

Des Moines Area Community College

Open SPACE @ DMACC

Life in the Times of Coronavirus: stories from
students, staff, & faculty

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

4-3-2020

Life in the Times of Coronavirus

Gina Gallus

Follow this and additional works at: <https://openspace.dmacc.edu/coronaviruslife>

April 3, 2020

This time period has most certainly been unusual and unnerving. I already feel a bit disconnected from DMACC because all my classes are online this semester, and have been for the entire semester. I feel like I am in a better place than I would have been if I had been physically attending classes. I learned how to navigate online courses with the understanding that I could come to the college and get help if I needed. There are pros and cons of taking classes while we are dealing with social distancing due to the corona virus. One of the pros is that I do not have to switch in the middle of the semester and learn a new way to complete my schoolwork. Also, I have found that the instructors are very flexible and willing to answer any questions. They also include many step-by-step instructions in their assignments. The instructors are very encouraging during this time of isolation. The cons for me would include the fact that I cannot be on campus and see smiling faces and hear encouraging words. Also, I have learned that it is a huge plus to use the services available, like the writer's lab. Since that is not possible with the campus being closed, I am learning new ways to find the answers I need. I am the type of person who would rather read a print version of a book instead of an online version. With the library being closed, and all libraries closed, I am having to navigate the DMACC library website to find what I want. The staff is very helpful, but it would be easier for me to physically walk into the library and find what I want. (The positive part of this is that I am learning new things every day, which is good.) I would not choose to do things this way, but everyone has made it much easier and more tolerable because we all understand we are in this together.

Gina Gallus
DMACC Student