

Dear Rangers,

As we approach the midpoint of the fall semester, I want to THANK YOU for your support and adherence to the principles outlined in the Ranger Restart [Responsibility Pledge](#). We have had nearly 100% compliance with the UW System mask mandate in the classrooms, and to date, have not seen evidence of community spread of the coronavirus within our academic spaces.

Unfortunately, the state of Wisconsin is still seeing a concerning rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. On campus, a number of our positive cases have been tied to social gatherings and student interactions where social distancing and mask wearing behaviors have not been in line with public health/CDC recommendations. We are seeing a number of students in common areas across campus (Main Place, Student Center, the concourse, the SAC, etc.) sitting too close to one another and/or not wearing masks or wearing them incorrectly.

Please remember that per UW System policy – and currently Wisconsin state mandate – **masks/face coverings are REQUIRED** inside all campus buildings and outside when appropriate social distancing is not possible. The exception is when you are **actively** eating or drinking – having a drink or chips on the table does not mean you can sit there without a mask for an extended period of time. Additionally, signs are posted across campus on/near tables and seating areas indicating appropriate social distancing guidelines.

Please help us to keep our campus community safe by adhering to the 3 Ws – **W**ear your mask, **W**atch your distance, and **W**ash your hands. If you are asked to put on or adjust your mask, please do so immediately. Failure to abide by the guidelines discussed above or failure to follow the directives of a university official is grounds for disciplinary action. Let's work together to keep everyone safe!

If you are looking for a place to study or work on a project with a few peers, study rooms (both open access and reservable) are available across campus. Click [here](#) for a list of rooms, occupancy limits, and reservation instructions. Please remember to sit at least 6 feet from one another.

Again, thank you for helping us maintain a healthy environment for everyone. Good luck on your upcoming midterm exams and class projects.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and Go Rangers!

Sincerely,  
Dr. McG