

## Q&A from Student Town Halls

### Academics

I wanted to clarify that hybrid classes can be completed remotely.

*Yes, they can. Students have the option of taking all of their classes online, regardless of the format they are being delivered. All classrooms have been enabled with cameras so that you can be a part of the live classes, even from home.*

Is there a plan for the spring semester beginning?

*Not yet. We will begin working on the spring calendar once the fall semester begins and we see the trajectory of the pandemic.*

How will classes like science labs be set up? Can they be done remotely?

*They can. Professors have been creative in how they are creating class and lab assignments. Reach out to your professors to see what they are planning.*

### Health & Safety

What is the protocol if there is an outbreak on a floor or in a building?

*We have an isolation/quarantine plan in place and would test and isolate as needed.*

How will testing work?

*All residential students will be tested upon arrival to campus.*

How will behavioral protocols be enforced?

*Everyone should feel empowered to remind peers to follow the behavioral protocols or you can call campus safety. Those not following protocol may be subject to disciplinary action, per the Student Code of Conduct, the Faculty Code or the Staff Manual.*

I usually get a stress headache a few times a month. How do I mark that on the app?

*You know your body and how you might feel at certain times of the month or under stress. You should mark new symptoms you may be experiencing, not something that might be because of allergies or stress.*

Does Hood plan to be transparent if there is a case of COVID on campus?

*Absolutely! We will continue to be transparent and send an email if there is a COVID case on campus. We will also keep the stats on the Welcome Home website.*

At what point would we shift to online?

*We have a series of metrics that we will be monitoring, both internal and regionally. We've developed the metrics with public health experts from Frederick Health and the county health department.*

Can you talk about the cleaning protocols?

*Facilities will do a deep clean every night and clean all public spaces at least three times per day.*

Will neighbors be allowed to walk their dogs and be on campus?

*Yes, we will continue to allow neighbors to enjoy campus. We have an email going out to them next week to remind them that there will be more people on campus and to follow our behavioral protocols. Only those with official business will be allowed in buildings.*

Why are off-campus guests allowed in the pool facility, but commuters are not allowed in dorms?  
*Off-campus guests are not allowed in the pool. Only pool members and campus community members are allowed in the pool, with limited capacity. At this point, we are restricting outside visitors in dorm rooms because that is someone's living space.*

How will contact tracing work?

*Multiple people on campus have taken the certification on contact tracing from Johns Hopkins University and will begin to do contact tracing ahead of the state health department, doing everything we can to reduce the spread of the virus.*

## **Residential & Student Life**

If we stay home this fall, can we move onto campus in the spring?

*Yes, we will have room for you in the spring when you want to return.*

If we have been assigned a dorm room this fall and decide to stay home, can we get a credit for room & board?

*Yes, please reach out to [residencelife@hood.edu](mailto:residencelife@hood.edu) as soon as possible to let them know. You should also reach out to your professors to let them know you will be taking your classes remotely.*

If campus should have to close, how would room & board credits be calculated?

*Credits for room and board would be prorated as it was done in the spring.*

Is there a place for commuters to hang out between classes?

*The commuter lounge in Whitaker is still open and available, as well as many other study areas on campus.*

How will the dining hall be set up?

*The dining hall has removed furniture to encourage social distancing while eating. There will be no self-service stations. We have also added a grab & go station, as well as the option to pre-order and pick up in the lower level of Coblentz.*

Will clubs still be able to meet?

*Yes, clubs will be encouraged to meet in person in small groups or virtually.*

## **Graduate Student Questions**

Are all the offices at Hood going to be open in person for the fall?

*Yes they are open now; and student service offices (grad office, career center, accounting) will have extended hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m.*

How will hybrid class be conducted for hands-on function classes? Will the studio be open and available for kiln use?

*For ceramics classes, as well as all other, those classes will involve live synchronous as well as asynchronous. For hands-on, that will be the time that students can come to campus for wheel/kiln use. Reach out to your faculty member to confirm their expectations.*

When will syllabi be posted on blackboard so we can determine if in-person attendance will be required for hybrid classes?

*On Monday, all course rosters were loaded in Blackboard. Faculty are just beginning to populate — reach out with your faculty member*

What is the protocol for students that have pre-existing conditions?

*There is no protocol per se. You should reach out to your faculty members to confirm their expectations and inform them of your circumstances and intent to work remotely. You can communicate that with the grad school office.*

Have graduate assistantships been at all impacted?

*We have tried to maintain all graduate assistantships; some have been reimagined as we rethink the fall semester. For example, the GA's in athletics will have different responsibilities.*

Thank you for hosting this meeting. I know the MAC Presidents made the decision to suspend all intercollegiate athletic competitions through the fall semester. Will the athletic facilities/gyms on campus be open or closed?

*Yes, they will. As students, they will be open to you. There will be some protocols that follow Governor Hogan's executive order last week. there will be changes to hours and those will be posted soon.*

When will the library services be available again so that books borrowed last semester can be returned?

*Staff are back on campus, so the library staff is open in the old mail room in Whitaker*

You sent out an email the other day expressing concern that other colleges in MD were going totally online. Is there any possibility that Hood will do the same in the short or long term?

*Yes, there is definitely a possibility, but we have no immediate concerns about reopening. But this is an uncertain time and we have developed a set of metrics that will help us determine if that time comes.*

Is there any policy for if a student gets coronavirus as far as grades go?

*There's no policy per se, but the faculty will be very understanding. It's important for you to be in communication with your faculty. You can also communicate with the grad school — [gofurther@hood.edu](mailto:gofurther@hood.edu) or [graddean@hood.edu](mailto:graddean@hood.edu)*

Class Interaction is very important to my learning experience. It will be tricky in some instances so are there any specific strategies faculty will be using to support this interaction? Thank you.

*Great question! Faculty are taking part in a three-day professional development for interaction, teaching online, innovation and creativity for teaching in person, online and a mixed class. The faculty have an amazing toolkit to engage with you.*

Was wondering what the expectation is for the hybrid courses. Particularly, will we be required to be in person for the live sessions?

*For hybrid courses, about half will be live. Communicate with your professor and you are both clear on the expectations for the live portion. you may be able to be in the classroom or watch the class live remotely.*

*If we are called for random testing, how long will we have to get the test? What are the hours for the health center?*

You will be notified via email with time and location. We're doing about 100 per week (about 10% of the population). You can also email [wellness@hood.edu](mailto:wellness@hood.edu) if you want to get a test on campus.

*How have professors been asked to enforce mask wearing in classes?*

You will not be allowed in the building without a mask.

Why not go completely virtual? What does the online experience have that campus experience?

*That is to what our students wanted. The students want to be back in person as much as possible. As a small college, we provide that personalized experience. We know that we can ensure success to offer that personalized experience. We know that we can ensure success to offer that personalized experience. We have created as best we can for virtual students, for those who do not want to come to campus.*