

## Information about COVID-19

The Covid 19 pandemic is causing uncertainty worldwide and, due to travel restrictions and the necessary safety and hygiene regulations, also has an impact on the running of our program offerings. However, TU Wien has adapted to these challenges and we continue to offer our postgraduate programs: our courses are offered either in face-to-face form at TU Wien, in hybrid form (i.e. classes for those who are able to travel, online classes for participants unable to join on site), or completely in distance learning, always based on the current regulations. Of course, face-to-face classes are always held in compliance with comprehensive safety and security measures, and teachers and participants always receive up-to-date detailed information prior to the respective module.

We sincerely hope that we will soon be able to start again with the usual face-to-face teaching and that we will be able to welcome all CEC students personally at TU Wien and the Continuing Education Center, as our programs live from personal exchange.

## How does COVID-19 influence postgraduate courses?

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### Are changes due to COVID-19 to be expected with regard to the start of courses in spring 2021?

Our courses which are scheduled to start in spring 2021 are currently being planned in classroom form. In case a switch to distance learning is necessary due to the COVID 19 crisis, as many courses as possible will be held in online format. Many of our teachers have already adapted and optimized their course content for Distance Learning. We are therefore convinced that we can guarantee you high quality teaching in both face-to-face and online teaching. By switching to Distance Learning in case of an emergency, we also ensure that our courses can start and that your study progress is not delayed.

Because face-to-face teaching is an important element of our courses, it is our goal to use distance learning only when circumstances require it and to hold the teaching in presence as far as the regulations of the Federal Government and the Rectorate make this possible. As a matter of principle, our programs are not designed as online programs and we are aware that the exchange of information between participants and networking among them is essential for the learning experience in each program. However, we can guarantee high quality teaching, regardless of whether the classes are taught in classroom or distance learning.

### Will the switch to distance learning affect my degree?

No. Delivering the course units in online or face-to-face format will not affect your degree, as the scope, quality and content of the courses will remain unchanged.

### Are online teaching and classroom teaching taught by the same lecturers?

As far as possible, there will be no change in the faculty due to the switch to online teaching. Many of our lecturers have already adapted and optimized their teaching content for distance learning. We are therefore convinced that we can guarantee you high-quality teaching in both face-to-face and online teaching. If, in individual cases, a change of lecturer is necessary, the teaching will be taken over by lecturers of equal quality.

### **How does the current situation influence the application and admission process?**

The COVID 19 crisis has no effect on the application and admission process. You can submit your application online and send us the required application documents by e-mail. The admission interview is currently conducted primarily via video telephony.

The dates of our online info sessions are published on our website. Our team is also available for personal consultations by phone, e-mail or video conference.

### **Can I postpone my start scheduled in Spring 2021 due to the current situation?**

By switching to distance learning or hybrid scenarios, we are well prepared for possible restrictions in autumn and are confident that we can offer you a high-quality program, regardless of whether it can be in classroom form or whether it has to be partially switched to distance learning. You will find the deadline for postponing your participation in the course in your participation contract. The program team will also be happy to answer any questions you may have.

### **Due to the current situation, will my scholarship remain valid for a start in Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 if I postpone my participation?**

The scholarships awarded are only valid for the start of the program announced in each case. If you postpone your participation, you will need to reapply for a scholarship. The call periods and application deadlines for scholarships will be published on the program websites.

### **Which COVID-19 measures are prescribed by the TU Wien for classroom teaching and exams?**

The TU Wien has taken numerous measures to guarantee safe studying. In addition to general prevention and hygiene measures (minimum safety distance, mandatory wearing of an FFP2 mask, contact management, etc.), testing will also be mandatory for face-to-face classes and exams as of the beginning of May. Thus, when entering the TU Wien, an officially recognized proof of a negative test result for SARS-CoV-2 must be presented. The testing obligation applies to you as a student as well as to our lecturers and exam supervisors.

### **Which COVID-19 measures are prescribed by the authorities?**

Information for the higher education sector is summarized on the website of the Ministry of Science: <https://www.bmbwf.gv.at/en.html>

Daily updated information on the worldwide course of the disease can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health: <https://www.sozialministerium.at/en.html>

Coronavirus information campaign <https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/>

## **How does COVID-19 influence the participation of international students in courses?**

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### **May I currently enter Austria?**

Please enquire at the Austrian consulate or embassy in your country. You can also find current information on the website of the Ministry for European and International Affairs:

<https://www.bmeia.gv.at>

### **What happens in case of visa delays?**

Please contact your program team if the start of the course is approaching and you have not yet received your visa. We will do our best to assist you in this process. If your process cannot be accelerated, or if you have submitted your application late, please contact us so that we can try to find an individual solution.

### **What happens if I cannot travel to a module during the course, but the module is held in classroom form at the TU Wien?**

Depending on the topic the lecture can be carried out in a hybrid teaching format. If you are prevented from travelling to Vienna due to Covid-19, but the module takes place in Vienna as planned, we will try to make it possible for you to catch up on the course in the following round, as part of another course or via Distance Learning.