online classes take away from the communicating experience but continue to find ways to teach us both the ways of communicating online and the way we would communicate previous (hoping everything goes back to normal eventually).

make them online

None

Due to COVID, make it more of an option to have entirely online classes.

stay online

No suggestions

It's hard to say b/c everyone has different opinions, but in hybrid classes I feel students are just opting to join by zoom because the in-person class isn't working when half the class is on zoom. It's hard to get a balance. I don't know how to improve this, maybe another student feels the same or similar and offered better insights.

It would be much easier for me to have one, single instructor to answer to and submit assignments to for each individual class instead of multiple.

I have seen a great improvement compared to last semester's online class instruction. I would suggest that more training be offered to faculty on how to effectively use Blackboard.

Move everything online, all together.

Either offer a class fully online or fully in-person. And if it's a class that you need to work in groups with make it in person. It's confusing to have a hybrid because it constantly changes whether you're in person or online. It's hard to work in a group over zoom especially when you have never met them in person.

None. Let us go back to normal please.

Maybe hold a seminar for professors to teach them about zoom or send out a instruction video to help them. Or have someone dedicated to helping the professors sort out the zoom problems.

A personal microphone for each professor in-person hybrid classes so we can hear them on zoom.

Keep them social distanced

Don't have a zoom call of 300 students. That should be a separated in person class in a lecture hall or an asynchronous class.

I'm really not sure what I'd do if I were the professor.

I think classes should either be all in-person or all online. I don't like the hybrid structure. go ALL online

None

Please provide any additional comments.

This is a really tough situation but I am very thankful to the J-school and its professors on how they're handling it. I feel much more cared for in the J-school than in the other schools for my minors.

I have entered other buildings on campus using cvkey and other students walk in right behind me. I am concerned for their lack of care or knowledge of the proper protocol to enter campus buildings.

My big concern is that there are classes happening in the lobby of Stauffer Flint. To get to my lab the other day I had to walk right through their class and couldn't maintain social distancing standards.

If I had not already started my major at KU, I do not think the tuition would be worth the education. I am also quarantined in my sorority house and under sorority contract and worried about my mental health but cannot get out of it without having to pay for it all. Struggling financially and mentally. Feels like no one is fighting for us.

Being in Campaigns this semester, it is a class that usually functions best in person. But I believe the school will do everything they can to still make our capstone worthwhile and prepare us for graduation.

I don't feel the difficulty with instruction is the fault of the J-School or its instructors. My classes are all going well under the circumstances, but the handling of the situation overall by KU has been disappointing and concerning. I thank everyone at the J-School for doing their best under extremely difficult circumstances.

Even though this semester is really rough for all of us, thank you so, so, so much for continuing to hold in-person classes. It really does make a big difference in my success and the passion I have for a certain topic.

My professor A. Hendershot is wonderful and really strives to make the online process easier for us. As a newbie, I really appreciate that effort.

Professor Hendershot's optional drop-in Zoom meetings have been outstanding and very helpful. I'm not sure I would have enjoyed asynchronous online classes as an undergrad, but as a grad student with 25 years inbetween undergrad and graduate work, the format works very well for me.

Thank you for working so hard for J School students! We appreciate you!

Online learning is not ideal, but neither is commuting for an hour class (that should be from 6:30-9). As graduate students, we are well adept at online work -- especially through our professional jobs. Yes, online learning is less than ideal but it's better than increasing our risk of getting covid or not graduating on time.

All I can say is some courses really do require to be in person and others don't. It just depends on the subject matter/topic. So one size doesn't fit all. Other than that, online is working for the most part.

A week or two before classes started, I checked enroll and pay, and the online classes were all listed as "zoom". I struggled in the first week, because I believed all my classes would be through zoom, and none of my professors who chose not to use zoom clearly stated that on the blackboard site. I checked enroll and pay at the end of the week, and the classes had changed to just say "online". The discrepancy led to a very stressful first week for me. It did not help that many of my professors did not open their blackboard sites until the beginning of the week. I would recommend that, for online courses in the future, teachers more clearly state how the class is meeting and what to expect before the first week of class.

Other J-School students that I've spoken too, agree that they wish there were more entirely online classes being offered this semester. For me, having to live on campus to attend a class that meets once a week for 50 minutes while the remaining is online is very inconvenient. And,

times like this, it would make more sense to live at home with family. That's why I hope there are more classes offered entirely online next semester.

If we choose to go online, I would hope that Jschool resources such as common classrooms (303, resource center, etc) would be available for students to access new spaces to help maintain mental health.

I would suggest that comfortable furniture be given to undergraduate students in the dorm rooms as I have seen them struggle sitting on their beds to take lectures which is not comfortable.

Please take care of your graduate students especially those who teach and work with a ridiculous workload and health hazard elicited by KU's in-person obsession.

My device isn't capable of downloading the CVKey app so I just wander through campus without contact tracing

This is going to be my third week in classes, and I am excited. Looking forward to traveling back and forth to Lawrence every Monday