

Online classes to begin Thursday, May 7, 2020

To all APU students:

Online classes for the first quarter of the spring semester will begin Thursday, May 7.

With the nationwide state of emergency declaration on Thursday, April 16, APU responded by prohibiting students from entering campus, and by requiring faculty and staff to work from home as much as possible. This made it impossible to allow students to use computer classrooms and also made some preparations for online classes difficult, so we originally postponed the start of classes to Wednesday, April 22.

After that, the university then moved to make free Wi-Fi router rentals available and decided to provide each regular APU undergraduate and graduate student with 30,000 yen in financial assistance to support all students to secure the appropriate equipment and internet connection necessary to participate in online classes. As a result, the university decided to move the start of classes for the first quarter of spring semester to Thursday, May 7 in order to give students time to prepare for online classes.

As of Monday, May 4, the Japanese government has extended the nationwide state of emergency to Sunday May 31. However, the university does not want to stop our students from learning, so we intend to proceed with online classes even as we continue to take appropriate measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection. Because we will continue to prohibit students from coming to campus, all of you will be taking online classes from your place of residence. For further information, please see the university's coronavirus/COVID-19 response page, here: <http://en.apu.ac.jp/home/notice/content3/>.

The faculty and staff at APU will continue to work together so that we can all safely return to studying, working, and learning on campus. So for now, I must ask for your continued understanding and support.

I look forward to seeing you all on campus once more.

Haruaki Deguchi
President
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

May 5, 2020