USP instructions during coronavirus situation

DECIDED GUIDELINES

AUTUMN 2020

The USP Operational Collaboration Forum (OCF) and the board of the USP Master’s Programme have decided the following (27.5. / 4.6.):

- All core courses of the USP programme will be planned to be taught remotely in Autumn 2020. Responsible teachers will coordinate the planning of each course and the collaboration between courses. If the covid-19 situation changes, teaching can be returned on campus.
- The board emphasizes that the programme can only decide for the courses USP is responsible of, and not for example all study track courses.
- All orientation activities by the USP programme will be organized remotely. Some informal activities can be changed face-to-face if the situation allows. Activities by the student association Mesta ry will be coordinated together with the programme. The orientation schedule will be updated on the Instructions for Students website during the summer.

Updated guidelines (latest update: 30.06.)

- In the USP study programme it is possible for the newly admitted students to defer the beginning of their studies. Deferral requires that the student accepts their study place by the given deadline. If a student wants to defer the beginning of their studies or have questions about deferral, tuition fees or scholarships, they should contact University’s Admission Services admissions@helsinki.fi.

EARLIER GUIDELINES (SPRING 2020)

The board of the USP Master’s Programme has decided the following (19.3.):

- Students, teachers and other staff of the Master’s Programme in Urban Studies and Planning (USP) follow the instructions of their respective universities.
- At the University Helsinki, USP also follows the guidelines of its administrative faculty (Faculty of Science) as much as it is possible in each USP faculty. Deputy leader of the program in UH is Terhi Ainiala and deputy planning officer in UH is Katarina Kosonen.
- All teaching is moved online for the rest of this semester. Courses will be organized as specified in this document: https://helsinki.fi.my.sharepoint.com/portal/personal/miaputto_ad_helsinki_fi/0OxO7NvEavOxvFLAH42vWOwBpoka_JSHQYCJnohIvkgSO7e-vIBeeX
- Teaching development days (Bootcamp) will be postponed from June to August
- USP jory at UH will gather as agreed online/in person: 2.4., 5.5., 4.6. Master’s Theses are accepted in all three meetings. 
- Master’s thesis seminar will continue via Moodle as planned before (responsible person: Pia Bäcklund). Students have been encouraged to contact their supervisors and/or thesis contact person in their faculty if they face new challenges.
- Study guidance is organized remotely

Updated guidelines (latest update: 7.5):

- Additional board meeting will be organized on June 25th. Last day to submit thesis documents to the education coordinator (Mia) is June 17th.
- USP jory has named the following deputy board members: Laura Kolbe (Faculty of Arts), Pia Olsson (Faculty of Arts), Heikki Setälä (Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences), Eeva Luhtakallio (Faculty of Social Sciences)
- The USP programme will follow the recovery plan for university operations (published 5.5.). Study counselling by the education coordinator (Mia) will continue to be online at least until 31.7.2020.

IMPORTANT LINKS


CONTACT

- Director of the programme: Pia Bäcklund (pia.backlund@helsinki.fi / +358503633518), vice-director: Terhi Ainiala (terhi.ainiala@helsinki.fi)
- Planning officer: Mia Jaatsi (kumpula-student@helsinki.fi, mia.jaatsi@helsinki.fi / +358504489275), vice-planning officer: Katarina Kosonen (katarina.kosonen@helsinki.fi)
- Teacher-coordinator: Michail Galanakis (michail.galanakis@aalto.fi / +358504720765)
LET'S STAY TOGETHER

The situation is challenging, but let’s remember that we are in this together. We would like to encourage you to find alternative ways to stay in touch with each other. Why not gather for a virtual coffee break in Zoom? You can use the student email list (usp-list@helsinki.fi) or teacher’s list (usp-teachers@helsinki.fi) to announce about possible online gatherings.


Please don't hesitate to contact us - we are here for you!