FAQ from 2nd Year Students, Aug. 4, 2020

1. ***What do the annotations on the Oasis calendar ("synch" vs. "synch f2f") mean and which ones are mandatory vs. can be watched on our own time?***

    We will send detailed information out to the class this week explaining the calendaring approach, including these new codes. In short, the OMSE Curriculum office will use consistent Short Event Codes at the start of all session names on the OASIS and Canvas calendars to indicate the session type and attendance requirements. The codes are as follows:

    SyncZoom – Synchronous Zoom session (so Zoom only, not in-person). For this type of session, students can participate in the session in real-time or watch the recording at a later time/date of their choosing, just as they would have done with recorded lectures last year. If real-time attendance is required, one asterisk (*) will be used to indicate that requirement, just as it was last year. Zoom links will be posted in a consistent location at the top of all SyncZoom Canvas Session Overview Pages.

    SyncF2F – Synchronous Face-to-Face session (in-person, no Zoom option). Required attendance will be indicated with one asterisk (*), just as it was last year. Room location information will be provided in the calendar details.

    Async – Asynchronous Session (no fixed time, no "live" Zoom option; students can engage the session content – typically a recorded lecture – on their own time). Sessions of this type will appear on the OASIS and Canvas Calendars on the dates and times they would have been placed so that students understand the temporal order of the session content. If the session content must be reviewed/completed ahead of a specific date in the course (e.g., a small group session the following week), that information will be provided on the Canvas Session page for the Async and downstream event(s).

2. ***How quickly will zoom recordings be posted if we are unable to attend a synchronous session- will the lag time be similar to how quickly lectures were posted on canvas last year?***

    The turnaround time for posting recorded SyncZoom lectures/sessions will be similar to last year: always within one business day, typically in a matter of hours. We will continue to use the individual Session Overview Pages to communicate the rare instances when posting is delayed beyond this timeframe. We know students would love to have the recordings immediately after the session ends, however we have a review/editing process to ensure a consistent level of audio/visual quality of all recordings. We also review and edit any PHI and/or non-relevant chatter, which is often picked up in recordings (including Zoom recordings).

3. ***How will exams be formatted, and will we have a week to take them all or will we have to take them on a specific day and time?***

    Other than SP/Clinical exams, all end-of-course exams will be delivered via Canvas following a similar approach used in Blocks 2 and 3 last spring. Rather than opening all exams for a week, as was done during the emergency transition, they will be open from 9:00am to 5:00pm on the day listed on the OASIS and Canvas calendars. On the designated exam day, students will be able to choose the time of day when they want to take a given exam and they will be responsible for monitoring completion within the allowed time. If students would like to ensure they have a quiet place and/or stable internet connection to take an exam, OMSE will communicate options for reserving spaces on Campus; otherwise, students will again be able to take the exams at a location of their choosing.

4. *Is there an update on when the carrel construction will be finished, and will we be able to use them while the COVID-19 pandemic continues?*

    The carrel space will be complete in mid to late October, assuming all goes as planned. We will have the space set up for appropriate social distancing with the furniture arranged to ensure a minimum of 6-foot distance. As long as students comply with current rules for coming onto campus (stay home if sick, masked at all times except when alone in a room, maintaining physical distancing in the space, and completing the self-screen prior to coming to campus), you should be able to use the space as soon as it is complete. It will be important for students to carefully comply with these rules or it is possible we would lose our ability to have students in such spaces, or even possible that we would lose our ability to have students on campus at all. We all must take this responsibility on together.

5. *Is there further guidance on student groups- e.g. what will be allowed in terms of hosting events? when we will get budgets?*

    Budgets will be sent out this week. For guidance on student group events, please reference the attached COVID Guide for Student Activities.