# Murder Mystery Instructions

## PART 1:

Welcome to the High School Reunion of your dreams… or nightmares! The point of the game is to guess who the murderer is and why they killed our victim. Please read all the rules thoroughly and email Carolyn Speer or John Jones if you have any questions about gameplay.

1. This game is only fun if people are all in, embrace the silliness! YOU are your character for the night, so as you share your secrets, make sure to say things like “I travelled to Mexico last week” and not “my character travelled to Mexico last week.” Also, feel free to improvise and add details to your character’s backstory, OWN it!
2. Your character’s information will come with a list of “truths.” You should not lie about your truths in the game. You can attempt to be evasive, like responding with a question or attempting to change the subject, but if challenged, **you must reveal your truth**. Truths include your prompted responses (during the pre- and post-murder phases) and your secrets. If someone asks you about your secret, you cannot lie, but only reveal what is asked of you (no more than is necessary to answer their question). You can also use any secrets you have to your advantage at any point during the game to spread rumors and take the blame off of yourself!
3. You are allowed to lie and improvise about **anything else** about your character (e.g.: if someone asks you about your character’s vacation to Mexico, you can’t lie and say you never went, but you can also talk about a vacation to Iceland to throw people off, even though Iceland is never mentioned on your card). This is also helpful for aiding your alibis and general backstory.
4. Do not reveal clues early. Wait until the appropriate round to reveal information about yourself. Your character information will tell you when to reveal certain bits of information.
5. You can collude and share information with other characters. But remember, you get more points if less people are accurately able to guess the murderer, so collude wisely. Trust no one.
6. **The murderer and victim know who they are**, so they will likely try to mislead you.
7. If you would like to bring a date to the murder mystery, that’s fine. This is a high school class reunion after all! So long as you are sharing one device/computer, that works well. If you want to have a “date” who is socially distanced from you, they are welcome to come and be a “guest” at the event. Please give them access to the Zoom backgrounds we sent you so they can also “dress” the part.
8. You are certainly welcome to come in costume as well. Since this is a Zoom event, you would not need to do that much to fit in with your part.
9. This event will take place at your 10-year high school reunion. Good ole Ida Wu High! Oh, how we missed you!