

Discussion Posts

4/2 Prompt: What has your experience been with the abrupt shift to online classes, good, bad, and ugly?

My experience moving to online classes I feel has been better than I expected, but at the same time I do have some uncertainty. There seems to be a little bit of disorganization between classes posting where and when for assignments being due. I know this is mainly on me as the information is being provided by every teacher, but I haven't entirely gotten the hang of each class at this point.

Overall, I'm extremely grateful for what classes are providing me during this time. Every piece of our society and world has been impacted by Covid-19 and thus it's impossible to get away from. I think being in classes right now has really provided me a certain outlet to organize my thoughts on Covid-19 and a variety of other subjects. I appreciate classes providing me with something to do every day and for giving me a chance to see other people's experiences in this very real, strange time we're all living in.

I think my experience moving online has been better than I expected for these reasons. I don't ever really recall enjoying what classes have provided me and now every little thing or semblance to my structure has been great for me.

4/7 Prompt: Right now, if anything, what are you doing to help imagine the bright and special in the world?

Right now the thing that has helped me deal with the anxiety that's come with this pandemic has been hanging out with my family. I had some serious reservations about moving home, but it's been nice. Both my brothers live in the area for the first time since I was in high school and I've had the opportunity to spend some quality time with them. My mom has been helping me learn how to cook and that's been a great experience, haven't been spending any money since I got home. Also have been able to take my parent's dog for walks, which is a very calming way to pass some time and get my thoughts organized. I'm ready for this to be over and hopefully move out of my parent's whenever that is. But right now, being home with them is much appreciated by me.

4/14 Prompt: How are you doing?

Overall, I'm doing well. The weather has been beautiful in Western Washington where I'm staying and I'm starting to feel that familiar end of the semester excitement. This was probably sparked by our capstone project being due on Tuesday, and having that completed is definitely a relief. The days have been going a lot faster and this semester in a weird way kind of flew by to me.

I still find myself adjusting to this new confinement. I really just can't wait for it to be over. My sleep schedule is probably the thing having the most trouble adjusting and I think that's because a certain restlessness I feel over the situation. My day-to-day schedule has been better as time's gone on, reading, cooking, a minimal amount of working out have started to fill my days and I find myself less bored, but still feel very out of control. It'll be extremely nice when restaurants open up even if they're only at 25% capacity, parks open up. I'm excited to feel like I can go outside my neighborhood.

4/16 Prompt: What's on your quarantine playlist? Watchlist?

My watchlist has become pretty extensive in the last month or so. I usually am not too into shows and prefer movies, but recently have found myself fairly invested in shows.

Watchlist: Shows

Ozarks

Bosch

Tiger King

West World

Movies:

Last Black Man in San Francisco

Dodgeball

Rounders

Playlist: I've been somewhat venturing out from what I normally listen to. Here's a few notable artists I've found myself listening to the last month outside of rap:

Joji (great voice)

John Prine

Modest Mouse

4/21 Prompt: How has your view of the future changed, it at all?

I don't think my individual views into the future have changed too much, luckily. I worry about the job market coming out of school as every day the shutdowns and layoffs impact my one real job prospect more and more. My backup plan and the one I'd prefer is to work for a sports team, but the return of sports in the near future seems extremely unlikely. As people try to figure out where their income is coming from sports seem like a useless distraction, but since I haven't written anything about sports in a month or so, I might as well look at the future of sports here in this post.

On March 11th I sat in my room ready to watch my favorite basketball team the Utah Jazz face off against the Oklahoma City Thunder. This was a big moment in the 82-game regular season for the NBA. The Jazz sat in fourth in the playoff standings while the Thunder were in the fifth slot. The regular season was projected to have less than a month remaining and in the playoffs the fourth seed hosts the fifth. This was a game that would directly impact which of these two teams set themselves in position for home-court advantage.

The two teams were warming up on my illegally streamed TV that excluded commercials. I like to watch the warmups and could do without commercials. Out of all the players on the court, the Jazz's highest-paid player, Rudy Gobert was nowhere to be seen. Gobert and Jazz guard Emmanuel Mudiay were questionable for the game with "illnesses". This is somewhat a common

designation in the NBA that you see a few teams a season. As tip off neared the warmups were extended and the game was postponed. The 6 PM start became a 6:40 start. About 6:30 a man quickly ran from the Jazz locker room onto the court and could clearly be seen having a discussion with the NBA officials overseeing the game. A few minutes after the conversation it was announced, 'the game would be postponed due to Gobert testing positive for covid-19'. The fans in the arena poured out of the stadium as both teams went back to their locker room. It was a direct insight into how much would change in the next month.

A day later it was announced that in addition to Gobert testing positive, Jazz guard Donovan Mitchell also had the virus. The two are the pillars for the Jazz's championship window. Gobert is a free agent this offseason who is free from his contract to decide if he wants to continue in Utah or compete somewhere else. The positive tests have caused friction in the Jazz organization between Mitchell and Gobert. Mitchell viewed Gobert as acting negligent and the media has reported the relationship as 'fractured beyond repair'.

Everyday that passes the likelihood of the season starting up again diminishes more and more. It causes me to think of if that was the last time I'll see that Jazz team and how they were constructed take the court. It causes me to think about the next year or two not being able to enjoy probably my biggest enjoyment, sports. It causes me to reflect on the silliness associated with following sports and to resign myself to the reality of there being a lot more important things in the world.

4/28 Prompt: Write a note to yourself on the first day of this semester.

Make sure to go out as much as possible and eat out for every meal. It doesn't matter if it's a Monday or a Friday go out and have a good time. You'll be living with your parents in isolation in a few months.

4/30 Prompt: Write one or more pandemic haikus.

The Rona sent you into a room

To watch spring bloom

Hopefully this isn't your tomb