

Tips for Online Instruction with International Students

During this critical time, international students have been encouraged to return to their home countries to complete the semester online with access to their family's support for their health and safety. However, around the world, countries are restricting travel into and out of their airports - and these restrictions are changing daily.

As a result, many international students remain with us in Dayton, and some have travelled to stay with other friends or family within the U.S. This means that you may have international students taking your online class from on-campus residence halls, from other parts of the United States, or from their home country.

Below are a few thoughts to help you create a successful learning experience for your international students:

- Many international students who went home would rather be here in Dayton, attending your class. If they have abruptly returned to their home countries, they are likely experiencing culture shock and returning to a home context that's very different than the one they left.
- Some countries that are still allowing inbound flights are enforcing mandatory quarantine periods. Students may be in forced home or governmental quarantine for a period of time where they may not have access to internet.
- International students who have returned home may be joining synchronous lectures or advising appointments in the middle of the night their time, while the rest of their family is asleep. This may be a case where flexibility makes learning more accessible to all. For instance, consider making assessments available for a 24 hour period of time. Keep time differences in mind if offering digital "office hours."
- If the mode of instruction will require spontaneous written response in online discussion, students may not have the opportunity to check their own writing for grammatical accuracy, as they would for formal written assignments. As we typically allow people to speak with an accent, consider that in spontaneous writing.
- Remember that some websites are not readily available in China but may be accessed through VPN, such as Google products (including Gmail) and most U.S. social media platforms. Students who need assistance or recommendations for VPN access may contact [iys@udayton.edu](mailto:iyss@udayton.edu) for support. We are encouraging students to reach out to you about their technology concerns and limitations so that you can make any necessary arrangements with students directly.