GREETINGS FROM UNIVERSITY CORE

Dear Global and Cross-Cultural Learners,

I hope that this message finds you and your families in good health and spirits. As you probably know, Fairleigh Dickinson University has been busy making preparations for the Fall semester, including putting in place policies and protocols designed to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission when we resume in-person classes on our New Jersey campuses and off-campus locations. You can always find the latest updates on these preparations on the FDU website: https://www.fdu.edu/coronavirus-update/fall-2020-planning/

As part of the Covid-19 planning process, the University Core Directors have decided that Fall semester UNIV 2001 and UNIV 2002 classes will be conducted via a combination of remote synchronous class sessions (using Zoom) and asynchronous learning (using Blackboard Learn). The decision to forgo in-person meetings for UNIV 2001 and UNIV 2002 classes will permit FDU to dedicate classrooms suitable for physical distancing to upper level classes in the academic majors. In doing so, we aim to offer students the best overall in-person classroom experience possible.

- If you are already enrolled in a fully asynchronous section of UNIV 2001 or UNIV 2002, nothing about your class will change.
- If you are enrolled in an in-person section of UNIV 2001 or UNIV 2002, your classes will meet via Zoom, rather than in-person, at the originally scheduled times.

We appreciate that this may cause some inconvenience and we promise to do our absolute best to accommodate requests for schedule changes.

Also, beginning Fall 2020, the four University Core courses have shifted to a combination of high quality Open Education Resources and FDU library subscriptions, making it the first Zero Textbook Cost program at FDU. This initiative saves FDU students approximately $1 million every year compared with programs relying on high-cost commercial textbooks.

We’re looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Jason Scorza
Vice Provost for International Affairs
Professor of Political Science and Philosophy
August 5, 2020