

Statement by the Rector on the Measures Taken to End this Academic Year

First of all, I hope you are all in good health and that these very complicated circumstances are not making your day-to-day life even more difficult than expected. I would also like to express my gratitude for the solidarity, commitment and efforts shown by our entire community in making this University continue its academic, research, and administrative and management activities, by working online and remotely.

Given the enormous possibility of the situation of isolation being extended to after spring break, and that all activities will be resumed progressively, the Governing Team, alongside the directors of each of our teaching centres, has decided to adopt a series of measures concerning the end of this academic year as a way to offer guarantees to all students, lecturers, and administration and services staff who directly or indirectly are involved in academic activities. In this sense, I would like to inform you that:

1. The UAB Governing Team, alongside each centre's management teams, terminates all on-site teaching for the remainder of the 2019/20 academic year's second semester, and agrees that all remaining academic activities will take place online.
2. The Governing Team is in the process of drafting a framework document with general instructions that each centre will need to adapt to its own characteristics. This document, which will include general instructions on the academic calendar, teaching, evaluation, study guides, final projects and work placements, will be passed in the Governing Council's next extraordinary session.
3. Although it is being considered to maintain an evaluation period for second semester subjects from mid-June to mid-July, lecturers must work in accordance with their centres' directors to create an online evaluation plan in case the healthcare crisis makes it impossible to resume any on-site activities. The UAB's ICT services have been working very efficiently throughout this period, and will continue to do so by providing all the support needed to complete these tasks.
4. The Governing Team is fully aware of the fact that some students, for a variety of reasons, do not have access to all the tools needed to follow their studies online. The University is studying mechanisms by which to ensure the continuity of all students who find themselves in these circumstances. Therefore, it is recommended that all those in need of assistance contact their course coordinator or the dean's office of their centre.

The concretion of these measures and any other which may be taken will be communicated to each university group through the adequate channels.

I would like to reiterate my appreciation for the effort everyone is making in this complex and exceptional situation, which demonstrates that we are capable of overcoming scenarios never before encountered. Now is the moment to stay positive, and I would like to encourage you to face the rest of the second semester with the hope of seeing each other very soon!

Before ending, I would like to wish a quick recovery to all those who have fallen ill to the virus and to those with family members affected by it.

Margarita Arboix
Rector of the UAB

Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès), 1 April 2020