

Fall 2020 End of Semester Update

provost@slu.edu

Tue 6/30/2020 12:23 PM

Dear Saint Louis University community,

In late May, [President Pestello announced](#) an early start to the fall semester to allow more in-person instruction before a potential second wave of COVID-19. That announcement sought input from faculty, staff, students and parents on two options for how to *end* the semester.

After weighing your feedback and the many conversations we have had with student and faculty leaders, we have determined that **final exams for the fall will be administered remotely** from Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4. More specifically:

- **Classes conclude on:** Tuesday, Nov. 24
- **Study days:** Wednesday, Nov 25 to Sunday, Nov. 29
 - Students living on campus will return home during these days until the start of the spring semester.
- **Final exams take place:** Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4
- **Final exams will be administered:** Online

We feel strongly that this option is best for our students to succeed in what will be a highly unusual semester for them. This option provides students more time to study for exams and to prepare final presentations, papers, and projects. It also allows more time for faculty to achieve all the learning objectives they have for their students, whether they are in the classroom, lab, studio or clinic.

Again, your input was instrumental in this, so thank you for taking the time to share. As is always the case when weighing two options, those who favored early exams are, undoubtedly, disappointed. We understand. The extra in-person class and study time were a common theme among those advocating for the path we are taking, and we appreciate your understanding that student success is — and will continue to be — our top priority.

Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing you on campus (or online) this fall.

Chet Gillis, Ph.D.
Interim Provost

Michael Lewis, Ph.D.
Interim Provost Designate