

## School of Social Welfare

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Dear SSW Community,

Meet your new virtual classroom! We believe a picture is worth a thousand words and the one above is a screen shot of one of our live interactive Zoom classes.

## What will my new classroom look like?

Zoom is an online easy to use, real-time video conferencing tool (like Skype, Google Hangouts or Facetime) used by over 2,500 colleges and universities (including many schools of social work) across the



country to provide an interactive educational experience. You will participate in a live face-to-face learning environment where you will meet with your professor and peers during your regularly scheduled class sessions each week.

Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare currently offers a small number of classes on Zoom, which have received positive student responses. Leading up to the start of this new format of learning, you will hear from some of our online learners about their experience in a Zoom classroom. Zoom is easy to use, even for those who do not consider themselves tech savvy. You will receive further communication about available training sessions and other resources that you may find helpful to acclimate to your virtual classroom.

## **STAY INFORMED**

We know there are many questions about graduation, and unfortunately we can't answer them all now. YOU WILL GRADUATE AND BE ABLE TO WALK ACROSS THE STAGE IN FRONT OF YOUR PEERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS. As the information becomes available from the University confirming time, date, and place, we will keep you informed.

For a one stop shop with your best sources of news from the School go to our new Mobile App: guidebook.com/g/stonybrook/ OR social media, Blackboard, our website, email and the SSW Update. Additionally Stony Brook University has up to date news on coronavirus: <a href="https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/coronavirus/">https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/coronavirus/</a>

Lastly, know that the School of Social Welfare stands in solidarity with the international community who may have been especially stigmatized. Please be mindful that our students may have family and friends in China, Iran, Italy or other affected countries, about whom they are worried. Let's be mindful and support all members of the SBU community. We always care for one another. I urge you all to make a special effort to reach out to these members of our community right now, ask what they need, and show that you care.

You can expect to hear from us every step of the way as we transition to a virtual learning environment. We are committed to best practices for protecting the health of our community.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Mondros Dean





