

POSSIBILITIES

SPECIAL EDITION • DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft 365

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Online collaboration and resources are more important than ever as COVID-19 continues to change the way we live, work and learn.

In this issue, we'll take a look at the various online tools available to all faculty, staff and students. For additional information on working

from home, visit it.tamu.edu. Resources and tips for online classes can be found at keep-teaching.tamu.edu.

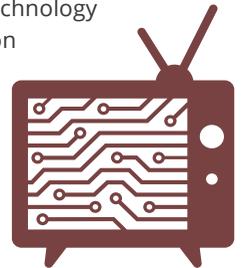
TUNING IN TO CHANGE

President Young Appears on Technically Speaking TV, Impressed by Texas A&M's Rapid Move to Online Learning

COVID-19's impact on education and society in general is the focus of the latest "Technically Speaking TV."

During the show, President Michael K. Young discusses how Texas A&M moved over 13,000 classes online in one week last spring, as well as changes that will be instituted this fall. He also touts Texas A&M's work on over 100 research projects focused on COVID-19 and explains how they may help fight the pandemic and better prepare us for the future.

Vice President of Information Technology and Texas A&M Chief Information Officer Dee Childs details how data was protected as everyone worked and learned remotely using Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and the university's Virtual Private Network (VPN).



Jocelyn Widmer, Ph.D., Assistant Provost for Academic Innovation, joins the discussion and explains the importance of the university's keep-teaching.tamu.edu and keep-learning.tamu.edu websites. Director of Statewide Client Services Serge Razafindrakoto also shares how Help Desk Central handled the increase in requests as everyone transitioned to working and learning remotely.

"Technically Speaking TV" airs on KAMU-TV and can also be seen on the Division of Information Technology's [YouTube channel](#).



Online Teaching and Collaboration Tools Available to Texas A&M University

Whether you need to design your course to be delivered fully online, remote, or face-to-face, there are a number of educational technologies and resources available at your fingertips.

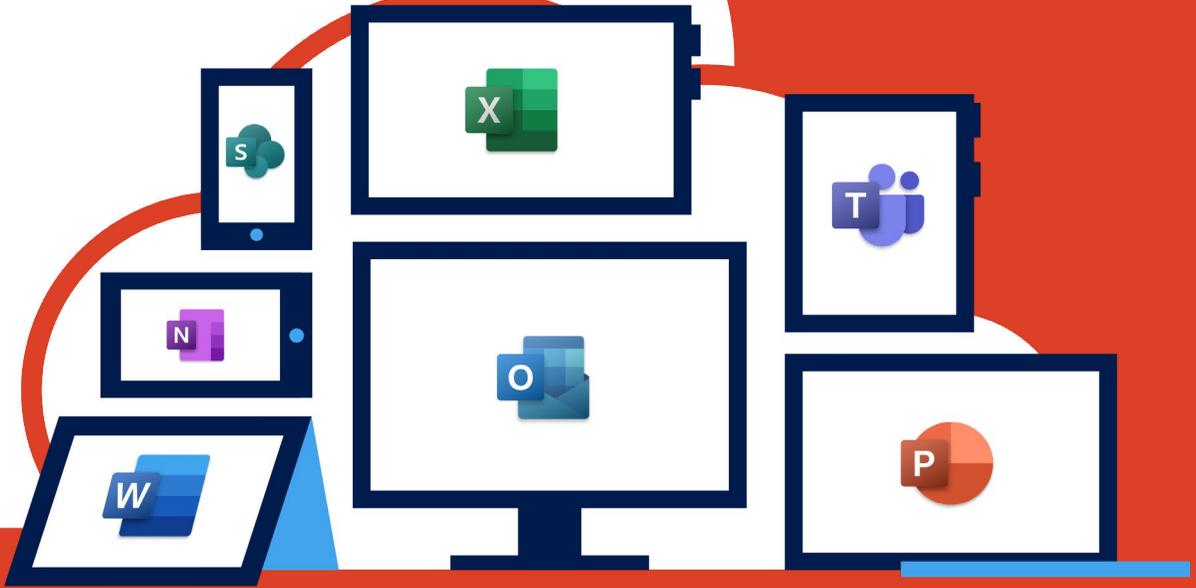
KeepTeaching.tamu.edu is a comprehensive guide that links best practices to teaching and learning in an online environment with the resources to support you.

Synchronous virtual class sessions can be conducted using [Zoom](#) or [Microsoft Teams](#). These tools can also be used for virtual office hours, online mentoring and counseling, tutoring and more.

And don't forget, you can take online training for the available tools using your [LinkedIn Learning account](#). You can also use LinkedIn Learning for supplemental classroom resources!

ONLINE TOOLS AVAILABLE TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

	GOOGLE APPS	MICROSOFT 365	OTHER
WORD PROCESSING	Docs	Word	
SPREADSHEETS	Sheets	Excel	
EMAIL	Gmail	Outlook	
STORAGE/TRANSFER	Drive	One Drive/Sharepoint	Filex
CONFERENCING	Meet	Teams	Zoom
NOTE TAKING	Keep	OneNote	
ONLINE TEACHING		Teams	Zoom , eCampus , Canvas , LinkedIn Learning
TASK PLANNER	Tasks , Keep	Planner	
CALENDAR	Google Calendar	Outlook	



EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

Microsoft 365 Available to Texas A&M Community

Full-time Texas A&M University students and employees now have access to the latest Microsoft apps online with Microsoft 365.

The apps include **Teams**, collaboration software that integrates business messaging, video meetings, phone calls and file sharing. A quick, five-minute introduction can be found at teamsdemo.office.com.

A&M employees can download Microsoft 365 software to personal computers as long as Office 2013 for Windows or Office 2016 are removed first.

Over the coming months, Texas A&M Exchange accounts will transfer to Microsoft's cloud-based resource, expanding storage and integrating Exchange calendars with other Microsoft 365 apps.

Please note: Texas A&M employees will continue to have access to the Google Suite of tools.

Code Maroon and IT Alerts Keep Campus Informed

It's important to stay aware during an emergency and employees have access to two important tools: [Code Maroon](#) and [IT Alerts](#).

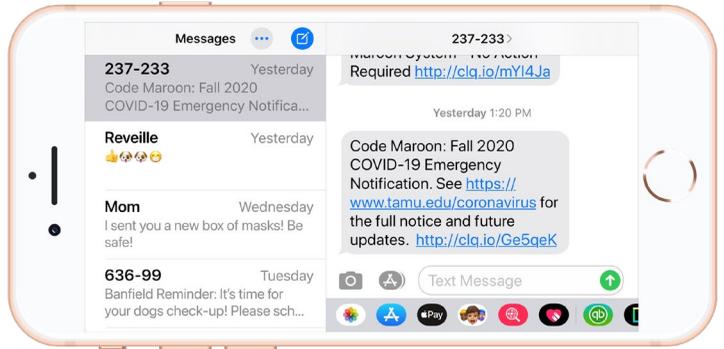
CODE MAROON

Code Maroon quickly relays safety-related information via text, email and desktop alerts. If you do not currently receive Code Maroon messages, go to codemarooon.tamu.edu and register. Code Maroon began using a new vendor this fall. Employees who were already registered with Code Maroon will not need to register for the new system.

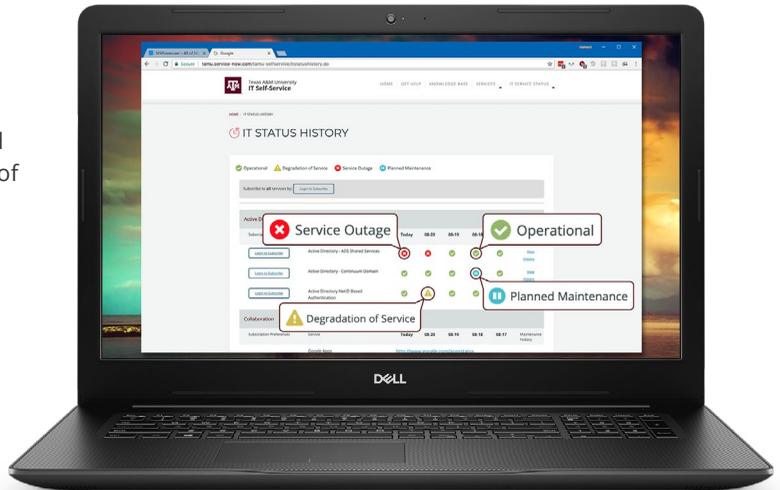
Later in the semester, a Code Maroon mobile app will be available for Android and iOS devices and contain a number of campus safety features.

IT ALERTS

[IT Alerts](#) keep the campus informed about IT service outages and planned maintenance. You can always check the status of campus IT services at italerts.tamu.edu or sign up for text notifications with the [IT Status Alerts feature](#).



Emergency notifications are sent to your mobile device through Code Maroon.



Is a service down for just me or the entire campus? Find out through IT Alerts and IT Status History.

