

St. John Fisher College

## Fisher Digital Publications

---

Cardinal COVID Journal: Prose

Cardinal COVID Journal

---

Fall 2020

### Cardinal Covid Journal

Calvin Eaton

St. John Fisher College, ceaton@sjfc.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose>

### [How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?](https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/21)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Eaton, Calvin, "Cardinal Covid Journal" (2020). *Cardinal COVID Journal: Prose*. 21.  
<https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/21>

This document is posted at <https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/21> and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact [fisherpub@sjfc.edu](mailto:fisherpub@sjfc.edu).

Cardinal Covid Journal  
Student Submissions  
Professor Calvin Eaton  
Exploring AA Culture Through Food  
Fall 2020

### **Week #10 Comments on COVID-19 impact**

**Prompt:** *Please share a few ways COVID-19 has impacted your educational experience on and off campus this semester. How has the reality of college during the pandemic been different from what you came to campus expecting for this semester.*

#### **Nick F Warters**

Impacts on Education from COVID-19

I think that the most annoying part that COVID-19 has done on campus is get rid of the open-door policy with professor's offices. I used to enjoy seeing all of the professors in their offices, and having the opportunity to poke my head in there with a few questions, regardless of an appointment. Now that COVID-19 has made all meetings on zoom, this freedom is no longer applicable. Additionally, I do research in biology. Now that all students are off campus, it will be harder for me to work in the lab for the remainder of the semester. Thirdly, it has been harder to get my regular study group together to go over material, because many people are off campus and do not feel like coming into school, when they are already at home. Regarding off campus activities, I think that my sleep schedule has been most affected. Prior to the pandemic, I would sleep from 1:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. However, now since my classes are all remote, and I don't have to commute as much to campus, I sleep from 3:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Same number of hours, but a different circadian rhythm. When I first came to campus, I actually expected to make it through the whole semester. I thought that Fisher would take the proper precautions to make sure that both students and faculty would be safe. However, sadly, this did not turn out to be the case. The school was not strict enough at enforcing safety measures, and students put others at risk by not social distancing and going out to parties, and now everyone is back at home with remote classes.

**Jordan B Lehman**

## Covid Woes

COVID-19 has brought an entirely new plethora of issues to my daily life both on and off campus. For starters, I have not been able to complete either of my independent research projects for my biology major because both last semester and this semester has ended early. This research would've been paramount for solidifying my spot in a PhD program, but now I have to find alternative means to receiving the same experience. Furthermore, COVID-19 has taken away my ability to travel for a study abroad program, which something that so many people have told me is a once in a lifetime experience that I will never be able to experience. COVID-19 has also made it impossible for me to practice, let alone compete, in a sport that I have come to be successful in the collegiate setting. I know we all are facing hardships from this pandemic but I can't help but feel robbed from the traditional college experience because we are unwilling to coexist with a virus, like we have with virtually every other infectious disease in history, but we rather feel the need to live around a virus. As I mentioned a bit above, I was really hoping to actually complete my research project this year, be able to participate in sports, and do everything else a college kid enjoys doing. It was a weird feeling to be constantly fearing the idea that I was an asymptomatic carrier of a disease and would have to be quarantined and sent off campus even though I felt entirely fine. Life is always about sacrifices, however, so I guess that's one of the beauties of becoming an adult and experiencing adverse times.

**Sarah K Van Der Karr**

## Week 10 Q1

As an RA, I didn't expect to feel so isolated this semester. Because I lived in a single, I was unable to see anyone else unless they had a mask on. Continually, it was harder to build relationships with the residents on my floor because of all of the new rules that I had to enforce. I also felt isolated in the classroom because so many people weren't properly following the guidelines and I didn't want to be around people who are potential vectors. However, I also didn't want to be the person who was constantly correcting everyone. My friends who lived off campus weren't always making the

safest decisions, so I did not feel okay hanging out with them either. As a senior, it is also difficult to make new friends, especially when all of the clubs shut down.

## **Mara Spero**

### **MCOVID Impact**

I feel as if COVID has impacted my educational experience in a few ways. This semester that I was able to spend on campus was interesting to say the least. I think for me, the hardest part was not being allowed in other resident halls. Some of my friends lived in different resident halls than I did, so I did not get to see them as much as I would have liked to. Also, I was somewhat confused about when they had us clean off the tables and use hand sanitizer, but everyone in the class touched the same hand sanitizer or spray bottle. I understand that the school was trying to keep us safe, but other policies could have been made to improve upon the protocols. Additionally, the dining hall was another large aspect of my experience that was very different. They took away several of the usual options that were always there including some healthier options. The flow of the dining halls was frustrating, time consuming, and with limiting the options it became a negative experience for me. It was also difficult to work around mine and my roommate's zoom class schedule. Sometimes I would want to do my homework in my room to take a break from wearing a mask during classes, but she would have a zoom class that required participation. Therefore, I would have to go to the lounge or library, which requires a mask, to do my work. It was a very different experience with lots of rules and regulations (which was to be expected), but I already miss being on campus.

As for transitioning to remote classes off campus, it is more difficult. It is easy to get distracted while doing classes at home due to other people in my house doing their own things. It is also challenging for me not to see my professors in person and ask them questions when I see them. I feel as if I pay more attention to the professor and content when I am physically in a classroom because that is how it has been my entire life with school. Also, not seeing my friends on campus or doing homework with them is upsetting for me. My friends and I would do our homework and study together in the library as a group, but over FaceTime is not the same. Also, my professors have had to change their material to transition online, especially for my lab. Not being in the microbes lab and using the microscopes for identifying microorganisms causes a change in the material. Overall, I am thankful for the time I was able to spend in person

on campus with the pandemic. I appreciate all of Fisher's policies to keep us safe, but some of them could be changed and made better. Remote learning is something everyone is going to have to get used to due to the pandemic and it is not my preferred style of learning, but I am managing.

### **Student Name Withheld**

Now, we've been kicked off campus twice in one year and ignoring all the frustrations I have surrounding that decision, I simply feel robbed. I went to a school 6 hours away for the independence and the chance to find out who I am without the influence of my family. I can't believe we are doing this all over again. I'm worried for my mental health and that of my friends and residents. So far, my classes won't change format but I'm already feeling the motivation slide. Similar to the spring semester, I can't stop thinking about what we're missing. Besides the obvious like sports and the practical like printing money, I miss the little things. The nights spent talking in the hallways until 2am, seeing a friend in the commons and making lunch plans on the spot, and even hosting silly programs and obnoxiously banging on my resident's doors for them to come. The day we got the email, one of my residents said she felt bad for me because I was going through all of it a second time. That's when it really hit me, a whole year of my college experience has been taken from me because of COVID. And, I know there are worse things and I have felt guilt for complaining, but we are all allowed to feel how we feel about this virus. This isn't normal. It's affecting all of us. I don't want to get into any controversial opinions on how the virus has been handled nationwide or what drove Fisher to make their decisions, nevertheless this just sucks.