

FAQs for Visiting Students at VECO

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What are the current measures taken by Vesalius College regarding Covid19?

Vesalius College is closely monitoring the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As the situation continues to change rapidly, our top priority remains the safety and well-being of our community. Please note that due to the current situation, Vesalius College lectures are currently taking place online.

Vesalius College (VeCo) has also decided to move its undergraduate classes online for the entire first semester of the upcoming 2020-21 academic year, until January 2021. With this move, VeCo aims to accommodate its applicants from abroad, who are unsure to be able to travel to Belgium or get a travel visa in time.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at Vesalius.visiting@vub.be.

Virtual Education Programme experience – What is it?

The Virtual Education Programme is designed for visiting students who wish to earn credits and expand their knowledge by completing one or more classes online within a European academic framework. By joining the 'Virtual Education Programme', you will get access to all of the online classes and you would benefit from direct interaction with the professor. In essence, you will be joining the class in-person, albeit from your own location! After passing all the assignments, you will be awarded academic credits. You will also be able to join all online events and social mixers that will be organised.

I completed the VeCo Study Abroad Application for Fall 2020. Given the current circumstances, I would like to defer my application for Spring 2021/Fall 2021. What should I do?

Please contact the Study Abroad office in your home university and external provider, if applicable (ISEP, EPA, Amizade, etc.) and inform them about your interest to defer for Spring 2021. Then, send an email to VeCo Study Abroad Office - vesalius.visiting@vub.be - about your deferment. In this way, we will be able to keep you updated with the latest developments for your semester abroad in Spring 2021/Fall 2021 (Pre-registration for classes, housing, internships, visa procedure and orientation.)

Please note that if you have completed the Vesalius College Study Abroad Application for Fall 2020, there is no need to complete the Spring 2021 application. If you haven't applied, please apply [here](#) by November 15.

I applied for a semester abroad at VECO for Fall 2020 but I am interested in taking some online classes (Virtual Education Programme). What should I do?

As you might know, Vesalius College will offer online classes for Fall 2020. If you would like to take some classes, please contact us at edgar.felix.vargas@vub.be and margherita.pace@vub.be.

What is the current offering for the Virtual Education Programme in Fall 2020?

You can see the current offer on [here](#).

Will it be possible to enroll on a per-courses basis to the Virtual Education Programme?

Yes.

I applied for Fall 2020 to complete the Certificate Program in European Peace & Security Studies, will this still be available online in Fall 2020?

Yes. For more information about this certificate, please see [here](#).

Can I apply to study abroad at VECO for Spring 2021?

Yes! Non-partner universities students can apply directly on [here](#). If you are coming from a partner university, please check the internal procedure of your home university. Then, once we have received your nomination, we will send you the guidelines to apply.

I would like to schedule an appointment with a representative of Vesalius College, whom should I contact?

Please contact Edgar Felix at edgar.felix.vargas@vub.be and/or Margherita Pace at margherita.pace@vub.be.

What is the attendance policy for the virtual online classes?

Class attendance is mandatory. Please note that there might be national holidays in your home country differing from the Belgian holidays, attendance will still be required. For further details about national and academic holidays, please visit [the Academic Calendar](#).

Will there be virtual office hours?

Yes, students will be able to have an online meeting with instructors every two weeks and take this opportunity to ask any questions they might have about relevant assignments, clarifications and exams.

What will be the procedure for virtual final examinations?

Exams will take place through Canvas (Learning Education Platform) and Microsoft Teams. Technical support will be provided prior and during exams. Cheating in an online environment is considered as an examination offence. Exam activities will be monitored during examinations and all writing assignments will be processed through anti-plagiarism software.

Will virtual internships be available for Fall 2020?

Yes, Vesalius College has secured special agreements with the Brussels-based partners. As such, there will be partners accepting virtual agreements for Fall. The internship will be from 31st August to 4th December (single internship only, 150 hours minimum, 6 ECTS/3 US credits). If you wish to apply and would like to learn more about the Virtual Internship Programme, please contact internships@vesalius.edu, application deadline: June, 28. **IMPORTANT:** please consider the terms and conditions below before accepting a potential internship offer:

- Time difference, host organisations are located in Brussels, some extent of time flexibility may be required
- Payment policy: Vesalius College will proceed with potential internship interviews once full tuition payment has been received (non-refundable)
- Internship commitment is legal binding, once offer has been accepted, students may not withdraw from it and fees are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances. Students must submit their log of hours worked and a final report by December, 6.

Housing measures for Spring 2021

Vesalius College follows the Government guidelines in terms of health and safety in relation to housing. Homestay, independent housing and student residence are possible options for Spring 2021, further details will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact us at vesalius.visiting@vub.be.

Well-being

Vesalius College offers dedicated student support through the College Psychologist and the Special Needs Officer (advance registration required).

What if I am sick and I have the COVID-19 symptoms?

We understand that students might experience some difficulties in the event they test positive for COVID-19. In this case, students should inform VeCo Study Abroad Coordinators at their earliest convenience and special measures will be taken in order to support them.

IT Support

Vesalius College will guarantee continuous IT support throughout the Virtual Education Programme.

Will I still be liable to pay any fees if I cancelled my participation before the beginning of the Fall semester?

If you are coming from a non-partner university, you will not be liable for tuition fees if you cancelled before the beginning of the Fall semester. However, the application fee will not be reimbursed.

For students coming from partner universities or through external providers (ISEP, EPA, Amizade, etc.), please check with the Study Abroad Office at your home institution and provider.