

Preparing for Remote Learning

Your professors appreciate your patience as we settle into a new form of teaching and learning. Sudden and rapid change is difficult for everyone. You may have a lot of questions, including:

- What tools and technology will I need? How can I access these tools and technology if I don't own them?
- When and how will my class meet? How will I be graded? What will my lab classes look like?
- I just figured out how to study best for my class ... how can I adapt to this completely new setting?
- How should I manage my time and physical space to help with studying online?

Online learning IS different; and success requires skills, tools, resources, and discipline that you may not have practiced before. Your professors will all be in touch with you to help prepare you for the specifics of their class. In the meantime, here are some resources to help prepare you for learning online and working off campus.

Prepare for online courses:

Check out this [Online Course Pre-Check Class](#) designed to help you make sure you are ready to access your classes online with as few problems as possible.

Guidance for succeeding at remote learning:

Adjusting to an Online Learning Environment by Ana Dison, Women in Engineering Program, UT Austin
An article with excellent advice for transitioning to online learning. We strongly encourage that you read this article (and/or watch the video) and plan some time to get yourself prepared.

- [Here is a Link to the document on Google Drive](#)
- [Here is a link to a YouTube video version](#)

The Sanger Learning Center (SLC) at UT has been working diligently to move as many of their services to an online format. Consult SLC resources if you are feeling that online classes are not working with your style of learning. The SLC is supporting students in the transition to online learning:

- SLC: <https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc>
- SLC services: <https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc/services>
- SLC tips for online learning: <https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc/covid>

Communication, patience, and flexibility is critical at this time.

- Some professors may suggest doing a practice online class during the extended Spring Break (Mar 23rd – 27th). If you are able, we suggest that you participate, as practice may help you sort through glitches.
- Contact your instructor or the teaching staff (TAs, UGTAs) if something is not working correctly for you.
- Participate, when possible, in class discussions and community. During this time, all forms of open communication will facilitate your learning and success in an online environment.
- Practice patience with your instructors and yourself, as we are all in this journey together.

Advice from “That’s what SHE said”, a college student preparing for remote learning:

- <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/mylatrobe/thats-what-she-said-blog-staying-on-task-with-online-study/>

Answers to common questions:

Texas One Stop has developed an [FAQ](#) to common questions UT students have, in response to COVID-19.

Access to resources and tools to support online learning for all:

Please contact Student Emergency Services (SES) if you are concerned that you will not have access to the technology (computer, phone, tablet, internet etc.) required to effectively learn and work remotely.

- SES: <https://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>
- Scroll to the bottom of the page for contact info

Free course materials from UT COOP is available now for many of the course materials you may have accessed through the libraries or shared with classmates. Use the links below to see if your course materials are there.

- Create an account and start accessing materials: <https://bookshelf.vitalsource.com/#/user/signin>
- FAQs for students and faculty: <https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/articles/360044467674>

Accommodations:

Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) has created resources for providing accommodations in light of many courses moving to an online format. All accommodations will still be available, and new ones will be available for difficulty with online learning. Please consult the updated services provided by SSD above.

- SSD: <https://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>
- SSD updates: <https://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/2020/03/update-on-ssd-operations/>
- SSD accommodations: <https://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/2020/03/continuing-acc/>

Mental well-being:

Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) will continue to offer all of their services, but be moving many of the services to online and/or over the phone.

- CMHM updates: https://www.cmhc.utexas.edu/coronavirus_update.html

Articles of interest:

Much of the advice provided above is taken from the following articles.

- [TIPS FOR REMOTE LEARNING OF ATTENDING SCHOOL FROM HOME DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK](#)
- [8 STRATEGIES FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF ON ONLINE CLASS](#)
- [7 TIPS FOR BEING A SUCCESSFUL DISTANCE LEARNING STUDENT](#)
- [WORKING IN A CORONAVIRUS WORLD: STRATEGIES AND TOOLS FOR STAYING PRODUCTIVE](#)
- [9 THINGS YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW TO SUPPORT STUDENTS THROUGH THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC](#)
- [BIOLOGY TEACHING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19: HOW TO TRANSFER TO ONLINE LEARNING](#)