

## **College classes online for rest of spring term**

Holyoke Community College will begin conducting all classes remotely for the remainder of the spring 2020 semester, potentially including final exams.

The college had previously announced that it would extend spring break by one week while suspending in-person classes March 23-27.

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To ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff amid the coronavirus outbreak, HCC will not return to the classroom and will instead launch remote learning beginning Monday, March 30.

"We know this is the right thing to do because we are committed to providing a safe environment for all who come to HCC," said college President Christina Royal. "What made this a really hard decision was knowing the impact it would have on this place where people want to be, where our students engage with one another and where they find the resources and support they need."

In a letter to students this week, Royal said HCC faculty have been hard at work preparing for the change, studying the fundamentals of remote teaching and learning. Each professor will choose the best platform for each individual class, including such programs and services as Moodle, Zoom, WebEx and Google Hangouts.

The campus will remain open, and the college library will provide wi-fi hotspots and Google Chromebooks available for borrowing. Students may also be able to use their smartphones, if their data plan allows.

For more information, visit [hcc.edu/coronavirus](http://hcc.edu/coronavirus), or email [coronavirus@hcc.edu](mailto:coronavirus@hcc.edu).