

FAQ Faculty Welcome Sciences and Bioengineering Sciences – 14/09/2020

Questions sorted per topic:

1. Enrolment

- *I am reaching Brussels on 19/09. I will be in quarantine for the rest of September. How will I be able to complete my enrolment?*

The entire enrolment process is done online.

- *I'm having problems with the enrolment. Could you send me the details again by email?*
Please contact admissions@vub.be.

- *Is it necessary to make my university send a verification email for my diploma? I have a legalised certificate, can I send it to you from my email?*

Please check this with the VUB registration office: admissions@vub.be.

- *The website mentions that we should sign an online enrolment contract. How should I do this?*

Please check the manual:

https://student.vub.be/sites/vub/files/signing_the_online_enrolment_contract.pdf

2. Course registration

- *I am enrolled but have not been able to register through the online SelfService, what do I do?*

Check <https://student.vub.be/en/course-registration#how-to-register>. If you still have problems, please contact the Helpdesk Course Registration.

- *How should I know which courses to take in year 1 and which courses in year 2?*

This questions will be answered during your programme welcome.

- *When registering for courses, should we pay attention to which semester they are in?*

Yes, make sure to have a balance between semester 1 and semester 2 courses, so one semester is not much heavier than the other.

- *May I take 33 credits in the first semester?*

Yes, but again, make sure to have a balance between both semesters.

3. Online classes and timetables

- *I will still be in quarantine when classes start, because getting my visa has been a very long process. How do I know if my classes will be live-streamed online?*

Make sure to register your courses, even if you cannot attend them in person. That way you will have access to our Canvas learning platform, where all information concerning the courses will be shared.

- *I am still waiting for the visa process to get over and will reach only by mid of October, will I be able to compensate the classes or will the classes be available online?*

All programmes offer flexibility to its international students given the current situation, but make sure to check with your programme what their cut-off date for arrival is. Please make sure to complete your enrolment and course registration, and you will receive all information concerning live streaming etc. via the Canvas learning platform.

- *I won't be able to arrive until November. How will I manage practical sessions?*
You should contact your programme coordinator to check if such a late arrival can be accommodated.
 - *Can I take the entire semester online?*
Some programmes (e.g. Computer Science, Oceans & Lakes, Biology) offer this possibility, but other don't. If you are not sure, please check with your programme coordinator.
 - *In the time table, only one group (e.g. blue) has on-campus classes. So for the orange groups, we should attend classes on campus only when the day has an orange colour?*
Correct, but only if 'rotation' is mentioned in the timetable. If it says 'on campus', all students can attend the class, irrespective of their colour (orange/blue).
 - *What about students who have classes at other universities as well? How do we know about the campus rules, for example?*
You will receive more information during your programme welcome.
 - *Where can we find the timetable for the elective courses?*
After selecting your level, faculty and programme you get to a new page. On this page you can select a 'student set'. Here you will find a separate schedule for your electives. Eg: biology --> <https://splus.cumulus.vub.ac.be/SWS/v3/evenjr/EN/STUDENTSET/Default.aspx>
 - *What does WPO mean?*
WPO means practical (lab, exercise session, etc.).
4. Pre-assessment test Molecular Biology
- *I have received an admission letter, but have not been able to register yet. Will this effect my pretest?*
This is not a problem. All accepted students can take part in the pretest. More information will be provided during the programme welcome.
 - *Can we be forced to take another elective – and drop some of the already selected – if we don't pass the pretest?*
Yes, depending on the result of the pretest, you will be asked to take certain electives now, and other only later during your Master.
5. Student Administration
- *When should we pay for the tuition fee?*
As soon as you receive an invoice.
 - *How should I access my VUB email?*
Check our website (<https://student.vub.be/en/ict#netid-and-email>) and the etools video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bycNPe-0-ZU&feature=youtu.be>
 - *I haven't received my Student ID card Registration Certificate yet. I sent my Belgian address 10 days ago, but no news yet.*
Be a bit patient, once your registration is fully finalised it might take some weeks to receive your student card.
 - *Is there some kind of reimbursement if we have to travel to Ghent and Antwerp every week?*
Yes, for degree-seeking students travel to our interuniversity partners is reimbursed. More info during your programme welcome.

- *Where can I find the presentation of the general info session?*

The direct link is

https://student.vub.be/sites/vub/files/full_od2020.general_info_session_q_a.final_.pdf

6. Student Services

- *Will I be able to quarantine in my VUB room?*

Yes, this is not a problem.

- *I want to buy a laptop. Is there any loan or something like that to help me?*

Our 'Social, legal & financial support' team might be able to help you:

<https://student.vub.be/en/social-service#contact>. Also this might be interesting:

<https://student.vub.be/en/ict#hard--and-software>

- *I'm moving to Belgium by the end of this month. Is there a programme that can help me find accommodation?*

Have a look at this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4HyyC66xdU&t> and this website: <https://student.vub.be/en/housing#housing-in-brussels>

- *Can I use the library whenever I want?*

For the moment, the library is accessible under certain conditions. More info and keep up to date via <https://www.vub.be/en/backtocampus#campus-facilities>.

7. Social

- *Could you share the links to individual programme Facebook groups, please?*

Oceans & Lakes: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/154412924589710>

Biology: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VUB.Biology>

TROPIMUNDO: <https://www.facebook.com/TROPIMUNDO-213847852123411>

Urban Studies : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/urbanstudiesbrussels>

Molecular Biology: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IPMB.VUB.Alumni.Network>