

April 27, 2020

To all students and faculty members (second message)

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At this time, the University has been asking you to take a variety of precautions, as mentioned in my message on April 2. Nearly four weeks have passed, and as we generally continue to refrain from going outside and take other steps to comply with the state of emergency declared by the government and emergency measures enacted by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, I remain concerned for your wellbeing at this very stressful time.

Nevertheless, during this pause in instruction as we approach the long Golden Week holiday period, I must once again ask for your careful attention to the following points to help contain the spread of the novel coronavirus as soon as possible.

1. During the holiday period, do not travel in Japan or overseas to visit your family or go on a trip. Stay in your current area.
2. Avoid the three Cs (closed or crowded places and close-contact settings). Make sure your behavior keeps infection risks for yourself and others to a minimum.
3. Keep away from crowds, and maintain a distance from children and older people in particular. Avoid behavior that would make it difficult to trace infections.

The national and prefectural government will soon make decisions on health matters through May 7, and authorities such as the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology may announce additional policies and guidelines. In any case, as we have already announced, the University will in principle be conducting remote learning from May 11. We plan to teach classes with textbooks and with online and on-demand teaching materials. We regret that these arrangements may be inconvenient because they are unfamiliar, because sufficient communication environments may not be readily available, or for other reasons, but we ask for your cooperation. This approach will enable all students to take classes from their current location with peace of mind.

Moreover, because the University values practical learning, instruction includes many experiments, exercises, and drills. In consideration of how curricula are being managed, for courses with this content, the activities are likely to be concentrated during summer, fall, winter, and spring vacations. We know that this will require considerable effort and hard work by students and faculty members, but we ask for your cooperation so that we can ensure the quality of education.

To conclude, I am looking forward to the time when the novel coronavirus has been contained and I can meet our vibrant student body and faculty on the Etchujima and Shinagawa campuses.