



UC 1900-137 (A&S-PHYSICS)
Fall Semester 2022
1 Credit Hour

Welcome to Ohio University and the Department of Physics and Astronomy of the College of Arts and Science! As part of a learning community (LC for short), you'll learn with fellow Bobcats. Together, you'll take a series of classes, typically a mix of introductory courses in your major and general education courses. You'll start expanding your knowledge of university resources, perhaps get a taste of your major(s), and sharpen your college-level study skills. It is also our hope that you will gain friendships. Our learning community will get you connected with an instructor and learning community leader (LCL), where we will share what it takes to be a Bobcat in the College of Arts and Science.



Course Learning Outcomes

Here's what you will be able to do after successfully completing this course:

1. Evaluate your academic success skills (e.g., time management, study strategies, and stress management)
2. Articulate how your interests, values, and abilities relate to your chosen major and/or minors and certificates.
3. Identify at least two benefits of connecting with faculty beyond the classroom (and beyond the LC seminar instructor).
4. Construct a comprehensive academic plan for use throughout your first year at Ohio University.
5. Recall the services offered through a minimum of three campus resources focused on student success.

We hope you will get to know peers and scholars with whom you will interact throughout your time at Ohio University.

I care about you being successful in this class. If something in this syllabus makes it difficult for you to learn, let me know. We will find a solution to maximize your training.

Professor	Learning Community Leader
<p>Julie Roche Email: rochej@ohio.edu Phone: (740) 593-1982 Office: Edwards Accelerator Lab, #206 (here) Preferred Pronouns: she Student/Office Hours: use Bookings to arrange a meeting.</p> 	<p>Ryan Parkes Email: pr876320@ohio.edu Cell Phone: (972) 261-7553 Snap: ryanparkes2019 Insta: whipwizardrp</p> 

In the following pages, this document contains information about:

- A. What you need for this course.
- B. Our class meetings and how we will do our best to create an inclusive learning environment.
- C. Policies you need to know: Communication, Mandatory reporting, Attendance policy, and Academic integrity and Honesty.
- D. Grading information and assignments.
- E. Getting help (with technology, accessibility, reacting to difficult topics).
- F. A preliminary schedule.
- G. Coronavirus and our class.

A. What you need for this class

What Book and Other Materials Do I Need?

No textbook is required for this course; however, you will want to regularly access our class's Blackboard site because this is where we post class announcements, reminders, updates, and reading materials. You will be able to check your course grade and submit your assignments through this site too. You may not be familiar with Blackboard, and that's okay! You can schedule an appointment with me or our LCL if you need assistance. We will also spend some time reviewing how to utilize Blackboard in class.

Course Materials you have access to:



This UC 1900 Syllabus (this document). Refer to our class syllabus as you have questions throughout the semester: you are responsible for knowing what's in this document. In case of doubt, you may also ask your instructor (Roche) or the LCL (Franz) for more content explanation.



Blackboard

Blackboard is the Learning Management System we will use in this class. On Blackboard, you will find all of the weekly assignments for this course, links to community activities, grade book, as well as important community updates on our UC 1900 Blackboard site.

For more info on Blackboard, go to [this website](#).

To connect to our Blackboard site, use [LC: A&S PHYSICS UC_1900_137_SEM_FALL_2022-23](#).



Laptop, tablet, or smartphone: You will need electronic devices to participate in some in-class activities. I will let you know ahead of the class meeting when this is the case. However, most of the time, having your phone will be sufficient.

If you need out of class computer access, you may use the computers in the Alden libraries or the one in the Physics and Astronomy computer lab in Clippinger lab room #257.

Help Desk and Technology Support

Are you having trouble with Blackboard, VoiceThread, Catmail, or Wi-Fi? Wait, Microsoft 365 is free? And it includes Microsoft Teams and OneDrive? Do you want to learn about different technologies? Do you want to access free or discounted software? The [Office of Information Technology](#) (OIT) can help!

You can contact OIT by phone at (740) 593-1222, by email at servicedesk@ohio.edu, or by visiting their website at <https://www.ohio.edu/oit/help#contact> to chat with them live or submit a help desk ticket.

B. Class meetings and how we will do our best to create an inclusive learning environment

Our class meets on Tuesdays nominally from 11:00 am to 12:20 pm in Tupper Hall, room 210 (see [this link](#) for on campus location).

It is crucial that we commit to learning from one another in our classroom and provide an environment where if something is occurring that prevents us from being able to succeed, we talk about and address it. Some examples of what I am committed to are:

- **Awareness that what happens outside the classroom can have a direct impact on our experiences within the classroom.** If something has happened that is preventing you from learning in our environment, please either let me know so I can help find the best resources to support you on campus or in our community, or, if you are uncomfortable speaking with me, utilize the resources on campus like Counseling and Psychological Services, the Division of Diversity and Inclusion, and/or Equity and Civil Rights Compliance.
- **Addressing microaggressions, implicit bias, and/or discrimination within the classroom.** Microaggressions are statements or actions that may be difficult for us to discern why they are a problem if we do not know the history or root of certain stereotypes or behaviors, but that can cause discomfort and stress for members of our community. I will try my best to address these in the moment, but I may not always succeed for several reasons. For example, I may not hear or see something. I may want to talk with the person impacted before addressing the class. I may not know how to respond in the moment, and may follow up when I can determine the best course of action. If something has been said that has caused harm; please let me know.
- **Continuously improving my understanding and practice of inclusive teaching.** There are many ways we can all improve in creating inclusive environments. I am committed to learning. However, we all should acknowledge that this is an area of growth for everyone, even experts. Feedback can be challenging to hear and changes difficult to implement. Still, I encourage us all to have an open dialogue about creating an inclusive environment that will foster your success.

Respect and Civility in the Classroom

You should feel comfortable participating and expressing personal views and concerns as should everyone in this class. Our class discussions might expose you to new viewpoints, values, and opinions, so we will work and grow together with respect for each other and ourselves. Do not hesitate to express your ideas or challenge a peer's ideas, but please do so using respectful language and reasoned argument. Some guidelines to help us do this:

- Approach discussions with good faith and assume that others have good intentions.
- Do not assume that everyone shares your experiences or perspectives.
- Ask clarifying questions, offering feedback from a place of shared humanity.
- Receive feedback by listening carefully and responding graciously.
- Be mindful that discussion is shared time. Think of how and what you want to express, but also look for opportunities to be brief and allow others to share.
- During the discussion, reflect on how your perspective connects directly with the assigned video or readings.

Make Respect Visible

OHIO strives to celebrate each person who makes up our university community. We are here to learn from each other, to do the work that narrows divides and broadens understanding. It's about equity and humanity. It's about having the hard conversations and recognizing and calling out prejudice. It's about being willing to engage with others thoughtfully and respectfully, even when we hold vastly different points of view.

Report Discrimination/Bias

All Bobcats have a responsibility to make sure our community is free of discrimination and harassment. And when you see or hear it, you stop it, you report it. The following link takes you to the website where you can report a discrimination or bias incident. The form on this site may be used by any member of the Ohio University community wishing to file a report, either on your own behalf or on the behalf of another person. University Equity and Civil Rights Compliance (ECRC) will

review the information in the report and take the appropriate actions, including making necessary referrals and providing options for support.

<https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/be-informed-bobcats/bias-discrimination-harassment>

Hazing Policy and Reporting

Ohio University seeks to promote a safe environment where students may participate in activities and organizations without compromising their health, safety, or welfare. It is therefore the University's [policy](#) that hazing is prohibited.

Prevention of hazing is the responsibility of every member of the University community. Each organization, as well as each individual, must accept the personal obligation to uphold the basic community values of citizenship, civility, character, community, and commitment. It is the University's belief that true human development will best occur in an atmosphere that promotes social and ethical responsibility.

Under this policy every member of our Ohio University community has an obligation to report and act on information regarding hazing. Reports of hazing should be filed with the Office of Community Standards and Student Responsibility, <https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/report-incident>

Guidelines for Conduct During Discussions



This poster represents the understanding and work of many. More details, free lesson plans, and community sign up can be found at:
STEPUPphysics.org



C. Policies you need to know.

• Communication policy

Outside of class, I will communicate with you mainly by emails sent to your OU email address. I recommend you check your OU email at least once a day, as most professors will communicate with you that way.

Please email me questions, comments, and feedback. Don't be shy. I answer emails promptly during business hours (9-5, M-F). I hope that all communication between us can help you prepare for professional communication in the workplace. I recommend reading this [article about students emailing professors \(this link\)](#). I do not want you to stress about your emails to me; these will not be graded. If you don't know how to ask about a class assignment for another professor, etc., I can help you consider phrasing! I may provide you with feedback about your email communication to support you in your professional development.

• Office Hours/Student Hours

Student hours, also known as Office Hours, are when you can meet with me individually or in small groups to discuss things you are struggling with assignments. You might also seek help finding Ohio University resources or have questions about your major or decisions about your major. Office hours will be in person or virtual via Microsoft Teams or phone calls. I will meet with students Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday from 9 to 5 pm. Use this [Bookings](#) link to book ahead between 1 hour and three weeks ahead. If none of these work for you, email me. If you want to see me on short notice (less than one hour), call me (740-593-1982); I will talk to you right away if I am free.

• Attendance policy

Attendance and participation are expected at every class and are a part of your grade for this course. This class will provide an opportunity for you to offer your insights, thoughts, and questions as a way of engaging you in your learning. Our class discussions might expose you to new viewpoints, values, and opinions, so we will work and grow together with respect for each other and ourselves. You are an essential part of creating a community atmosphere that will make this all possible. All students in this class, including you, should feel comfortable participating and expressing personal views and concerns.

- You earn attendance and participation points for each class. Missing multiple class meetings will impact your grade negatively in this class. Since our class meets synchronously, at a specific time each week, be sure to schedule any work or family obligations as much as possible around our class meeting times. If you have a conflict, please contact me asap directly to discuss it. We both will find an alternative arrangement for the class attendance policy.
- I will evaluate attendance and participation during each class meeting. To show attendance and participation: answer questions, volunteer to share your opinions and experiences, give presentations when requested, etc. Late arrival and early departure from the class meeting will decrease your Attendance and participation for that meeting.
- In our class, we may occasionally engage in some difficult topics. You may find some of these topics emotionally challenging. If you find yourself in this situation, you may step out of class. There is a bit more on this at the end of this document under "difficult topic".
- If you miss class for University valid reasons¹ (illness, death in the immediate family, religious observance, jury duty, and involvement in University-sponsored activities), contact me asap explaining your situation. In this case, I will give you full credit for attendance and participation for the missed meeting(s) and arrange for making up missed assignments.
- We all may need a personal day from time to time because life happens; therefore, to score 100% of the attendance and participation points, you need to attend and participate in all but 3 classes meeting. Any assignments due on your pass day will still need to be submitted. Late penalty may or may not apply: ask your instructor.
- In a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages may need to be revised beyond my control. You are expected to check **your Ohio University email account**, as well as the course Blackboard site, for emergency-related communications and announcements.

¹ Search for "excused absences" in the Academic Policies and Procedures section of the [Ohio University Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Attendance and COVID: See last page of this syllabus.

- **Late work submission policy**

Deadline for submitting work are put in place for three reasons (i) to make sure you are ready to participate in a given class meeting, (ii) to make sure you are keeping track of the overall class workload, and (iii) to allow for the timely release of solutions. Therefore:

- Assignments submitted more than 7 days past the deadline will not be graded and receive an automatic grade of zero. Assignment submitted less than 7 days past the deadline will receive a 25% late penalty.
- If you miss a deadline for a University valid reason (illness, death in the immediate family, religious observance, jury duty, and involvement in University-sponsored activities), contact me asap explaining your situation. In this case, I will arrange to make up missed assignments or new deadlines without any penalty.
- Personal circumstances that are not University valid excuses may make it difficult or impossible to complete an assignment by the deadline. If you find yourself in a situation that prevents you from completing an assignment on time, please reach to your instructor out as soon as possible to develop a plan together. Assignment deadline extensions are at my discretion. As much as it is possible, contact me in advance to arrange for an alternate deadline.

- **Using electronic devices during class meeting**

You will need electronic devices to participate in some in-class activities. I will let you know ahead of the class meeting when this is the case. However, most of the time, having your phone will be sufficient.

Unless we are using the electronic devices, I ask that you close them and store them away. Screens are distracting not only to you but also to anyone who has them in their field of vision.

- **Academic Integrity and Honesty policy**

Academic integrity and honesty are basic values of Ohio University. Therefore, as a member of our Bobcat community, you agree to follow our [Student Code of Conduct](#). Academic misconduct implies dishonesty or deception in fulfilling academic requirements. It includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, unpermitted collaboration, forged attendance, knowingly permitting another student to plagiarize or cheat from your work, or submitting the same assignment in different courses without the consent of the instructors.

Academic misconduct could lead to a failed assignment, failed course grade, and/or additional sanctions. If you are charged with academic misconduct, don't panic! Read the charges carefully. You will have the opportunity to speak with me to clarify the situation and/or pursue clarification during your procedural interview with your hearing authority in the Office of Community Standards and Student Responsibility (CSSR). You may also consider speaking with a representative from Students Defending Students. This volunteer organization advises and counsels students who have been charged with violating the Ohio University Student Code of Conduct.

- **Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Violence and Misconduct policy**

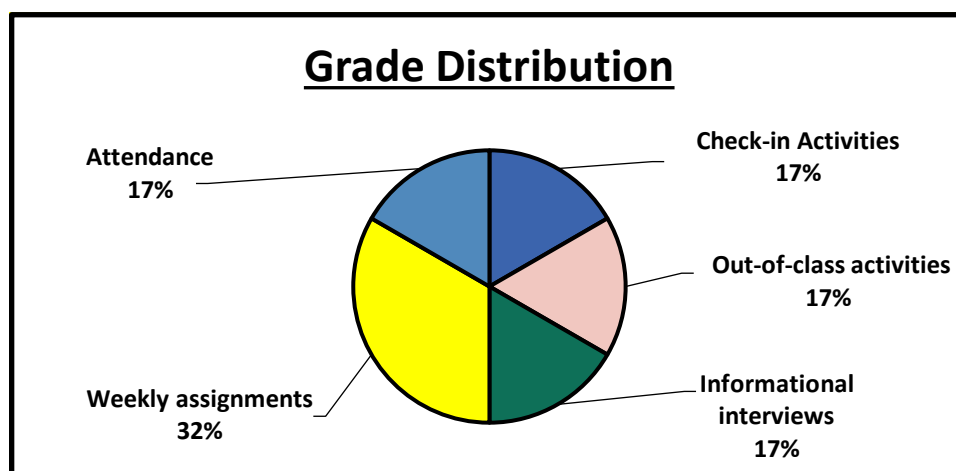
We all share the responsibility to create a safe learning environment for all students and the campus as a whole. Except for confidential resources listed below, all employees are required to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence, and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination to the Office of University Equity and Civil Rights Compliance (ECRC). Suppose you share that you or another OHIO student has had any of these experiences (including in, but not limited to, class discussion, papers, office hours, or other scenarios). In that case, it is my responsibility to notify ECRC.

Your safety and the safety of others are essential to me. Therefore, I take my responsibility seriously to report. Additionally, the University requires that I do so (see [Policy 03.004](#)). Consequently, I may also report to the Ohio University Police Department (OUPD) and/or the Office of Community Standards and Student Responsibility in some instances.

D. Grading information, assignments and a preliminary schedule.

We will be using the following grading scale for this course:

	A: 93-100%	A-: 90-92%
B+: 87-89%	B: 83-86%	B-: 80-82%
C+: 77-79%	C: 73-76%	C-: 70-72%
D+: 67-69%	D: 63-66%	D-: 60-62%
F: below 60%		



Grade components:

In each category, all assignments are worth the same number of points. The late work submission policy for this class is described in section C.

1. Check-in activities

- Pre-Test & Post-Test** You will complete the pre-test in class during week 1. You will complete the post-test in class during our final class period in week 15.
- My OHIO Success Network New Student Success Survey** At Ohio University, there is a network of people who care about you and want to be sure you have what you need to succeed. For us to be as helpful as possible, we need information from you. You will receive a confirmation email indicating that you have completed the survey – please forward that email to me (Dr. Roche) before the end of week four. Also, please be aware that many instructors will use this system during weeks 6 and 7 to provide you with feedback on your course performance. You will receive this feedback by email, so be sure to check your OU email often. We believe that clear communication and feedback will help you do your best, and we want to see you succeed!
- Individual 1-1 Meeting with Dr. Roche** This meeting will occur between week 4 and week 10. Try to find how to book an appointment with me (Julie) in this syllabus, but if you can't figure it out, do send me an email. During the meeting, we will discuss your transition to college, how your current classes are going, your academic goals, and any questions you have about your experience at Ohio University thus far.
- Individual 1-1 Meeting with your LCL Ryan Parkes.** This meeting will take place **between weeks 2 and 7**. During the meeting, you will discuss your transition to college, how your current classes are going, and any questions you have about your experience at Ohio University thus far. More details TBD.

2. Out of class meeting activities lead by Ryan Parkes, our LCL

- CHOICES - Alcohol Education & Bystander Intervention Program** Our UC 1000 class will attend a *CHOICES* program together. Specific dates, times, and locations will be arranged by Ryan and announced in class.

- b. **Study Session:** Your LCL will organize separate study sessions throughout the semester for our learning community. You need to attend at least 2 of these sessions. Ryan will solicit everyone's availability before selecting days and times.
- c. **Outside-Of-Class Activities:** Ryan will organize separate outside-of-class activities throughout the semester for our learning community. You need to attend at least 2 of these sessions. Ryan will solicit everyone's availability before selecting days and times.

3. **Informational interviews within the Physics and Astronomy department**

These assignments offer you the opportunity to:

- Gain practice in giving a short presentation,
- Interact with First-Year peers, other undergraduate students, and professors in the Department, and
- Practice informal interviews²

For this assignment, you will work in pairs. You must prepare a presentation (including slides). We will do this exercise three times: the first time you will report on your interview with a classmate, the second time on an interview with a senior physics undergrad, and the third time on a meeting with a Physics professor. The common theme of all these meetings is "Thriving as a student in the Physics and Astronomy Department at OU." If you happen to decide to change your major during the semester, please get in touch with me ASAP to discuss how to adapt these assignments to your new desired major.

4. **Other Weekly Assignments**

About every week, you will have a short reading assignment, reflection, or assessment to complete. You cannot make up those points (unless you have a University valid excuse for missing the deadline). These assignments will be announced at the latest on Friday at 5 pm and will be due Monday at 10 pm, so make sure to plan accordingly.

5. **Attendance**

² <https://www.spsnational.org/career-resources/informational-interviews-1-why-bother>

E. Getting help.

- **Help Desk and Technology Support**

Are you having trouble with Blackboard, VoiceThread, Catmail, or Wi-Fi? Wait, Microsoft 365 is free? And it includes Microsoft Teams and OneDrive? Do you want to learn about different technologies? Do you want to access free or discounted software? The [Office of Information Technology](#) (OIT) can help! You may want to explore their “Keep learning” web page ([this link](#)). You can contact OIT by phone at (740) 593-1222, by email at servicedesk@ohio.edu, or by visiting their website at <https://www.ohio.edu/oit/help#contact> to chat with them live or submit a help desk ticket.

- **Accessibility**

Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs and provide written documentation from [Student Accessibility Services](#). If you are not yet registered as a student with a disability, please contact Student Accessibility Services at 740-593-2620 or visit the office at 348 Baker University Center.

- **Academic Support and Assistance**

All Ohio University students can access free academic assistance through the AAC. From tutoring to reinforcing good study habits, we collaborate with students to develop the skills and mindset needed to succeed in coursework and overcome the challenges of academic life. Studies show that students who take advantage of academic assistance tend to perform better in their classes and retain more information. For more information or to schedule tutoring or academic coaching: <https://www.ohio.edu/university-college/academic-achievement-center>

- **Major Campus Emergency**

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages may need to be revised beyond my control. You are expected to check **your Ohio University email account**, as well as the course Blackboard site, for emergency related communications and announcements. **Ohio University will close when Athens County declares a Level 3 Snow Emergency.**

- **Difficult topics**

In our class, we may occasionally engage in some difficult topics. You must engage with these topics as they shape your future as a citizen of the world. Although I try to let you know a potentially difficult topic is planned for class discussion, sometimes discussions about current events or wellness checks can lead to unplanned difficult topic discussions. You may find some of these topics emotionally challenging; however, they are an opportunity to understand and feel what others are feeling together. If needed, I encourage you to take advantage of campus resources, including, but not limited to

Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS)	Student Accessibility Services
3rd Floor Hudson Health Center 740-593-1616 www.ohio.edu/counseling counseling.services@ohio.edu	348 Baker University Center 740-593-2620 www.ohio.edu/uc/sas access@ohio.edu

- **Sexual Misconduct**

I am committed to supporting you by creating an educational environment free from discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know has any of these experiences, know that you are not alone. OHIO has policies to protect students, faculty, and staff ([Policy 03.004](#)) and provides resources and support for those impacted. I encourage you to reach out for help. If you would like to report what happened, the Survivor Advocacy Program is a confidential resource that can help you determine what next steps, if any, you would like to take. For a complete list of confidential resources and their contact information, or to report something, please visit www.ohio.edu/equity-civil-rights/confidential.

There are many reasons why someone may choose not to report, and there are resources available to you that will not require making a report to the University. If you are not yet ready to have something that happened to you or someone else reported, there are confidential people you can talk to and are thus not required to report. Please refer to the table below to learn more about confidential resources and reporting.

Confidential Resources	Private Resources
<p>No information will be shared with third parties without your written permission, except in the circumstances involving potential harm to self or others (e.g., suicide, homicide, or other life-threatening behaviors), suspected child or elder abuse or neglect, and court subpoena of counseling records.</p> <p>Counseling and Psychological Services 740-593-1616 Campus Care 740-593-1660 Survivor Advocacy Program 740-597-SAFE (7233)</p>	<p>Conversations are kept as confidential as possible, but the information is shared with key staff members so the University can offer resources and accommodations and take action if necessary for safety reasons.</p> <p>Ohio University Police Department 740-593-1911 Office of Equity & Civil Rights Compliance 740-593-9140 Office of Community Standards and Student Responsibility 740-593-2629.</p>

F. Preliminary schedule.

If I need to adjust the course schedule, I will notify the class via a Blackboard announcement and email.

Week	Date	Lesson Focus
1	Aug 23	Making Connections, Class Orientation
2	Aug 30	Making a plan Informational interview presentation: Peers <i>LCL 1-1 meeting starts</i>
3	Sept 6	Well Being and Boundaries
4	Sept 13	Promoting community expectations for safety and for bystander intervention <i>Instructor 1-1 meetings starts</i>
5	Sept 20	Using Ohio University library and database resources
6	Sept 27	Valuing Diverse Identities Part 1
7	Oct 4	Program formerly known as Choices TBD <i>LCL 1-1 meeting ends</i>
8	Oct 11	Valuing Diverse Identities Part 2 Deadline for voter registration for Nov. general election (Ohio)
9	Oct 18	Academic Planning & Decision Making
10	Oct 25	Informational interview presentation: Undergrads <i>Instructor 1-1 meetings ends</i>
11	Nov 1	Career Values, Choices, and Resources
12	Nov 8	Taking care of yourself General Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Ohio)
13	Nov 15	Career in Physics and Astronomy
14	Nov 22	Informational interview presentation: Professors
15	Nov 29	UC 1900 Course Evaluations

G. Coronavirus and our class.

The OHIO university policies might changed during this semester depending of the level of exposure in our Athens county. As of August 10, 2022, Dr. Sayrs, Executive Vice President and Provost and Dr. Ice, Special Assistant to the President for Public Health Operations as chosen the protocols and guidelines described in <https://www.ohio.edu/coronavirus>

If you do test positive or need to isolate or quarantine this semester, after you have taken care of yourself and followed all the steps in the [OHIO COVID-19 Protocol](#), please email me so that we can develop a plan for you to receive the necessary course content. COVID-related illness, quarantine, isolation, and remain-in-room directives are legitimate university absences, and I will work with you to manage your academic requirements and connect you to resources. If you feel that your class performance is being impacted by COVID-19, please talk with me and/or contact Public Health Operations by email (PHO@ohio.edu). The University has information about [resources available to help with quarantine and isolation here](#).