

Dear Students,

While at this time there are no reported cases of COVID-19 at Bank Street, we would like to share an update on the measures we have taken to continue to navigate this situation as safely as possible. Please see below for updates on your classes and school observations.

Classes & Conference Groups: Courses will continue to be offered face-to-face. However, faculty members are prepared to shift instruction to an online format if a decision is made to close the building. This is a possibility we are prepared for in the event that there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in any of the programs housed in our building or if the New York City Department of Education closes the entire school system in a containment effort.

If you have course assignments that require ongoing work with or observation of children in a setting that has been closed, your assignment requirements will be adjusted by your instructor. While we do not know how long schools may be closed for, we will continue to support you in progressing through your coursework as seamlessly as possible.

Observations & School Visits: In an effort to limit community spread of the virus, we have advised faculty members to pause their visits to schools. There will be an opportunity for visits to be made up in the future. If you are currently in supervised fieldwork, whether in-service or not, we are asking that you follow the guidelines of the setting you are in. If your school remains open, please continue with your placement and follow the guidance provided by your setting. If your school is closed or if you are in a high-risk category, please follow the recommendations provided by your doctor or your site. We will also be working in the next weeks to develop contingency plans for students who may have to suspend fieldwork experiences.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions. If you believe you or anyone in your household has been directly exposed to, or tests positive for, COVID-19, please contact Gretchen Adams at gadams@bankstreet.edu as soon as possible.

Many thanks,
Cecelia