



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
121 BLAKE ROAD
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-1300

27 March 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL USNA MIDSHIPMEN

Subj: NAVIGATING THE 2020 SPRING SEMESTER THROUGH CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

1. First, I hope this memo finds you all well. I have been extremely impressed by your ability to adapt to rapidly changing conditions in recent weeks. The agility, flexibility, and patience you must practice as a result of these unusual circumstances will serve you well one day as naval officers.
2. The Academic Dean, faculty, and I are all very pleased with how the first few days of our transition to the distance/remote learning environment has gone. With only five days of preparation, our faculty and staff stepped up to deliver remote instruction to the entire Brigade so that we can fulfill our mental mission under the most challenging circumstances the Naval Academy has faced in recent history. Additionally, please know the library stands ready to meet your academic requirements through their online reference desk. Staff members can provide digital content, short scanned pieces, and materials made available digitally by publishers to aid you in your scholarship. Student academic support has now been adapted to an online format as well. They are still here to help you with your courses and ensure your success in the distance/remote learning environment. While there have been challenges during this transition, none are systemic. This is because faculty and midshipmen alike have stepped up to the challenge. There is good reason to believe that we will be able to conclude the semester successfully, albeit differently than ever before.
3. Please know that in these difficult times, the Naval Academy is always here to provide a home to you. We continue to provide housing that is available for all midshipmen in Bancroft Hall and we continue to provide dining services, though they are modified. You may return to the Academy or you may voluntarily elect to stay in place. If you wish to return to Bancroft Hall, please submit a movement chit through your chain of command.
4. Lastly, I want to reiterate that my three strategic goals for addressing COVID-19 have not changed. The first goal is to protect our midshipmen, faculty, staff, and coaches by slowing down the eventual spread of COVID-19 on the Yard and amongst our Naval Academy family. The second goal is to complete the spring semester and graduate and commission the Class of 2020 on time. And finally, we remain focused on completing this year's admissions process so that we can successfully induct the Class of 2024 this summer. We will get through this challenge together! Stay engaged, stay healthy, and stay safe, team.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sean S. Buck", is positioned above the typed name.

S. S. BUCK
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy
Superintendent