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January 13, 2022

Greyhound Nation:

Today, the State of Arkansas reported its highest number of new COVID-19 cases (12,990) since the beginning of the pandemic. The number of active cases in Crittenden County remains very high, with an average of 140 new cases being reported each day. In fact, new case counts have increased 216% over the past two weeks. With that in mind, ASU Mid-South will be implementing a remote start of its Spring 2022 semester. What does this mean?

- Campus offices, such as Financial Aid, Bookstore, Library, etc. will remain open.
- Classes will still begin on January 18th, as previously announced. However, from January 18- January 21, in-person course sections will be delivered virtually through Canvas, the College's Learning Management system. Please note: this does NOT apply to independent study courses in the College's Aviation Maintenance Technology program. Those will meet in-person, as scheduled, beginning January 18th.
- Students should log into their Canvas account and access their courses beginning January 18, if not before.
- Inside each course, you will find assignments you must complete to demonstrate your attendance in that course. Please note: you must demonstrate attendance in each of your classes, either by completion of assignments in Canvas or by in-person attendance (once in-person attendance resumes) on or before February 1, 2022 to remain enrolled. Students who do not attend class by that date will be administratively withdrawn, with no option to return to that class.
- If you find you are unable to log into your Canvas account or unable to access your courses in Canvas, please email: <u>helpdesk@asumidsouth.edu</u>.

We recognize these are challenging times, with competing demands on your time and attention. We hope that this remote start will provide you the added flexibility you need to respond to any personal challenges you may be facing, while moving forward towards your educational goals.

Medical professionals are cautiously optimistic that the number of active cases will soon peak and begin to decline. In the meantime, I encourage you to continue following established COVID safety protocols, both on-campus and off, to diminish the risk to yourself and others.

Sincerely,

Debra West, Ph.D.

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Chancellor