

COVID-19 UPDATE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

Dear students

We hope this email finds you well.

As you are currently in the process of planning your academic career, we realise that many of you wonder how the start of the next academic year will look like at Faculty of Engineering at VUB.

Our primary goal is to open for the autumn term 2021-2022 for full-degree and mobility students with courses on campus, whilst respecting all sanitary guidelines and social distancing measures.

It is important to note that we expect **all students** to be physically present in Brussels and follow classes on campus from 27 September 2021*.

However, at this stage, we cannot foresee when travel and mobility restrictions will be lifted. Rest assured that we are continuously working to find and to implement solutions for all international students.

International students who are not able to travel to Brussels in September 2021 due to Belgium's [entry ban](#) ** that entered into force as of 26 June 2021, **and only those students**, will have the possibility to follow courses online through a combination of online materials and recordings, blended learning and online teaching. This way, we can ensure an optimal study experience and avoid disruptions in the study programme. The faculty and teaching staff will offer their full support.

In addition, and for those courses where this is found relevant and implementable (e.g. laboratory-based courses), peer guidance by fellow students that will be on campus will be available to those who will start with studying remotely.

The safety of our community is of key importance, and we hope that by offering this flexible approach we will be able to offer our students an excellent study experience at VUB for the year to come.

We will keep updating you on the progress of our efforts and policies, and we remain available to answer any further questions or concerns at short notice (ir.mobility@vub.be).

Finally, we would like to thank you for your patience and understanding, and we wish you all the best during these challenging times.

Kind regards

Prof. F. Berghmans, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at VUB

**Except for students Photonics Engineering enrolled in the Digital Track*

*** Please regularly check the countries listed, as the list is subject to change*