

Welcome to Penn and to the College of Arts and Sciences. I know that this semester is not beginning as you thought it would when you applied to the College Class of 2024. While things may be different this fall, you will find an engaging and rewarding educational experience. I hope you are looking forward to your classes.

Here are some things to keep in mind as the fall semester begins:

- As you make adjustments to your fall schedule, check out the First Year Seminars, which provide an opportunity to engage intellectually with faculty in small class settings: <https://www.college.upenn.edu/first-year-seminar-list>
See Penn InTouch to find which seminars are still open.
- Also check out some interesting courses that you may have overlooked when you were browsing the fall course schedule: <http://www.college.upenn.edu/featured-courses>
- Use the Course Search tool to find open sections: <https://medley.isc-seo.upenn.edu/pennInTouch/jsp/fast.do>
- For information tailored to your needs, check out the "Information For" section on the College's home page: <http://www.college.upenn.edu>. For more specific information, make an appointment with your pre-major advisor.
- Many undergraduate course Canvas sites (available through Penn InTouch) with course numbers lower than 600 will be visible to all students as Observers between September 1st and September 15th in order to facilitate exploration of course options. Observer access allows you to see assignment titles, the Syllabus page within Canvas, Discussion Boards, recorded class sessions, and other Canvas course elements. You will still need to request permission from instructors to attend synchronous online class sessions.
- Free, full-function Zoom accounts are now available to all students in the College. Information is at <https://computing.sas.upenn.edu/remote-teaching/students>.

Please note:

- The last day to add a course is Tuesday, September 15.

Coming this fall:

- *The 60-Second Lectures*. Each semester, faculty in the School of Arts and Sciences take to the podium on College Green for one minute to share their perspectives on a variety of topics. This fall, the lecture series will be delivered virtually. The series begins on Wednesday, September 23 at 12 noon with the **1.5 Minute Climate Lectures**. Go here to view the speakers and topics for these lectures.
<https://www.sas.upenn.edu/events/15-minute-climate-lectures>

Check here for upcoming lectures and for the 60-Second Lectures archives.
<https://www.sas.upenn.edu/60-second>
- *Omnia* – an online magazine highlighting research and scholarship in the School of Arts and Sciences. Click here for the latest edition: <http://omnia.sas.upenn.edu/>

And be sure to follow the College on Facebook (University of Pennsylvania College of Arts and Sciences) and Instagram (collegeatpenn).

I wish you all a very stimulating and productive semester.

Paul Sniegowski
Dean of the College

PS – Please note that this message was sent to first year students enrolled as of August 31. If it was sent to you in error, we apologize.