



University of Zagreb - School of Medicine

Dean: Professor Marijan Klarica, MD, PhD



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Dean's Announcement

A month and a half after the earthquake and in the context of the relaxation of anti-epidemic measures, I would like to give our students and faculty information that should make it easier for all of us to bring this academic year to an end.

Although the buildings of the basic science departments and the premedical campus at the Šalata premises, together with the Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, have suffered considerable damage, the UZSM's management is investing maximum efforts in undertaking extensive repairs to return them to their previous function by the beginning of the next academic year.

Owing to the huge efforts of our IT Department, all communication has been promptly brought up to its optimal state and has been functioning flawlessly.

In record time, through the commitment of our LMS team, the LMS online learning system has been upgraded multiple times and today meets a very high standard and allows different forms of communication and online instruction. Additionally, extensive support has been created in the form of tutorials and texts. System upgrades and improvements continue to be continuously implemented.

Exams have been organized in their online format since Monday, 11 May 2020, and have been very favourably evaluated by both students and teachers in the first three days.

The student offices, UZSM's administrative services and the Central Medical Library will temporarily be relocated to Šalata 2 until the repairs on the main administrative building are completed.

At the UZSM's Academic Assembly sessions, several decisions relevant for the teaching activities in these conditions were adopted:

- The teaching activities that can be adapted to the online form of instruction shall be carried out online until further notice;
- The departments are obligated to upload teaching materials on the LMS, using PowerPoint presentations, video lectures and/or tutorials. Additionally, it is suggested to maintain contact with students through webinars or other interactive methods;
- In accordance with the decision adopted by the Dean's Executive Board, and provided that epidemiological measures allow for it, it is predicted that the practical forms of lessons will commence on 1 June 2020;
- The departments are obligated to formulate a plan and schedule for the compensation of the practical forms of lessons that could not have been organized online and which represent an essential part of the medical education. This primarily applies to clinical courses, starting with Clinical Propaedeutics;
- The obligation to organize both the written and oral part of an exam is no longer in effect.



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Each department may decide to organize a written part of the exam and, in those cases, the written part is assessed descriptively (Pass/Fail basis) while the numerical grade is given based on the oral part of the exam;

- Up until 1 June 2020 (when traditional practical lessons are predicted to begin), all exams shall be held online in accordance with the Online Exam Regulations and Guidelines adopted by the UZSM's Academic Assembly;
- If permitted by the epidemiological situation, it will be possible to organize traditional exams after 1 June 2020. Technical details and measures will be available to faculty and students at a later date through the LMS and UZSM website;
- In order to keep the circumstances of exam taking standardized, the courses that begin implementing online exams shall use that exam format during the summer exam term as well. During the autumn exam term (if permitted by the epidemiological situation), those courses may hold traditional exams;
- The courses that begin with exams in a traditional format after 1 June 2020 (as is predicted) shall not hold online exams (unless the epidemiological situation considerably deteriorates and prevents the implementation of traditional exams);
- The course coordinators who had to cancel their exam terms due to the epidemiological situation have, in cooperation with student representatives, proposed new exam terms which were adopted by the UZSM's Academic Assembly and entered into the ISVU system and are, thus, visible to students;
- It was suggested to the departments to open additional exam terms, either in advance or as the situation demands;
- For transparency purposes, the summer exam terms shall be published on the School's website as a separate document;
- Students who gain at least 45 ECTS credits shall be eligible for enrolment into a higher year of studies;
- The graduation exam shall be held in the traditional manner, if permitted by the epidemiological situation.

In case of any ambiguities or issues, students should contact their representatives or the student representative at the Dean's Executive Board. If necessary, they may also contact the heads of departments, the heads of student offices or the pertinent vice-dean.

I hope that we will successfully bring this extremely demanding academic year to a conclusion and create the conditions to enter the next year with renewed energy and optimism to restore business as usual.

Your Dean
Professor Marijan Klarica, MD, PhD