June 12, 2020

Dear Justice Studies Students,

I just wanted to send you all a quick update with highlights of what’s been going on in your Justice Studies Department.

1. Most importantly, as Department Head, I will be available for virtual office hours starting mid-June. **Talk-to-me-2:00-Tuesdays** is time set aside for any JS student to drop in (online) and ask me any questions and/or offer comments and suggestions. This virtual drop in session will run from 2:00-3:00 every Tuesday for June and July. There might only be one or two students drop in or there could be a group of you – please know this is public space for us to have an open discussion. If you’re not comfortable with zoom or this public space, please email me (gloria.desantis@uregina.ca) and we’ll set up another time to have a conversation one-on-one.

   Topic: Gloria DeSantis' Zoom Meeting
   Time: Tuesdays at 2:00 during the months of June and July 2020

   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://zoom.us/j/91499750977?pwd=QXdLSGJ1cDNML1dJcVBmeWRaNDIUUT09

   Meeting ID: 914 9975 0977
   Password: 713034
   One tap mobile
   +16475580588,,91499750977# Canada
   Dial by your location
   +1 647 558 0588 Canada

2. You’ve likely already heard that the majority of classes at UofR will be by remote delivery this fall 2020. **In fact, in Justice Studies, none of our classes will be face-to-face.** All our classes will be by remote delivery and you’ll be notified over the next few weeks about whether a) the courses you’ve registered for will be in real-time (in which case you’ll be expected to attend online at the time specified on UR Self-Service) or b) your courses will have no requirement for a specific meeting time each week (i.e. you will manage the course on your time, etc.).

3. Our practicum program has seen much success recently with almost 100% of the students who requested a placement and registered for either 290 or 490, now have placements. Some will be face-to-face with training and personal protective equipment at the various organizations while other placements will happen remotely/virtually.

4. **We are now ordering textbooks for your courses.** Some textbooks for some courses will be available in print form while others will be made available in digital copies. We are waiting for
more details from the bookstore about how you will be able to access these print and digital books. I will let you know when I hear back from them.

5. Please note that most UofR services for students are now available remotely (e.g. Counselling Services https://www.uregina.ca/student/counselling/, Student Success Centre https://www.uregina.ca/student/ssc/, etc.)

6. Our instructors are busy preparing your courses for remote/online delivery for fall 2020. And we are all aware that we need to pay particular attention to:
   - accessibility issues for students with different learning accommodations
   - students’ mental health issues including the additional stress caused by the lack of social interactions with friends and sense of isolation given the remote learning environment that we all have to endure
   - health issues regarding the pandemic
   - heightened concerns about racism and violence that have emerged recently.

Our instructors are passionate about our students, about teaching and learning and about sharing their knowledge ... so we’ll be ready for you in September!

Sincerely,

Gloria

Gloria DeSantis (she/her), PhD, Associate Professor
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I acknowledge with respect that I live, work and volunteer on the Homeland of the Métis and the traditional territories of the Nêhiyawak, Anihšināpēk, Dakota, Lakota and Nakota peoples of Turtle Island. This area is also known as Treaty 4 Territory – a place where the spirit of the treaty is not honoured, thus I am committed to conversations and relationships in solidarity with Indigenous peoples for change.