

## Women's and Gender Studies COVID-19 Rider (Draft; for adoption by dept)

Like many universities, LMU has provided a one-year tenure clock extension option for all tenure-track faculty due to COVID-19. While this is one step toward accommodation, we note several specific challenges experienced by faculty in interdisciplinary programs like Women's and Gender Studies.

Women's and Gender Studies scholars may approach their research from many different disciplinary perspectives and employ multiple methods. Some conduct fieldwork, interviews, and observations as part of their scholarly trajectory (including participatory action research); some use quantitative data and surveys; still others draw deeply on archival sources or museum collections. All scholars however rely on the institutions of conferences that have been suspended or delayed, and publication pipelines that have slowed. We recognize multiple potential impacts of the pandemic on the research conducted by Women's and Gender Studies scholars that may have altered their research trajectories and/or slowed their progress.

1. Though some conferences moved to presentation via audio-visual platforms, travel to present at conferences and seminars to receive feedback, work with collaborators, meet with publishers and potential funders has been difficult if not impossible and remains so.
2. The resumption of fieldwork, experiments and interviews, often in multiple or far locations, will require time due to travel restrictions, travel risk, IRB/ACUC resubmissions, changes at field sites, planning for personal and/or local site virus protection (humans living at/near the field), and other factors related to the virus.
3. Research stays to gain access to data and collaboration have been heavily curtailed or is impossible. Access to on-campus and off-campus labs, archives, and collections has been restricted or prohibited.
4. Many archives, museums, and other research sites have laid off staff, which will result in lowered availability to scholars when these sites re-open.
5. Reduction of productivity has resulted not only in delays in the completion of projects but in obtaining materials and data to be included in proposals for external funding, potentially having long-term effects on research programs.
6. Funding that is administered by research institutions and external agencies has been impacted and is likely to be reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.
7. Reduction of time for scholarship due to the demands of teaching online.
8. Reduction of time for scholarship due to additional administrative duties during the pandemic and the challenges associated with remote and available administrative support due to the current hiring freeze and other budgetary constraints.
9. Publishing pipelines have slowed: not only do editors have reduced budgets and more responsibilities; they also have a reduced pool of reviewers to draw from for various reasons, including teaching, service, and caregiving responsibilities demanding more time than ever before or faculty being furloughed.