

## COVID-19 Protocol for Meadville Lombard Theological School for Students and Faculty

Meadville Lombard Theological School has been closely monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This week, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) cautioned that it expects the coronavirus to begin spreading at a community level in the United States. Meadville Lombard is prepared to implement and follow protocols and guidelines directed by health authorities as necessary. No reported cases of the illness have any known connection to MLTS. Since the coronavirus outbreak is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation, MLTS will provide updated information and guidance as it becomes available.

The school will practice a flexible attendance policy for spring Intensives. Guidance on accessing classrooms and the BYOLs via Zoom will be provided prior to Intensives. **For planning purposes, please let us know prior to Intensives if you will not be present.** MLTS is not responsible for providing medical care for students or faculty who are sick.

### Strategies

- People who think they may have been exposed to coronavirus are advised to seek medical care. Please call ahead to alert the facility if you are experiencing fever with or without respiratory symptoms. According to the CDC, reported cases have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may include fever, coughing and shortness of breath and appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure
- Students and faculty who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are recommended to stay home and not come to school until they are free of fever (100.4°F) for at least 24 hours.
- If you become sick while you are at MLTS, go home immediately.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Use “social distancing” techniques. Avoid shaking hands, hugging, or kissing to greet one another.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based (at least 60% alcohol) hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Review this helpful [Cough and Sneeze Etiquette](#) guide.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Bring tissues and alcohol-based hand sanitizers. Disposable wipes will be available and Spertus has ordered no-touch hand sanitizer dispensers. Review this helpful [Hand Hygiene](#) guide.
- There will be no buffet style meals. All meals served by MLTS will be prepackaged.

### Travel

- Check the [CDC's Traveler's Health Notices](#) for the latest guidance and recommendations for travel.

### Be Committed to Fighting Stigma and Fear

- Viruses cannot target people from specific populations, ethnicities, or racial backgrounds.
- People of Asian descent, including Chinese Americans, are not more likely to get coronavirus than anyone else.