



MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

For Faith, Scholarship and Community

Student Guidelines on Curriculum, Assessments and Grading during COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Students,

Marquette University High School migrated to online learning on March 16, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The school will continue to provide high-quality learning opportunities to you through online platforms until we are able to return to face to face instruction. During the fourth quarter, MUHS teachers will use their professional judgment and discretion in making adjustments in course curriculum, methods of assessment, and grading. They will make these determinations through the lens of cura personalis. You will be provided with opportunities to grow academically and remain engaged in your studies. At the same time, teachers recognize the challenges of a pedagogical shift to online learning, the barriers that may hinder academic performance while taking classes at home, and the emotional turmoil you may experience during this difficult time. Your teachers know you, and they are here for you. Please let them know of any struggles you may encounter, so that they may support you and respond to your needs.

MUHS provides these general guidelines related to curricular adaptations, assessment practices, and approaches to grading during this pandemic. Please review these guidelines. If you have any questions please talk to your teachers, advisor, or an administrator.

Sincerely,

Mr. Monday
Principal

Ms. Maloney
Assistant Principal for Academics

CURRICULAR CHANGES RESULTING FROM ONLINE LEARNING

CURRICULAR REDUCTIONS: During the COVID-19 pandemic, students will learn essential course curriculum during the 4th quarter. Online classes are not the same as face-to-face classes. Therefore, teachers will eliminate or reduce some course content. During online learning, students should remain accountable for their learning, however, may not be held to the same level of expected mastery of content and skills.

AMOUNT OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT: Students are expected to commit at least 45 minutes to each class every day (including class time.) Please note 45 minutes is an average and some students may need to commit more than 45 minutes per class per day. Students may be responsible to complete assignments over weekends but will not be given extended assignments and work over the Easter holiday. Easter break will be considered a time for relaxation and rejuvenation with possible remediation (to allow those who are behind to catch up.)

PLANS FOR 2020-21: Curricular modifications will be made for courses during 2020-21 to account for those areas that were eliminated from the curriculum during the pandemic.

AP COURSES / DUAL CREDIT COURSES: Teachers will follow the College Board curriculum change guidance to prepare students for the AP tests. Teachers of dual credit courses may adjust course content as deemed appropriate while remaining consistent with approved course outcomes.

ASSESSMENTS DURING ONLINE LEARNING

TYPES OF ASSESSMENTS: During online learning, students will be assessed using both formative and summative assessments. The use of summative assessments will be reduced due to the nature of online learning. Long term, performance-based assessments, such as papers and projects, may be given to assess learning during the period of online learning.

FINAL EXAMS: Students will not have standard final exams for the spring, 2020. In lieu of a final exam, a class may be assigned a culminating offline performance assessment or project.

AP EXAMS: The College Board will administer shortened, online AP exams from May 11-22. The content will be 75% of the AP curriculum for each course. Students may opt-out of any AP exam and will be given a refund for the cost of the exam by completing this [form](#).

GRADES

TRANSCRIPTED GRADES (SPRING 2020): MUHS will report grades earned for the spring, 2020 and these grades will be reported on students' transcripts. (MUHS will not generally offer pass / fail options to students.) The MUHS Profile in the next three years will include a description of the methods of instruction and grading approach used during the pandemic. This profile accompanies students' transcripts that are submitted to colleges.

MID-QUARTER GRADES: Due to the transition to online classes teachers' grade books may not be up to date by mid-quarter. Instead of reporting mid-quarter grades, MUHS will submit email reports to parents for students who are earning a D+ or below and may be in danger of failing the class.

SEMESTER WEIGHTING: Quarter 4 grades will be weighted less than Quarter 3 grades in the calculation of the semester grades since there is less course content in Q4 than in Q3. Teachers will revise the weighting of quarters in semester 2 in accordance with this. Students have opportunities to raise their semester grades through their performance during Q4.

SEMESTER GRADES: A student's final semester grade will likely not be lower than the earned third quarter grade provided he has made a "good faith" effort in learning during Q4. "Good faith" effort includes consistent attendance, consistent engagement in learning tasks, and performance relatively close to the student's historical performance. Any student in violation of school academic integrity expectations will be subject to a grade deduction. Teachers will make adaptations in calculating final grades to account for the pedagogical shifts of online learning. If there are any issues or barriers that prevent a student from performing at his previous level, he should inform the teacher and Mr. Kowalewski immediately.

ILLNESS INVOLVING STUDENTS: If an MUHS student becomes unable to engage with academic tasks due to his own illness with COVID-19 or the illness of a family member living in the same home, then he may be exempt from all work during the time of the illness with no grading penalties. MUHS will require a doctor's excuse.

ILLNESS INVOLVING TEACHERS: If an MUHS teacher becomes unable to teach due to illness, then the teacher's classes may be suspended. Grades will be determined based on the work that has been completed to date. The class will resume when the teacher is able to return to teaching and students will not need to make-up missed content. Students should not expect alternate instruction during the time of a teacher's absence.