Freshmen Primer

First Semester, SY 2020-2021
Welcome, Freshmen!

We are happy that you are now part of the vibrant FEU Community. In this time of crisis and uncertainty, your decision to pursue higher education is commendable. We welcome you into a community that strives to make learning engaging and student-centered.

We have created this primer to help you navigate the happy halls of Far Eastern University. Be Brave, Tamaraw!
Starting Your College Journey

Hello, batch 2020!

This year, the start of your college experience will be quite different from what you are used to. Learning for the first semester, SY 2020-2021, will be conducted online through Canvas, FEU's official learning management system (LMS).

Don't worry--this situation is temporary and it won't be long before you are attending sessions in the classroom, doing experiments in a laboratory, spending your breaks with classmates, or eating lunch in the canteen!

In the meantime, FEU will try and provide you with a sense of normalcy as you navigate through your new learning journey.
What is in this primer?

We know it's tough, but we are here to help.

This primer will offer you a bird's eye view of what you can expect in your first semester in FEU. It aims to answer the following questions:

1. What will my classes be like?
2. How will I communicate with my teachers?
3. What is the FEU Community like?
4. What will my schedule be like?
5. Will there be communications for extra-curricular activities?
What is the difference between High School and College?

College learning differs from high school learning in that there is a lot of “free time” in college. In high school, a day is full of classes, one after the other, from morning to afternoon, Monday to Friday. In college, you only have a few classes, (six or seven a semester) that meet just twice a week. Schedules differ from person to person and there are many periods between classes (these are not recess periods!). You may also have whole days where you have no scheduled classes.

As college students, you need to use your free time wisely. You need to be independent learners who make responsible use of your time.
What is the difference between face-to-face and online learning?

Despite the shift from face-to-face learning to remote learning, you can be assured that interaction between student and faculty will be maximized through the Canvas platform. Your teachers will make sure that the objectives and target competencies of each course are achieved and mastered.

Online learning differs from face-to-face learning in that it requires students to be even more disciplined and independent. Teachers who will normally give you learning modules, assignments, and tasks when you meet (usually twice a week), will give you the same work in larger chunks ahead of time. You will be responsible for planning out your days and weeks to ensure that all your tasks are accomplished.
What is Canvas?

Canvas is an easy-to-navigate Learning Management Platform designed to help you, as students, with your learning. It is the world's leading Learning Management System used by universities all over the world like Cornell, Harvard, UC Berkeley, Yale, and the University of Sydney among others. It is designed especially with your learning in mind.

FEU signed into Canvas in SY 2017-2018, being one of the first Philippine universities to do so. FEU's objective in using Canvas is not to replace the classroom but to enhance it, focusing on organizing communication between students and teachers.
How does Canvas help a student like me?

With Canvas, learning becomes easy and intuitive. You can download the app on your smartphone and use it to download learning materials, submit assignments, and even take quizzes! Collaboration and communication with your classmates and teachers is a breeze through the conference function.
How do I communicate with my teacher?

Through Canvas, communicating with your teachers is hassle-free. There are three main modes of communication through Canvas: the inbox function, the comment box, and the video conferencing function. The inbox function allows you to send your teacher a message directly, while the comment function lets you ask questions on specific assignments. Canvas also hosts a video conferencing function which your teachers can enable for online discussions.
In the interest of your safety, there will be no face-to-face classes in the first semester of school year 2020–2021. All classes will be done online and you will not be required to leave your home. All engagements between student and faculty will be done through three modes of learning: Mixed Online Learning, Asynchronous Online Learning, and Total Analogue Learning. You will have to decide at the start of the semester which learning mode you will be on.
What is Synchronous Learning?

Synchronous learning is a form of learning and instruction that happens at the same time, but not necessarily in the same place. This means that you, your classmates, and your facilitator may meet and interact in a specific virtual space at a specific time. For FEU students, synchronous learning may take the form of video conferencing on the Canvas platform.
What is Asynchronous Learning?

Asynchronous learning is learning that happens at your own pace. Your facilitator may provide a variety of learning materials which you can access in your own time and space. These materials are given through Canvas and may include academic texts, video lectures, learning modules, and assessments (formative and summative), among others. Asynchronous learning requires more responsibility and rigor, as you are responsible for accessing and accomplishing the materials within a flexible time frame.
MODES OF LEARNING

**Mixed Online Learning (MOL)**
- Synchronous and Asynchronous Online Learning

**Recommended for**
Highly recommended for all kinds of learners as it will provide the most amount of teacher guidance

**Internet Connectivity Required**
Good and stable internet connection required

**Learning Material Access**
Through Canvas

**Class Meetings**
- Differs from class to class
- The teacher will engage the class for a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 24 times during the semester
- Faculty will give students individualized feedback at least 4 times during the semester about their progress
- Meetings may be by conference (online class), small group discussions, or individual consultations
MODES OF LEARNING

Asynchronous Online Learning (AOL)

- Independent Learning requiring internet access

**RECOMMENDED FOR**
Recommended only for highly independent and responsible learners

**INTERNET CONNECTIVITY REQUIRED**
Good internet connection required

**LEARNING MATERIAL ACCESS**
Through Canvas

**CLASS MEETINGS**
No regular meetings, only scheduled consultations (minimum of 4 scheduled consultations)
MODES OF LEARNING

Total Analogue Learning (TAL)

- Independent learning requiring minimal internet access

RECOMMENDED FOR

Recommended only for highly independent and responsible learners

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY REQUIRED

Stable internet access not required but some access still necessary for consultation and research

LEARNING MATERIAL ACCESS

All learning material will be compiled into a USB and couriered to the student

CLASS MEETINGS

No regular meetings, only scheduled consultations (minimum of 4 scheduled consultations)
What will a school day look like?

Despite the shift from face-to-face engagement to remote learning, you can be assured that interaction between student and faculty will be maximized through the Canvas platform. For online conferences and consultations, make sure you check your Certificate of Registration for your class schedule.

The rest of the time, however, is up to you! No matter what mode of learning you choose, make sure that you take into account your scheduled assessments, conferences, and collaborative projects when making your schedule for the day.
What will my schedule look like?

Your schedule will not be as fixed as it was in a normal semester. This is because your teachers will have the ability to decide how many times you will meet. Whereas during a normal semester, the teacher is expected to meet you twice a week, for online learning, your teacher can call for a synchronous meeting between 25-75% of the time indicated in the schedule in your COR.

It is possible, for example, that a class scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 10:30, will meet only every Monday (but still from 9:00-10:30). This does not mean that you will learn only 50% of what you will normally learn in a regular semester. Your teacher will give you learning modules that you can do on your own to cover 100% of the objectives and targeted skills.

Freshmen Primer
Since classes will be done online, you don't have to leave the comfort of your homes to learn, interact, and engage with your teacher and classmates. Here is a sample schedule of a freshman Medical Technology student. Note that NSTP, Wellness and Recreation Program, and FEU Learning Journey tasks are not indicated due to their self-directed nature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>REST DAY</td>
<td>GED0105 (GED0105-LEC-Sec11-MN)</td>
<td>-Prepare for first subject</td>
<td>GED0105 (GED0105-LEC-Sec11-MN)</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM</td>
<td>Things to do:</td>
<td>Online Conference</td>
<td>-Read / review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Review notes</td>
<td>on Wiki at Kaltura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Accomplish assignments</td>
<td>Netlix streaming or Korean Drama</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Do household chores</td>
<td>MTY1201 (MTY1201-LEC-SEC10-MN)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 NN - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>REST DAY</td>
<td>MTY1101 (MTY1101-LEC-SEC10-MN)</td>
<td>Video Conference / Online Discussion</td>
<td>MTY1201 (MTY1201-LEC-SEC10-MN)</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
<td>No scheduled meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>-Break time</td>
<td>MTY1101 (MTY1101-LEC-SEC10-MN)</td>
<td>-No meeting this week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM - 3:00 PM</td>
<td>-Netflix or Social Media time</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Read / review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
<td>-Reading time</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Browse social media</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What data subscription can you use for your online learning?

- You can join video conferencing for 1 hour in Canvas.
- You can watch at least 5 short TED Talk videos.
- You can submit 20 five-pager text documents.

DATA SUBSCRIPTION

Php 50 (1 GB)

VALID FOR 3 DAYS

- You can listen to a podcast/music for an hour.
- You may use the remaining data for your social media.

At least 3 Mbps is recommended for streaming videos in standard definition while 5 Mbps for streaming high definition videos.
What is the FEU Community like?

Diverse and Inclusive

Diversity is the conscious effort in ensuring that all members of the community have spaces where they feel comfortable expressing themselves. Instead of conformity, FEU believes that a variety of perspectives, acknowledgement of the gender spectrum, and differences in socio-cultural backgrounds and political inclinations are essential in building a strong and safe community.
FEU's push for inclusivity is manifested in the following:

- Freedom to dress in accordance to an individual's gender and sexual orientation*
- Creation of all-gender restrooms
- Abolition of the prescription on hair color*
- Abundance of student-led organizations that cater to various student-interests
- Construction of the multi-faith room
- Acceptance of international students
- Encourages dialogue among students, faculty, and administrators.

*Some institutes have dress-codes and hair color requirements for industry readiness
What is the FEU Community like?

Learner-Centered

FEU believes that students are the center of the learning process. Shifting the focus from instruction to learning, FEU acknowledges that all students, regardless of background, are capable of actively leading and contributing to relevant discussions. This philosophy allows for the cultivation of students’ critical thinking skills through the collaboration of students and teachers in various activities, assessments, and discussions. In FEU, the classroom (physical or virtual), is a safe and engaging space for the active learner.
What is the FEU Community like?

Upright & Excellent

In FEU, students and faculty are held to the highest standards of teaching and learning. All members of the community are expected to espouse the core values of Fortitude, Excellence, and Uprightness.

For students, this means attending class on the assigned schedule, submitting assignments on time, and actively engaging in discussions. For teachers, this means being transparent with grades and assessments, consulting with students, and encouraging participation in class. Professionalism and fairness are qualities which are expected of all individuals in FEU.
What will I expect this first semester?

#TatakTamaraw

Tatak Tamaraw goes online!

Tatak Tamaraw is a freshmen orientation program highlighted by a series of interactive and informative online activities from August 3-8. It is designed to welcome new students to the FEU way of learning. For updates on this exciting welcome activity, check out the Tatak Tamaraw Facebook Page. See you there!

www.facebook.com/tataktsamaraw
What will I expect this first semester?

iTam Kick Off

The iTam Kick Off is an online class-based fun program aimed at breaking the sense of isolation freshmen students may feel brought about by the quarantine. It’s objective is to have students share their insights and aspirations as a kick-off to their life as a college student. It will be facilitated by young Teaching Assistants who may understand the apprehensions of new college students, and in the process introduce them to the FEU Community.
What will I expect this first semester?

Student Organizations

Student organizations go digital! FEU hosts a diverse range of accredited student organizations from different institutes. Connect with your fellow Tamaraws on issues that you're passionate in. Find common interests and enrich your persona as a student and as a future professional. For a full list of accredited organizations, go to: https://bit.ly/FEUOrg.
We hope that we answered most of your questions! If you have any other inquiries, please see the information below:

For concerns related to admissions, email admissions@feu.edu.ph or visit https://bit.ly/FEUadmissions

For concerns related to financial aid, email financial_assistance@feu.edu.ph or visit https://bit.ly/FEUscholarships

For concerns related to enrollment, email freshmenenrollment@feu.edu.ph or feu-makati@feu.edu.ph

For concerns related to student development, please email: ldelossantos@feu.edu.ph or academicservices@feu.edu.ph

You may also email your concerns to your Program Heads. You can access their emails through this link: https://bit.ly/ProgramHeads