



LP² Lifelong Peer Learning Program

THE OBSERVER September 06, 2022

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From the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation

Dear LP² Members,

We hope you had a good summer and are looking forward to the Fall 2022 session!

In this edition of The Observer, we're sharing important academic year and Graduate Center campus information to help you plan: the 2022-2023 academic year calendar, information about student IDs, CUNY Cleared4 Access Pass, and the Graduate Center Covid-19 Guidelines. Please review the information carefully, and if you have questions, please send them to us at lp2@gc.cuny.edu

The final add/drop period for the Fall 2022 term started on Monday, 8/29, and will conclude on Friday, 9/23. Please use the Add/Drop form linked [here](#). While some of you communicated your change requests to study group coordinators, you **must** submit your requests to us via the form, or they will not be processed.

Add/Drop requests will be processed on a rolling basis and add requests will be accommodated according to the capacity of the study group requested. Please send all registration-related questions to lp2@gc.cuny.edu

Please note that our office is located in Room 8309 on the 8th Floor. The office is also the home of the LP² First Desk, staffed by LP² members who will help you get acquainted with the Graduate Center building and answer your LP²-related questions. The First Desk will be open 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday, and 9:30AM to 12:30PM on Fridays.

We look forward to seeing you on campus next week!

Graduate Center Student IDs

If you have a Graduate Center student ID card:

Fall 2022 Term validation stickers will be distributed to members on campus throughout September. During the first week of the fall session, our staff will visit all classrooms to distribute stickers before each study group. Stickers will also be available in the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (Room 8309).

Members attending Fall 2022 study groups remotely can request to have the sticker mailed to them by sending an email request with their mailing address to lp2@gc.cuny.edu.

If you don't have a Graduate Center Student Photo ID card, you can obtain it in two ways:

Via mail:

- Email security@gc.cuny.edu from your Graduate Center email address. Put "ID Card" in the subject line.
- Include your name, program (LP²), and mailing address in the email body.
- Attach a "passport type headshot" JPEG picture taken within the past six months. □

In-person:

While on campus, please stop at the security desk in the lobby and inform the officer that you are an LP² student and need an ID card. You will be directed to the student ID office.

CUNY Cleared4 Access Passes

CUNY mandates that all students taking in-person and hybrid classes have up-to-date COVID-19 vaccinations, which include a booster, once eligible. LP² members must upload their proof of vaccination to CUNY's Cleared4 system to obtain an electronic access pass needed to enter the Graduate Center.

Our office has contacted all members without active Cleared4 passes with reminders and instructions. If you're attending in-person study groups this term and haven't completed the Cleared4 vaccination documentation process, you must contact us at lp2@gc.cuny.edu before September 12.

LP² Vaccination Mandate Requirements

LP² students taking in-person and hybrid classes must have up-to-date [COVID-19 vaccinations](#). Maintaining up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination status is the most important thing you can do to protect yourself and those with whom you interact at the Graduate Center.

Students of the Graduate Center are strongly encouraged to receive vaccine boosters once eligible. Please note the following guidelines for booster eligibility:

- Those 18 and older are eligible for a booster shot at 5 months after the completion of two-dose regimen of Pfizer, 5 months after the completion of a two-dose regimen of Moderna, or 2 months after the Johnson and Johnson (J&J) shot. The Pfizer or Moderna booster is preferred in most situations.

Masking Recommendation

Currently, CUNY does not have a mask mandate. However, the Graduate Center strongly recommends that our community members wear a mask in crowded and public spaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19. People who are not vaccinated or over 65 and those at high risk of severe illness should also wear a mask in crowded outdoor spaces. At the Graduate Center, masks are available for our members and can be requested at the front desk and at the main desk in the library (first floor). LP² members will also be able to obtain KN95 masks in the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (AISA) in Room 8309 (8th floor).

Graduate Center Ventilation System

The Graduate Center's ventilation system and the system at the Advanced Science Research Center meet or exceed recommended requirements. Two independent engineering firms hired by CUNY to provide an environmental assessment of all buildings have certified that the Graduate Center building, 365 Fifth Avenue, and the residence hall at 118th Street are safe for reopening and in-person learning. They are classified as tier one buildings and rated as meeting relevant [CDC recommendations for ventilation in schools and child care programs](#). We want to remind everyone at the Graduate Center that the air handling system at 365 Fifth Avenue is designed to operate most efficiently when windows are *closed*. Opening windows will diminish the filtration efficacy and efficiency. Please keep windows in your office or shared work area closed.

LP² Academic Calendar 2022-23 (You can print this out [here](#)).

Fall 2022

September 12, 2022	Monday	Fall session starts
September 26, 2022	Monday	Rosh Hashanah (No Classes)
September 27, 2022	Tuesday	Rosh Hashanah (No Classes)
October 4, 2022	Tuesday	Yom Kippur (No Classes)
October 5, 2022	Wednesday	Yom Kippur (No Classes)
October 10, 2022	Monday	Columbus Day (No Classes)
November 21-25, 2022		Thanksgiving Break

December 20, 2022 Tuesday Fall session final day

Spring 2023

January 30, 2023	Monday	Spring session starts
February 13, 2023	Monday	Lincoln's Birthday
February 20, 2023	Monday	Presidents' Day (No Classes)
March 20, 2023 – April 2, 2023		2-Week Spring Break (No Classes)
May 15, 2023	Monday	Spring session final day

12- and 6- Week Study Group End Dates:

12-Week Study Groups

Monday SGs: December 19
Tuesday SGs end: December 20
Wednesday SGs end: December 14
Thursday SGs end: December 8
Friday SGs end: December 9

First Six Week Session Dates:

Monday SGs: September 12-October 31
Wednesday SGs: September 14-October 26

Second Six Week Session Dates:

Monday SGs: November 7-December 19
Wednesday SGs: November 2-December 14
Friday SGs: October 28-December 9

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23 COVID-19 INFORMATION AND SAFETY GUIDANCE

[The Graduate Center's COVID-19 guidance](#) follows [CUNY's COVID-19 Guidelines](#). All members of our community should be familiar with the protocols and services that are in place to keep our community safe and supported during the 2022-23 academic year. Reducing the risk of the spread of COVID-19 on our campus is a community effort that is grounded in mutual respect in order to foster an environment for safe learning, researching and working together. Please refer to the guidelines below for detailed information about vaccination requirements, testing, and further COVID-19 information for our campus.

Vaccination

Getting the coronavirus vaccine is the single most important step one can take to protect themselves, their loved ones and communities from COVID-19. [CUNY mandates](#) that all students taking in-person and hybrid classes be fully vaccinated. Detailed information on vaccination mandate requirements for students and employees can be found [here](#).

Masking

At this time, CUNY does not have a mask mandate. Masking while on campus is optional. Anyone who would like to continue wearing masks in any settings is welcome to do so at any time. The Graduate Center recommends our

students, faculty and staff to wear a mask in crowded and public spaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the Graduate Center, masks are available for our community, and you can request one at the front desk and at the main desk in the library (first floor). LP² members will also be able to obtain KN95 masks in the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation in Room 8309 (8th floor).

Testing

For the health and safety of our entire community, we highly recommend that LP² members get regular and recurring testing. If you are sick, stay home. If you do not feel better in three days, please consult your health care provider. LP² students should consider testing if you have been traveling before returning to campus.

Isolation and Exposure

CUNY continues to follow the latest CDC guidance on [isolation](#) and [exposure](#). Quarantining is no longer necessary if you have been exposed to a person who has tested positive. Any students, staff or faculty who test positive with COVID-19 or are exposed to someone with COVID-19 must follow the steps below.

Reporting Positive COVID-19 Results

LP² students who test positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms should isolate and notify their close contacts. LP² students who test positive for COVID-19, whether through a testing provider or with an at-home kit, must contact the Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (AIS) staff by emailing lp2@gc.cuny.edu and copy the Graduate Center Covid-19 Campus Coordinator at reactivation@gc.cuny.edu. The Coordinator will work with the AISI staff to aid in identifying exposures and notify close contacts of the exposure.

If You Test Positive for Covid-19

- Stay home for 5 days (day 0 is your first day of symptoms, or the day of your first positive test if you do not develop symptoms).
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- **In order to return to CUNY after isolation, you must receive a negative PCR or Antigen test** (we strongly recommend an Antigen test, if available).
 - Collect the test sample only if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved.
 - If your test result is positive, you should continue to isolate until day 10. Following day 10 you must receive a negative PCR or Antigen test before returning to CUNY.
 - **In lieu of a negative test, individuals may provide a doctor's certification that they have recovered from COVID-19.**
- Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for 5 additional days; if you cannot wear a mask, continue to isolate for 5 days.
- If you have a fever, continue isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- If you were severely ill with COVID-19 you should isolate for at least 10 days. Consult your doctor before ending isolation.

The Graduate Center Ventilation System

Yes, The Graduate Center's ventilation system and the system at the Advanced Science Research Center meet or exceed recommended requirements. Two independent engineering firms hired by CUNY to provide an environmental assessment of all buildings have certified that the Graduate Center building, 365 Fifth Avenue, and the residence hall at 118th Street are safe for reopening and in-person learning. They are classified as tier one buildings and rated as meeting relevant [CDC recommendations for ventilation in schools and child care programs](#). We want to remind everyone at the Graduate Center that the air handling system at 365 Fifth Avenue is designed to operate most efficiently when windows are *closed*. Opening windows will diminish the filtration efficacy and efficiency. Please keep windows in your office or shared work area closed.

Contact and Link

COVID-19 Campus Coordinator, Daniela Verdejo Salazar at reactivation@gc.cuny.edu for further information.

A Message from the Advisory Board about COVID-19 Protections

LP² is a community of learners and friends who support and care for each other. Even as rates of virus transmission are declining and a new vaccine is on its way, many of our members feel vulnerable to infection. In consideration of the health and safety of our members, the Advisory Board recommends masking and weekly testing by members attending in-person study groups. Although masking in indoor space is no longer mandated by CUNY and CDC guidelines, we are asking members to be slightly uncomfortable, wearing a mask for 90 minutes, so that vulnerable others may be protected from the virus.

CUNY Guidelines include the following: **“Testing.** For the health and safety of our entire community, we highly recommend that LP² members get regular and recurring testing.” A negative weekly test is a 15-minute activity that increases the odds that you know you are not infectious. Let’s all come together to keep our community as safe as possible as we meet at the Graduate Center.

Food at the Graduate Center

What Are the Current Food Options at The Graduate Center>?

There are vending machines in the 8th floor Dining Commons and members of the GC community are welcome to use the Commons as a place to eat and relax. **Food is not allowed in classrooms**, computer labs, research labs, recital halls, or the library. At this time, there is no on-campus food service available through Café 365 on the first floor of the Dining Commons.

Fall Grid with Study Group Room Assignments

To view and print the fall grind with study group room assignments, please click [here](#).

Wanna be in Pictures? Here’s Your Chance for Stardom:

Over the summer Linda Gottlieb and Rich Goldman have been working on a short video to be shown at our 60th anniversary party later in September. Here

is your starring opportunity: **WE NEED YOU ALL TO BE IN THE LAST SHOT!**

You are hereby invited to participate in a short (not more than 15 minutes) ZOOM CALL ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th AT 11:00AM, during which we will all be shouting: "Happy 60th Anniversary, LPSquared!" (Feel free to practice at home.)

Here is the [zoom link](#) to join.

NEWS AND EVENTS

ONLINE ART SHOW

Ted Dreyfus, *Resting*

Ted says: The siesta: a gaucho and horses rest on our farm in Uruguay where we raise horses, sheep, and have a eucalyptus forest.



MEMBER FORUM

Rosalie Frost is showing 2 prints from her *Gates Without Gates (Central Park)* series in an upcoming exhibit at the Soho Photo Gallery, as part of the gallery's 50th anniversary celebration, *Picturing New York*. The exhibit runs from August 17th through September 11th, 2022. There will be an opening reception on August 18th from 1-6PM, and a closing reception on September 11th from 3-6PM.

Please check out the gallery website ---www.sohophoto.com --- for location, Covid-19 protocols and other details. For more information on the Soho Gallery's storied history, please go to [In Tribeca, City's Longest-Running Photo Gallery Celebrates 50 Years](#).

Jane Case Einbender reminds us to give a shout-out to all who led recent break activities. Members enjoyed and appreciated the effort. The Community

Building Initiative (CBI) will be reaching out to members again later in the fall semester seeking volunteers to lead break activities during the next break. So put on your thinking caps!

Alec Rill has sent pictures of some of the highlights of the Photo SIG tour at the International Center of Photography (ICP). On Thursday, September 1st, the Photo SIG visited the fantastic William Klein exhibit at ICP. For all, this was the first view of the work of this amazing artist. An ICP staff member gave us a very interesting and comprehensive tour of the exhibit - from Klein's paintings, through his "cameraless" experimentation, his street photography and fashion photography, to some of his movies. We ended the tour eating at communal tables at the very eclectic Essex Market.



Alec has also invited us to view his blog. <https://seeinghappy.org/news/let-them-be-part-2-8/> He says:

I am doing this blog in response to a special request by the Positive Psychology staff of *SeeingHappy*. Although it was designed as a project for kids, I am working with a nursing home to have older people post their pictures.

Maybe some LP² members would like to post happy pictures. The gain is the satisfaction of helping people by providing them with happy thoughts and encouraging them to post happy pictures and describe why it is that the photos make them happy.

It's been fun for me so far (another gain).

REMINDERS

Calling All Painters, Sculptors, Photographers, Block Printers, Ceramicists and Textile Artists!

Display the creative work you have been doing this summer in the Online Art Show. Send a photograph of your work with a title and a brief statement about it to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu. Art works appear in The Observer in the order in which they are received.

MISSING LINKS DIRECTORY

[Graduate Center Password Reset](#)
[GC Portal](#)
[LP² Library Contact \(Mason Brown\)](#)

[Free Access – CUNY ARTS](#)

[LP² Member Website](#)

- [Member Directory](#)
- [Faces](#)
- [Library and Online Resource page](#)
- [LP² and GC Help](#)
- [Tech Help](#)

Linkedin Learning (formerly known as Lynda)

- [LinkedIn learning at NYPL](#) and [Get a NYPL Library Card](#)
- [LinkedIn Learning at BPL](#) and [Get a BPL Library Card](#)
- [LinkedIn Learning at QPL](#) and [Get a QPL Library Card](#)

What links would you like to see included? You don't have to know the actual link, just what you'd like to be able to link to without cleaning out your desk to find the paper you wrote it down on.

Send your requests and suggestions to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu or Susan Rauch at srauch@gc.cuny.edu.

[Current GC Campus Covid Rules](#)

ONGOING LP² EVENTS

The Women's Group meets at 3:45PM on Thursdays. Contact Arlyne LeSchack at aleschack@gc.cuny.edu.

(Note: The Women's Group will continue to meet Thursday afternoons at 3:45pm except for the second week of the month when the Group will meet in

person from 1:15 to 2:15pm- Tuesdays 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13. First in person meeting 9/13@1:15 in room 9205 at the GC.)

The Men's Group meets at 3:45PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jay Fleishman at efleishman@gc.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM Tuesdays. Members share skills and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris at mharris@gc.cuny.edu.

Schedule for submitting articles for The Observer and Website – New DEADLINE DATE

Members wishing to submit information for publication in The Observer and/or or listing on the Website have a **new deadline: the Wednesday before the Monday publication date**. In addition, we urge you to send us your material as early as possible so that it can be entered onto the LP²calendar, which is managed by the Graduate Center. If you have an event to publicize, please notify Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu at **least one month in advance** to ensure that the event receives maximum publicity.

Member Forum Submissions: If you have something to share with the LP² community, e.g., a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered and think would be interesting to members, send it to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu.