



*Dear teachers, technical, administrative and library staff,  
Dear students,*

The Italian Prime Minister issued a new Decree overnight on 8 March 2020. The Decree contains new provisions to control the COVID-19 outbreak throughout the country, with specific measures for the Lombardy Region and other Provinces.

For these areas, the new Prime Minister's Decree confirms the suspension of all teaching and curricular activities in class until 3 April 2020 (subject to weekly reviews), without prejudice to distance-learning activities. The above suspension does not apply to postgraduate medical schools, specific training courses in general medicine, and the activities of trainees in the health professions, if authorized by the host institutions.

Research, technical and administrative activities are not suspended, subject to strict compliance with safety and public health rules and to the limits provided on the University website.

More specifically, it should be noted that the Prime Minister's Decree did not provide for the suspension of activities, and that commuting is allowed. Therefore, you can go to work - just remember to carry your university badge with you as proof.

However, in this difficult situation the University, in agreement with the other Rectors in the areas affected by the new Prime Minister's Decree, intends to:

- further expand smart working, without prejudice to services;
- encourage the use of accrued annual leave, as suggested by the Prime Minister's Decree of 8 March 2020;
- further enhance the use of digital devices, wherever possible;
- limit public services to strict necessity.

Specific provisions will follow.

However, distance-learning services must be ensured as already notified (lessons, exams and theses). Given the extension of restrictive measures, all our teachers will have to provide students with online training, for the sake of their educational path.

Please find below the guidelines for key university activities:

- teaching activities (lessons, exams and graduation sessions) will only be carried out online. Exam commissions will meet on the University premises in compliance with health and safety rules (minimum distances) provided by the Prime Minister's Decree;
- Research, technical and administrative activities will continue on the University premises, in compliance with the restrictions and safety measures set out on our website. All University facilities remain open to authorized users. Thesis internships and external internships are authorized, subject to approval by the host institution;
- the meetings of academic bodies will only be held online;
- study and computer rooms are closed;



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- all public events are suspended;
- all the services required for the performance of key University activities, as previously identified, will be ensured.

Please check the University website for more operational details and for constant updates based on the provisions of competent Authorities.

At this difficult time, I would like to thank all the University staff, all students, PhD students and fellows for their efforts, in keeping with emergency measures. Let's join forces and we'll come out stronger together.

A special thought goes to all the doctors and researchers, postgraduate medical students and health workers who are working in hospitals with courage and dedication. There are no words to express our gratitude.

Best regards,  
Elio Franzini