
Mind Matters: COVID-19 Updates and Extended Deadlines from CogSci

Tue, Mar 24, 2020 at 1:12 PM



Mind Matters

A news update for Cognitive Science students



CogSci COVID-19 Updates

Dear Cognitive Science Majors,

What a wild time this is! First, you made it through the first full week of this “new normal.” Take a moment to be proud of everything you did to make it through. We know many of you have moved off-campus, have been supporting sick family and friends, and have been an incredible source of emotional support for your community, all while staying committed to your academic goals. This is a huge feat and we commend you!

Additionally, we wanted to recognize the disappointment you may be facing during this time. Seniors who had their last on-campus class without realizing it and are mourning the loss of their graduation celebrations. Study abroad students who had to leave their experience early with little notice. And all of us are missing different parts of our routines, small and big. We wanted to acknowledge these feelings and remind you that we are here for you in whatever way might be helpful.

Finally, we recognize that you have been absolutely inundated with emails over the past 2 weeks, so we wanted to take the chance to summarize all of the CogSci changes that have been made in this ever-evolving situation.

Please feel free to reach out if there is anything you need. Stay well and stay safe!

Important Dates/Deadlines

Details about these deadlines/events can be found in the sections below.

March 24 (today!) - Deadline for Peer Facilitator Applications

March 25 - Backpacking Opens

March 31 - Virtual Backpacking Event (10 am- 2 pm)

April 6 - Registration begins

April 6 - Deadline to submit research abstract for CSC Digital Showcase

April 13-19 - CSC Digital Showcase

May 1 - Final deadline for submission of Honors Thesis and reader's reports

Academic Impacts

Grading

At the end of last week you should have received an email from Acting Provost Susan Collins about the change to a P/NRC grading system for Winter 2020. We know you may have questions about this, and we should have further details about this policy at the end of this week. However, we can assure you that pass grades ("P") this semester will count toward majors and minors and graduation requirements (i.e., all degree requirements).

Honors

If you are pursuing an Honors Thesis, you should have received an email from us regarding updated deadlines and processes. This includes:

- Deadline for being considered for Honors Program awards - **April 10th**
- Final deadline for submission of thesis, reader's reports, and consideration for the Marshall M. Weinberg Award - **May 1st**
- A more generous grading rubric has been sent to faculty thesis advisors

Independent Study

If you are currently enrolled in COGSCI 497, 498, or 499, you also should have received an email from us. If you have not already, please reach out to let us know what your plan is for continuation of your research or if you need help formulating a plan!

Study Abroad

All U-M CGIS Study Abroad programs have been cancelled for WN 2020, and

SP/SU/Fall 2020 programs are still under review. If you have any questions about programs with a SP/SU/Fall 2020 start date, please contact CGIS directly by emailing cgis@umich.edu. Any students returning from a WN 2020 program who need health insurance should fill out the applications from the [Student Health Insurance Office](#) (forms also available upon request from Weinberg-Institute@umich.edu) and contact Angela.King@relationinsurance.com directly.

Advising Impacts

Backpacking/Registration

Backpacking opens tomorrow, **Wednesday, March 25th** and registration will proceed as normal. Look out for a registration email from us later this week with lots of important info. We will be having a virtual backpacking event on **Tuesday, March 31st** (see information below).

Peer Facilitators

The Peer Facilitators are excited to be available to students virtually for the remainder of the Winter 2020 semester. Please use [this calendar](#) to schedule an appointment with them. Once you have scheduled an appointment, a Peer Facilitator will be in contact with you to confirm which virtual platform to use.

Staff Advising

All staff advising is now completely remote, through phone or video conferencing appointments only. When you [sign up for advising](#), you may indicate your preference. Please be sure to provide a phone number if you're requesting a phone appointment. Our staff advisors will be offering appointments at their normal times through the end of the semester. If you have outstanding circumstances that prevent you from signing up from the posted appointment times, you may also request an appointment by emailing Weinberg-Institute@umich.edu.

Canceled/Modified Events

CogSci Connections: Backpacking

We are pleased to be able to offer this event virtually! On **Tuesday, March 31st**, CogSci Staff Advisors and Peer Facilitators will be available via Zoom from 10am - 2pm to answer questions and talk course planning! More details to come in our registration email this week.

Submit an Abstract to have your Research Featured on a Cognitive Science Community Digital Showcase! (The New Cog Sci Colloquium) The Cognitive Science Community has canceled its annual Colloquium. However, CSC will instead be holding a digital student showcase on its [Colloquium website](#), featuring its presenters' materials, as well as videos and audio clips explaining their projects. There will also be an opportunity for students to engage with this showcase from **April 13-April 19** on CSC's Slack Page under the #colloquium2020, where you can ask questions and submit comments directly to the presenters. CSC asks for you to submit a pdf of your poster, alongside a 3-5 minute video giving an overview of the content of your poster by **April 6th**. You may submit your materials to cogscimty@umich.edu.

Graduation

All on-campus graduation ceremonies have been cancelled for WN 2020 graduation (this includes the Big House Commencement ceremony, departmental graduation celebrations, and honors graduation). We are continuing to brainstorm ways to honor our 2020 graduates, and will release plans and details as they become available.

Marshall M. Weinberg Symposium

The Weinberg Symposium on Cognitive Science has been postponed until WN 2021.

Further Resources

[CAPS | UHS | COVID-19 Resource List from FirstGen Office](#)



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