

Double Degree agreements will receive a specific communication.

Dear Colleagues,

these have been very challenging and unsettling months for all of us, as academic communities and as individuals concerned about the implications of this unprecedented situation on our work and home lives, and with all of us anxious to ensure the wellbeing of our families, friends and colleagues.

Events have been moving very rapidly and we have had to move equally rapidly, often with very little notice. In a really short time, we have had to move to remote working, continue to support our students and start online teaching and exams. Now we need also to start thinking about the beginning of the next academic year 2020/2021. It is for this reason that we are writing you, as fundamental partners in our exchange and international programs.

The latest information we received from our Ministry of Higher Education indicates that, most likely, all the teaching activities for the first (fall) semester of the next academic year will be online and, therefore, physical mobility (incoming and outgoing) will be certainly reduced, if not completely cancelled. If this indication was confirmed in the coming months, we would invite the students, who have chosen our University for their study abroad, to send us all their individual documents thus to proceed with their registration and to give them all the information needed to access online courses. As said, University of Udine is already offering online all the courses of this semester using the Microsoft Teams platform.

We are aware that physical mobility to other universities and countries is fundamental, not only from an academic perspective, but also socially and culturally. However, the health of our students and staff is, and will always be, our priority. Thus, the choice of offering online courses will reduce travelling and the danger of spreading COVID-19 allowing, in the meantime, the continuation of an effective and fruitful collaboration with our international partners as well as an international experience to our students. Alternatively, we suggest, when possible, to postpone the mobility period to the second (spring) semester, when we are sure physical mobilities will be possible again.

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