



POLITO update on current situation and plans for the 20/21 academic year

CRInt-Poli USP <crint.poli@usp.br>
Rascunho

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| Dear Partner,

We hope this email finds you well.

We are pleased to contact you with an update on our current situation and plans for the 20/21 academic year in light of the evolution of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In Italy, the situation has improved significantly and activities are gradually going back to normal. However, social distancing and strict sanitary measures will continue to be enforced in compliance with international and national recommendations until the end of the year.

Under the aforementioned circumstances, Politecnico di Torino is partially resuming on-campus research, educational and administrative activities in September. However, please be aware that some relevant restrictions on access to university classrooms and laboratories will be in place due to the public health emergency. Thus, the new academic year will start with blended teaching and learning formats by which students will only be allowed to attend some in-person classes (to this end, students will have to book their access to the campus a few days in advance).

At the same time, Politecnico di Torino confirms that all courses will also be offered entirely on-line to offer international students the possibility of attending them from their home countries.

Therefore, while we are pleased to welcome incoming mobility students and staff in the first semester, we fully understand if there is the wish to postpone mobility periods to the second semester due to concerns for international travel, border and health regulations – all subject to change without prior notice with the surge of new outbreaks. Particularly in the case of yearly mobility periods or in the case of Double Degree programs, students may wish to attend remotely during the first semester and then reach Politecnico di Torino for the second semester.

Similarly, if applicable, we suggest that our outgoing students are allowed to postpone their mobility period to the second semester or to benefit from on-line teaching during the first semester when a full-year mobility is planned. However, outgoing students can confirm their mobility period in the first semester if your institution is ready to accept them and classroom-based teaching is available.

All the above applies to the first and second level students (Bachelor and Master) while the mobility of PhD students will be managed on a case-by-case basis.

Eventually, we would like to share the following **safety measures applicable to all incoming and outgoing students and staff** as have been approved by Politecnico di Torino.

Politecnico di Torino takes very seriously all issues concerning the safety of its students both in terms of activities that take place within its premises as well as of those that will be carried out within the context of the mobility programs at EU and Non-EU Universities.

Students hosted at our university will be subject to safety measures fully compliant with Italian legislation, particularly in terms of risk assessment as well as of education and training. We, thus, consider appropriate reciprocal measures

are to be adopted by host Universities of the international exchanges aforementioned, even more so now in order to prevent any further COVID-19 outbreaks.

Outgoing students to be hosted at your University:

- will be informed and trained before departure by Politecnico di Torino on general risks at "country of destination" with the information available on institutional channels, as well as of risks associated with the activities they will carry out at host University;
- will be informed and trained before departure by Politecnico di Torino on the need to adopt COVID-19 prevention measures already in place in Italy as well as those of the host country;
- will agree and commit to complying with all COVID-19 prevention measures in place at Politecnico di Torino as well as those in place and communicated by the host University before departure.

Conversely, we expect the host University to:

- provide and adopt all preventive and safety measures to protect the health and safety of our students, assuming any risk assessment burden, even if only potential, to which students could be exposed to during their stay at host University;
- provide and ensure students with the training and information about the specific risks associated with the activities to be carried out at your premises as well as the places they will have access to;
- provide and ensure the information and training of students regarding the risks and measures taken by host University for the prevention of COVID-19.

At the same time, should any further measures be taken – be it at government and/or institutional level – before departure, we would greatly appreciate their immediate notification through the proper channels.

Best regards,

Francesca Verga

Vice Rector for International Affairs



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