

>> Hi, everyone. I'm Patricia, and I'm a third year at UCLA. I'm a Physiological Science major and global health minor. So, over the past week or so, a lot has changed and is continuously changing on campus. UCLA has announced that our Spring quarter will be conducted remotely to limit the spread of COVID-19. A lot of nonessential campus buildings like the gym and other recreational facilities and libraries are now closed. The on-campus housing remains available for those who need it. All these changes are happening so quickly. Every day, I would hear something new, and all this is happening during week ten in finals. So, that was definitely not ideal. I think I can speak for my peers and my friends when I say that it was really, really hard to stay focused and study during this time. It was near impossible at first, but thankfully, my professors made my finals a little bit easier. Stress levels were heightened, and you could almost feel this collective sorrow in the air. Everyone around me seemed really worried, partly because we don't want to get sick. We don't want to get other high-risk individuals sick, but also because there's a lot of uncertainty. So, that can bring about some anxiety. And, even if people don't like going to school, I think we can all agree that we're pretty upset about losing a whole quarter and potentially longer. I have a lot of friends who I won't be seeing until the fall, so that will also be really difficult, but other than that, I'm very lucky and very privileged. I don't think my life has been too drastically affected by COVID-19. I am still living here in Westwood, studying and working from home. But, I really feel for those students who aren't as fortunate as I am whose lives have been turned upside down by this virus. I worry for the students who now have additional financial burdens or those who are immunocompromised, those who are unable to go home, or those who have exacerbated mental health issues due to social distancing. UCLA has done great so far to support us, but I hope they continue to find ways to make our lives and these adjustments just a little bit easier.