

Roma, 10 aprile 2020

To foreign students of the Engineering Faculty.

In this difficult moment, I believe it important to give the widest information on the new teaching methods in our faculty, in order to overcome any difficulties created by the sudden change of perspective that we are experiencing and to wipe out the rumors and fake news that can feed uncertainty - true, presumed or perceived - regarding the solutions already adopted and / or soon to be adopted.

In this message I will update you on graduation sessions, lessons, explanations, personal exams, group exams, administrative offices and international mobility.

Remote degree sessions are continuing according to the established schedule and seem to be reaching “normalcy.” In view of the postponement of the deadline for the extraordinary exam session to May 15, the administrative secretariat, also assisted by staff from the Presidency, will guarantee the completion of the degree documentation even if the last exam is taken immediately before the May session, provided that the application is submitted by the deadline of April 17 complete with all the required documentation (except for the last exam) and all fees paid. The postponement of the third installment of the fees arranged by the rector continues, for the graduating students, until the submission of the application to the secretariat, similarly to March graduating students.

Distance learning is underway. I sense a certain satisfaction from the students and also from the professors, despite the greater commitment required and the very tight turnover with which we were forced to switch.

I again ask everyone to report any problems. A section with tutorials and tips has been created on the faculty website to you with our IT tools: <https://www.ing.uniroma1.it/media-computer-to-teaching>. English translation and new "tips" will be added in the coming days. It is hardly necessary to note that improper (commercial or offensive) use of recordings of teachers' lessons constitutes a violation of art. 2.7 of the Sapienza Code of Ethics and will be communicated by me without delay to the Disciplinary Commission for the application of academic sanctions and to the Judiciary in the event of violations.

Individual oral exams (with or without exercises, formulas or graphs to be drawn in front of the teacher) are now possible. Attached are the University guidelines published on the Faculty website. It should be emphasized that the guidelines are more of a sort of guideline than a real regulation.

The commission alone is responsible for assessing the acquisition of the required knowledge and skills and for achieving the set objectives for teaching and for study courses: the goal is to train engineers, not give out certificates to hang on walls.

This assessment is in many cases progressive rather than concentrated at the time of the traditional examination. Therefore, it is not only conceivable, but even necessary, to say clearly that the University procedure or the more agile ones already developed by some of our area councils are only aids for the reasoning capacity of the teacher, who under his conscious



responsibility will know well how to regulate oneself and how to take into account, with the attention and availability that this terrible moment requires, the difficulties and needs of the examinee, if they are not artificial or pretentious. The student is required to comply with the duties set out in article 17 of the Student and Student Charter and the Sapienza Code of Ethics. The Student Guarantor prof. Isabella Chiarotto and the Dean are available to receive and promptly examine any reports of problems or anomalies from teachers and students, with anonymity guarantee when requested.

The exam session calendars are available on Infostud. Since March session has been extended up to May 15th, please keep checking on Infostud for possible changes/additional calls in the calendars.

Group exams, that is to say written tests for multiple students simultaneously, are still suspended. However, a new procedure has been defined and simulations are already running in order to test its effectiveness. I expect that we will shortly be ready to publish it and to resume also these types of exams

Administrative operations continue remotely with the personnel placed in “smart working”. The Presidency and the Office of the Didactic Manager are fully operational. The formation of the study plans and the definition of the 2020/21 “progress continue according to the scheduled deadlines with the aim of taking advantage of the contingent moment for a more in-depth critical analysis of the training offer. The contribution of student representatives will be greatly appreciated.

The internationalization office of the Faculty is carefully monitoring the problems of students abroad and foreign students in Italy. For any need, please use the usual telephone and telematic channels (mail and site). The staff is active remotely during office hours.

With great affection and with my best wishes for good health,