

# YLW Online Learning Guide



## Tips for learning in the time of COVID-19

### Communicate your needs

If you have an individual situation which may impact your learning, participation, or general class engagement, communicate this to your professor, TA, or Coker.

**You can and should ask for any and all accommodations that you might need for classes and tests.**

#### ***Speak Up Tips***

If your learning environment changes, or is simply not working for you, **it is never too late to communicate your needs to your professor.**

### Adapt to new strategies for staying focused

If learning on Zoom causes you to daydream, try looking away for a quick twenty-second break in order to remain engaged.

Just as you would during in person classes, **take breaks as needed, even if they are not offered by the Professor.**

**Try writing down at least one question that you have about the material ahead of the lecture.** Then, pay attention to the best time to pose your question. This strategy might help you digest the reading materials and stay focused in class.



## Be proactive about reaching out to professors

Though popping into an office may no longer be tenable, professors will continue to hold office hours over Zoom. **Consider introducing yourself, or setting up a meeting close to the start of the semester so your professor can get to know you.** Check in throughout the semester as well.

Try to attend events hosted by student groups, such as coffee chats and lunch talks with professors in your areas of interest, and follow up. Request office hours with professors who are not teaching you this semester if you share common academic interests.

## Support the Yale Law School Community

Make sure **to strictly adhere to the Covid-19 Community Compact.** Wearing your mask and maintaining social distancing will help protect the safety of our entire community.

Different people have different needs when it comes to Covid-19. Respect individual preferences, and **don't pressure a colleague to reveal their health status or living situation.**

### *Speak Up Tips*

Online learning and socially distant learning are difficult and alienating for everyone. Consider developing rotating note takers within your classes, or creating study groups to recap material.

## Be patient and kind with yourself and others

This is not an ordinary semester. **Your needs—emotional, physical, and mental—will be different and may change as the year progresses.**

### *Speak Up Tips*

If you feel you understood a particular class discussion, **share your notes and outlines unprompted** with your classmates over email. Many don't have the capacity to take notes and will appreciate it enormously.

**Check in with yourself frequently—and prioritize your health.** It's normal, and okay, if your traditional strategies for academic success do not translate to online learning during a pandemic. If you have the capacity, check in with friends and classmates more often as well.