

Dear Students:

As we approach spring break, many of you understandably look forward to trips to visit family or spend time with friends. Travel is an enriching experience that we celebrate at Franklin Pierce; however, given the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) it's important for all of us to reassess our plans. Most importantly, we want you to make decisions that safeguard your health and well-being.

As public health experts continue to monitor the spread of the virus, travel [guidance](#) from the [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), and the [New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services](#) and the [Arizona Department of Health Services](#) continues to evolve quickly. **It is highly likely that we will see additional travel restrictions in the coming days and weeks.**

Current guidance from the CDC is that those who travel to countries in which a Level 3 Travel Health Notice is in place will face quarantine for 14 days. Franklin Pierce we will of course abide by the CDC's recommendations and we ask that you do the same. Currently, countries that require a 14-day quarantine upon return to the U.S. include China, Iran, Italy and South Korea. Please note that students placed in quarantine upon return to the U.S. will be asked to do so off campus at their own expense.

Those who have been exposed to someone who is sick with COVID-19 will also need to self-quarantine for 14 days. Numerous states, including New Hampshire, already have individuals in quarantine who were exposed to the virus. At best, quarantine could significantly interrupt your academic efforts. There is also a risk that travel and your return to Franklin Pierce from some locations will be curtailed even if you don't come into contact who is known to have COVID-19 and show no symptoms.

Given this, I ask that all students who plan to travel during spring break do the following:

- If you plan to travel outside of the continental United States please email me at the Dean of Students Office – polloma@franklinpierce.edu– with your travel plans so we can help coordinate with faculty if you are placed in quarantine;
- Also, if you plan to travel outside of the continental United States please speak with faculty before you leave about how you can best keep up with your course work if you cannot return to the U.S.;
- If you are traveling in the U.S., please follow the [basic strategies](#) for mitigating the spread of respiratory virus; and
- Most importantly, be safe. It is important for all of us to respond to coronavirus in a calm and measured manner, but if you have any questions or are experiencing any symptoms associated with the virus during break, including fever, cough or shortness of breath, contact your doctor right away.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at the email noted above if you have any questions. Even with all that happening, the break will be a great time for you to recharge, look back on what you've learned, and look forward to the future. You've earned this time to decompress and have fun. Enjoy it!

Andrew R. Pollom, EdD.

Dean of Student Affairs
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