



## **Information 09 / 2019-2020**

### **Dear students and academic community**

We are all well aware that the predictions, which we had made, when we suspended on-campus teaching activities, between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, to resume classes on March 30, will unfortunately not materialize, so we have to adapt the academic calendar to the circumstances of the current state of emergency, in which the country lives and which, certainly, will be extended, beyond April 2, the term set by presidential decree.

Thus, after consulting the various academic management bodies at UFP, there was a unanimous understanding that:

1. We must extend the pedagogical regime of online teaching and training, in the same way as it is taking place (asking teachers to improve their teaching methods and innovate, whenever possible, in materials to support students' learning), until it is declared by the Government that the conditions of safety and public health are met, for the return to on-campus activities.
2. We will maintain our current administrative calendar, regarding deadlines and conditions for the settlement of tuition fees for the various study cycles, as well as the academic calendar (interrupting academic activities, as planned, over Easter), however the reprogramming of practical, laboratory and clinical classes for the months of May, June and July, will be unavoidable. It is most probable that, based on the most recent Government projections, we will only be able to return to face-to-face teaching, for a few days in May.
3. The continuous assessment regime should be maintained, as per the academic calendar; each Faculty, in conjunction with the teachers and considering the specificity of their study cycles, will define their schedules, processes, means and assessment models suitable for distance learning and teaching, in order to guarantee the indispensable academic reliability and authenticity.
4. Each Faculty, according to the nature of its teaching programs and curricula, must organize its calendar of end of semester exams and annual appeal exams, as foreseen, in June and July, even with the adaptations in their respective exam maps, which may be required by the academic recovery of clinical, practical and lab classes. Such adaptations may require exams not only during working hours but also after work up to the limit of the university's daily working hours (23 hours).



5. If necessary, the Faculties will be able to use the first three weeks of the month of September to complete the hours of practical and / or clinical teaching and / or internships, which have to be recovered, due to the suspension of classroom teaching which is mandatory for those classes and activities, or to organize some end-of-semester or special exams, in addition to the special exams, which are already part of the current academic schedule.

6. In view of the necessary adjustments and adaptations described in the previous numbers, the administrative schedule to be applied to current UFP students, namely, for renewing enrollments / enrollments for 2020/2021, will be duly changed. However, the administrative schedule already disclosed for applications and admissions for new students will not change.

7. The beginning of the 2020/2021 academic year remains on the date already set in the respective academic calendar for new students, while, if necessary, the beginning of the academic year for current and continuing students might be delayed by one week.

The Rectorate thanks the entire community (students, teachers and non-teachers) and the families of all for the continuity of the understanding they have shown and the collaboration they have given us, in crossing the “storm caused by the pandemic and the turmoil it has turned all of our lives into; let us hope that just for a few more weeks.

The Rectorate wishes everyone health and tranquility, in the protection of your homes, with the hope that you are adopting the personal preventive and containment conducts, indispensable, so that we can all reach a safe harbour.

Porto, on March 25, 2020.

The Rector