OPERATIONAL INDICATIONS ABOUT EXAMS, GRADUATION SESSIONS AND INTERNSHIPS

For the benefit of our international students who do not speak or read Italian well, I will summarize below some of the operational indications that have been delivered to professors and students of the University of Siena in the previous days.

Let me first introduce the topics by emphasizing that in the last few days the Italian Government has issued several acts, each one containing increasingly restrictive measures to the mobility of people in order to contrast the COVID-19 spreading. These measures inevitably have an impact on our activities, determining the need of adjusting our decisions according to the new scenario.

Let me also add that our primary goal is that of ensuring safe environments and conditions for all students of the University of Siena, explicitly by avoiding any type of aggregation of people in classrooms, libraries, reading rooms etc. At the same time, according to the guidelines received from the Minister for Education, we are committed to generate the least possible discomfort to our students and we are all engaged to provide the opportunity to follow the lessons using digital platforms.

Graduation sessions.
They will only be held in live streaming on digital platforms. Students will be connected online with the examining Board, which will also be connected online. Parents, relatives and friends will also have the opportunity to follow the live streaming of the defense. Detailed instructions will be sent to all students registered for the defense. In the case a student does not want to or cannot hold her/his defense via live streaming, supplementary sessions will be organized once the emergency is over.

Exams.
Consistently with the recommendations of the Minister, and if feasible, professors are invited to hold exams via live streaming, skype or any other kind of digital platform. Professors will communicate to the students this opportunity. Only in very exceptional cases, when the number of students registered for an exam is limited, and based on the judgement of the professor, exams can be hold in presence, provided that the safety measures established to contrasting crowding are enforced. In this case, professors can produce a detailed program in which students may convene alone or in very in small groups at specific hours. Written exams “in presence” cannot be held, but professors may explore alternative methods to carry out those kinds of exams on digital platforms. For those whose exams cannot be held in any of the above options and that will be cancelled, supplementary sessions will be established once the emergency is over.
Internships
Internships are suspended by the decree of the Prime Minister.
Any measure necessary to recover them will be taken once the emergency is finished.

Siena, 12th March 2020

The Rector
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