

March 8, 2021

Dear TAU community,

We hope this finds you well, and that you and your family are all in good health.

After a year in which the campus has been (almost) empty of students, and many of the University employees have been forced to work from home, we are finally beginning to resume a (more or less) regular routine of studies and work. It is our intention to complete this step of coming back to campus immediately following the Passover vacation. We hope this will be the beginning of the end of the difficult health, economic, and social crisis we have experienced in the past year.

We feel a sense of celebration with the onset of the return to routine, and are sure that you do too. Above all, we hope this routine will not be interrupted in the future due to deterioration in the morbidity situation in Israel. In any case, we will do our best – first and foremost for our students – to facilitate the return to campus, and make it as smooth and comfortable as possible.

Below, we clarify the guiding principles of the back-to-campus plan, while detailed instructions will be sent shortly, and to the extent necessary, separately, to every sector of the campus community.

1. As a rule, entry and activity on campus will be allowed in accordance with the purple tag format, except for specific areas which will be designated for operating in accordance with the green tag format, as clarified below. The requirements for maintaining social distance, intensified hygiene, and mask wearing will remain in effect as they were beforehand.
2. Administrative work and research on campus will proceed according to the purple tag format to which we have become accustomed, with an important change: the restriction for congregating will hereafter be for 20 participants in a closed space and 50 participants in open space.
3. Learning and teaching on campus will be conducted in two formats:
 - a. The purple tag format: practical instruction, teaching labs, workshops, and spending time in libraries will be allowed.
 - b. The green tag format: frontal teaching of vaccinated and Covid-recuperating individuals will be allowed in a classroom or auditorium, with the space of a seat separating one student from another, and in any case, with no more than 300 participants in one space. The rest of the students will be able to watch the classes online.
4. Any other activity not included in the purple tag format, such as conferences and lingering at catering sites, will be allowed in accordance with the green tag format.

5. At the entrance to auditoriums or classrooms operating in accordance with the green tag format, it will be the responsibility of the Engineering and Maintenance Division and the Maintenance Staff of the Faculty buildings to affix appropriate signs to clarify that entry is permitted solely to green tagholders. Likewise, the rules for work and study in the framework of the green tag will be specified.
6. In order to allow faculty members and students a reasonable amount of time to adapt, the return to routine will be gradual, with special emphasis placed on bringing first year students to campus.
7. Since it is our intention to make learning accessible to all of our students (including those who are unable to come to the campus), the scope of frontal teaching will be determined by the number of classrooms in which there is equipment suitable to this accessibility. In the last few months, we have increased the number of such classrooms, and we already have the capacity to provide a solution for a considerable number of courses. We are continuing to increase the number of classrooms to be equipped as necessary. In the near future, the academic units will update students regarding the format for classes which can be expected to be conducted with frontal instruction.

With our best wishes for a smooth and easy return to campus, and your good health,

Ariel Porat
President

Mark Shtaif
Rector

Gady Frank
Director General

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