UW-River Falls temporarily shifts to remote learning, implements shelter-in-place guidance for its campus housing starting at 7 p.m. tonight (Friday, Sept. 18)

In response to an increase in COVID-19 cases on campus, UWRF will pause its in-person classes as of today, September 18, for two-weeks to shift course delivery to online-only.

After carefully monitoring rates of positivity and active cases over the last three weeks, university leadership, in collaboration with Pierce County Public Health Department, will be implementing a shelter-in-place policy as of 7 p.m. within its campus community to both limit the spread and protect the university community.

Since the return to campus in early September, UWRF has been testing students for COVID-19 with early results showing minimal presence of cases on campus. A recent increase in cases in residence housing was evident over the past week as testing has increased.

The transition to online course delivery will be in effect for two weeks with plans to return to the current state of online, face-to-face and hybrid instruction on October 3.

- Starting Monday 9/21 UWRF will transition to an “all virtual” campus for two weeks. Instructors will be allowed time to transition their coursework as needed – students should contact their instructors if they have questions.
- All students who reside on campus are being asked to “shelter in place”. Health experts suggest that students should not travel home during this two-week period. If you can stay where you are, that may be the safest course of action. This is to protect you, your family and the community. Students can continue to pick up their meals at the University Center. If possible, we recommend students do not go to work. Residence Life will follow up with more details for campus residents.
- All are expected to follow quarantine protocols if you have been confirmed to have been exposed to COVID-19, or isolation protocols if you have a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- In-person activity is not allowed. Some exceptions for a small number of safely conducted academic activities may be allowed. Exceptions should be requested through faculty or unit/division leaders.
- All employees including student employees are asked to telecommute if possible; those whose work requires in-person presence can continue to work on campus.
- Admissions visits are to be held virtually or postponed.
Aggressive testing has enabled us to identify case increases here on campus. To contain the spread, we will be moving to all online courses and implementing a shelter-in-place order within our campus community. Protecting the safety and health of our community is our priority, and we are working with our students to ensure they are vigilant.

Questions can be emailed to covid19@uwrf.edu or call our COVID-19 hotline at 715-425-4000.

My best,
Connie