

GANAS 2020 Remote Summer Program

The last months of our high-school year have been challenging, with little opportunity to go anywhere and the loss of my interactions between my classmates, teachers, extended family members and I. All I can do is stay at home with my household. The transition from my high school environment to my remote education has been filled with trial and errors. Fortunately, the school year is coming to an end. So, my question now is do I participate in GANAS during the Summer or take a long break during the stay at home order?

What we certainly can tell you is that you deserve a break where you can experience the sensation of relief. We are proud that you were able to transition and navigate the intricacies of remote education. We also want to tell you why, especially during this time of uncertainty, your participation in GANAS 2020 Remote Summer Program is beneficial for your holistic health.

Here are some of our reasons why you should attend GANAS!

1. If the transition from face-to-face to remote instruction was difficult, a summer could be the time to comfortably practice full remote instruction where instructors and mentors will teach at your pace and help you prepare for the potentialities of online fall instruction.
2. GANAS will provide you 1 college credit. This opportunity will help you accumulate a credit without even starting the fall semester. Furthermore, it saves your family money since this course is free of cost!
3. Your participation in GANAS will open up opportunities to apply COCC scholarships.
4. The new unemployment rates are alarming and it might be more difficult to find a job this summer given the limited options for activities outside home. Therefore, taking GANAS will encourage you to stay focused and productive during these uncertain times.
5. Your active participation in GANAS will help you become more immersed in your future college community by meeting new students and instructors virtually while also familiarizing yourself with new technology and college work.
6. GANAS will provide you the tools to stay connected with other students. Social connection is important in people's life. That said, working collaboratively with a common goal is important to your personal growth.
7. GANAS will better prepare you for the transition from high-school to college.
8. By participating in GANAS you'll have the opportunity to develop your leadership and academic readiness skills, as well as your critical thinking and cultural awareness levels.

Below we present to you our answers to our most common questions from a high-school student like you.

How will GANAS sessions work?

Instead of being four days on COCC's campus, GANAS will be spread over 7 weeks in July and August. Instead of face-to-face instruction, we will get together via Zoom once a week for 4-hour morning session followed by fun elective activities to choose from in the early evening. Just like Avanza 1 & 2, our remote sessions will be engaging and varied—we'll do seminars from different instructors, watch a movie and discuss it, and have fun while learning rhythms from Latin America with real life musical instruments. You'll also work with a small group and a COCC student mentor to do a group project.

I have to work/I can't make it to every session. Can I still participate?

Yes! We understand that you're balancing a lot. We would like you to prioritize GANAS by coming to as many live sessions as possible so that we can all connect via Zoom. However, if you have to miss any sessions, we will record each one so that you can watch it later. If needed, you can work through GANAS at your own pace. A mentor will be assigned and ready to support you if you miss any live session.

Will I still get college credit?

Yes! GANAS Remote Summer Program will be fun, just like Avanza 1 & 2, but it's also a college course. This means we expect you to work hard, to actively participate in the sessions, to view any session at a later time if you can't attend at some live sessions and to complete your group project. Then you earn a college credit!

Is GANAS Remote Summer Program free?

Yes.

Is there a chance to earn scholarships by participating?

Yes! Recently graduated seniors will be eligible to earn a scholarship to COCC by participating satisfactorily in GANAS!

I don't have internet. Can I still participate?

Yes. We want to do everything possible so that you can participate and don't want a lack of internet to be a barrier. If you live in Bend, Redmond, Madras or Prineville, our COCC computer labs are open and available for you to use at our Bend, Redmond, Madras, Prineville campuses. If you can't get to these computer labs, we can help you figure out transportation. If you live elsewhere, we will do our best to help you figure out internet access.

I don't have a computer. Can I still participate?

Yes! Again, not having a computer shouldn't prevent you from participating. For remote sessions, you can join on a phone with a camera, but for group work, you will want to use a computer. Again, if you live in Central Oregon, you can use a computer lab on a COCC campus. If you don't live in Central Oregon, let us know and we can help you figure out a solution.

Will we still have mentors?

Yes! We love our mentors and they will still be a big part of GANAS. They will join/lead our remote sessions, and they will also work individually with each group to help you complete your final project.

Will we get together in person for any parts of GANAS?

No, unfortunately not. We wish we could all get together in face-to-face modality, but right now what's most important is to keep ourselves, our families and our communities safe. Although we can't do everything remotely (like hike together!), we can assure you that GANAS Remote Summer Program will still be an engaging, creative and fun program!