

Message from the President

March 25, 2020

Recalibration Period Announced; Spring Recess Dates Adjusted

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

I would like to elaborate on the message, "[Recalibration Period for Educational Equity](#)", which CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez sent out yesterday. This initiative will allow the faculty to fine-tune distance learning practices and provide additional resources, as well as support our commitment to assist more students with access to the computing equipment they need to successfully complete their courses.

Recalibration Period for Educational Equity: Friday, March 27–Wednesday, April 1

To promote educational equity and access, CUNY and Baruch College are working to assist students in need with the hardware (laptops and tablets) that will enable them to participate fully and to succeed in the new distance learning environment. At Baruch, these efforts are already underway.

Distance Learning on Hold: Resumes Thursday, April 2

Distance learning will be on hold during the recalibration period. Faculty will use the time to adjust their courses and find ways to better support learning, such as through the asynchronous delivery of classes and other best practices emerging across Baruch and CUNY's virtual classrooms. *Distance instruction will resume on Thursday, April 2.*

Spring Recess Adjustment: Wednesday, April 8–Friday, April 10

Spring Recess is being shortened and adjusted and will now run from Wednesday, April 8, through Friday, April 10. This time period includes Good Friday and the beginning of Passover. Individuals whose religious observation extends into the week of April 13 may request a religious exemption. CUNY's guidance for religious accommodation can be found [here](#).

Grading Policy Flexibility

The extraordinary circumstances in which we are all living have also prompted the University to enact a flexible credit/no credit policy, under which students will have up to 20 days after they receive their grades to decide, in consultation with their advisors, if they wish to convert any or all earned letter grades to Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grading. Pending approval by the CUNY Board of Trustees, this policy will go into effect Wednesday, April 1. Information about the impact of CR/NC grading on financial aid and academic progress will be forthcoming soon from CUNY.

Please continue to monitor Baruch College's [COVID-19 Updates](#) webpage and the University's comprehensive [Coronavirus Update](#) page for the latest information.

Continued Thanks

Let me once again extend my thanks to the entire Baruch community. Uncertain times call for patience, flexibility, and innovative thinking. You have all demonstrated these qualities and much more.

Regards,

Mitchel B. Wallerstein, PhD
President, Baruch College

Baruch
COLLEGE

CUNY THE CITY
UNIVERSITY
OF
NEW YORK