Dear all,

As you are aware, the university has taken many measures to prepare and keep our community informed as the COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded. One of these measures was the decision late last week to suspend in-person classes for the remainder of the academic term.

McMaster in-person classes and tests for undergraduate and graduate students ended as of Friday March 13th and no in-person exams will be held at the end of this term.

This decision was made to ensure that our activities here at McMaster are aligned with the social distancing principle important to the broader public at this time.

We are also committed to ensuring the successful completion of the current academic term by all of our students. To do so, we have put careful thought into the use of alternative assessment methods and evaluation schemes that are fair to all students. The following describes what you can expect for PNB/HUMBEH4SC6 between now and the end of the term:

Between now and April 7, you can expect the following changes with respect to course instruction for this course:

- All in-person meetings and classes are cancelled.
- The instructional team (Writing Mentors and Instructor) plans to hold virtual office hours for consultations. More information about the date and time of each virtual office hour will become available on Avenue by the end of the week and before March 21st.

In addition, you can expect the following changes to the assessments used for this course:

- Instead of writing a Scientific American article and associated infographic (see Module 4 in the course syllabus), students are now expected to write a 2000 word article similar to the type written at the end of term 1 (see Report 4 under Module 1). Students should use the same theme or topic selected for their podcast and their 3M-style presentation from the winter term. Although the number of references may vary across students, please use a minimum of 6 empirical studies and a maximum of 10 empirical studies. The use of review papers is outside of the 6-to-10-reference requirement. Please submit this assignment on PebblePad and also submit a copy to the relevant folder on Avenue before 11:30PM on April 10th.

If you have a need for accommodations, please continue to communicate with Student Accessibility Services and keep me informed.
In the event of significant changes to the COVID-19 situation, further changes may need to be made to this course and will be clearly communicated to you. Please also visit https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/ for up-to-date university information.

Best wishes and stay healthy,

Ayesha Khan

Dr. Ayesha Khan