



Dear Cougars,

Welcome to the new academic year! As we kick off the fall semester, I want to share some helpful links and resources to guide you through the beginning of the new term. Be sure to save this email and refer back to it often, as it is full of pertinent information. Whether you are engaging with us virtually or attending on-campus, our staff and faculty are committed to you and your success. Together, we can do this!

#### Your Classes

- **Log in:** Review the [Logging into Cougar Courses](#) guide *before* Aug. 31.
- How to [Add/Drop](#) a course during COVID; do **not** go to campus to “crash” a course.
- We set up helpful FAQs on [class availability](#), [advising](#), [financial aid](#) and [waitlists](#).
- Need technology support? Visit [iitsforyou.csusm.edu](https://iitsforyou.csusm.edu) for quick links to the Technology Help Desk as well as guides, tutorials, access to software downloads, or to request technology.

#### Getting Connected

- All students are invited to participate in one of the many virtual [Weeks of Welcome](#) events.
- [Find something to do](#), learn about [involvement and leadership](#) opportunities, or visit a [Student Life Center](#).
- Follow these social media accounts: [CSUSM](#), [Cougar Central](#), [Associated Students, Inc.](#), [University Student Union](#), [The Cougar Chronicle](#), [Housing](#), [Student Leadership and Involvement Center](#), [Athletics](#), [Dean of Students](#), and [Office of Inclusive Excellence](#).
- Join our newly launched virtual Cougar Community on [Yammer](#), a CSUSM-only social network where you can connect with students, clubs, faculty, staff and campus departments.
- Keep campus at your fingertips with the [CSUSM Mobile App](#). Access myCSUSM, browse virtual events, log into your email, and more.

#### Not Sure Where to Find Answers?

- Not sure where to go, how to locate your class, how to navigate virtually or how to contact a faculty member? [Cougar Question Mart](#) is available virtually from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday during the first week on Microsoft Teams. Talk with one our friendly and helpful team members to get your questions answered.
- We have also created a central webpage to help you navigate virtual services and stay informed. Visit [csusm.edu/csusmasone](https://csusm.edu/csusmasone) for general FAQs, campus guidelines and resource links.
- Still have a question? Our [CougarBot](#) is just a text away and available to answer your questions 24/7.

#### Coming to Campus & Community Safety

- Most of our operations are all virtual. Before coming to campus, check with the appropriate office about scheduling an appointment or business hours. There are only a few places open during the pandemic:
  - o Academic buildings will only be open for specific classes. These academic buildings are not open for office hours, labs, or study space.
  - o [IITS Help Desk – available by appointment](#)
  - o [Student Health – schedule an appointment](#)
  - o We have transformed the [University Student Union Ballroom into a computer lab](#). Our student centers and administrative offices within the USU are virtual.
  - o [University Store](#)
  - o [University Police and Parking](#): Parking permits are required. Free parking is available in Lot XYZ, located off Twin Oaks Valley Road.
  - o [UVA/Quad](#): Housing is open to any licensed resident. Due to COVID-19, there is a NO guest policy.
  - o The [Library](#) and [Campus Recreation](#) are offering virtual services only.
- Face coverings are required when on campus. Learn more about the [COVID-19: Mitigation Measures and Guidelines](#) and the safety precautions every person must follow when on campus.
- [Health screening](#): Before coming to campus, we ask that you review your health. You can complete the health screening form in the CSUSM Mobile App or online.
- [Safety training](#): If you are taking an on-campus class, want to use the lab, working on campus, or live in the UVA/Quad, you will need to complete the “Return to Campus: COVID-19 Awareness for CSUSM Students” training in Cougar Courses and [watch this important safety video](#).
- Voluntary student check-in: Before you enter a class or office, you will be asked to voluntarily check-in using the [CSUSM Mobile App](#). This allows us to notify you in the event of health or safety notices.
- Feeling lost? We created a [Return to Campus Guide](#) that shares more information in one easy-to-access document.

We are excited to welcome over 4,000 new students to the Cougar Family and welcome back our returning students. On behalf of our staff and faculty, we wish you a smooth transition as we start the fall semester together.

In Cougar Spirit,  
Jason Schreiber  
Dean of Students

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