

16 May 2020

Each week, it became increasingly clear that COVID-19 was spreading. Yet everyone continued to hope that it would not affect us. Then, the first case was revealed, and the county's public health department scrambled to make a press conference, failing to follow their own instructions of "do not touch your face". Although the internet made the infamous meme of Dr. Sara Cody, we were still dealing with a very serious situation. Weeks later and SJSU officially closed its campus as many classes switched to an online format. That is when COVID-19 truly began to affect me. I was unable to concentrate behind a screen all day and lacked any motivation to complete assignments. I slowly became depressed as my life flipped upside down and I could not see my friends to complain about it. All along, I knew I was one of the lucky ones. I had roof over my head and can afford contactless delivery for my groceries. I got to be around my family more and catch up on all my shows. I am truly blessed to be able to still obtain my degree and this transition to an online format helped train me in any future career I pursue. Thankfully, no one I know was infected and our safety precautions saved thousands of lives, COVID-19 was a blessing in disguise. We learned from our mistakes to make sure it never repeats, and if it does, we all know that the world will be able to move forward in any pandemic.

-Alaa Hasan