# PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE FOR COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION AT VENICE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



Information for students and professors of the Globalization Program | Second Semester 2021-22 | V9 – May 2, 2022

Guiding Principles	1
Introduction	2
Entering Italy	4
The EU Digital COVID Certificate/Green Pass	5
Recognized Equivalent Certification of Vaccination	6
General Practice On and Off Campus During Your Semester at VIU	7
If You Develop Any COVID Symptoms	11
Quarantine Rules for Close Contacts	12
Additional Precautionary Measures Introduced by VIU	13
Conduct	13
Co-Responsibility Pact:	14

# **Guiding Principles**

The health, safety, and well-being of our VIU community is the primary focus that guides the decisions of VIU relative to COVID-19.

VIU decisions regarding activities during the 2nd semester of the Globalization Program are informed by Italian national legislation, Veneto Regional legislation, Italian ministerial guidance and the recommendations of the scientific community.

All students, professors, staff, and participants must agree to the co-responsibility pact in order to attend on-campus academic activities and VIU events.



In addition to the legal requirements for entry to Italy, and the applicability of the EU Digital Covid Certificate / Green Pass, or equivalent recognized certification, in the interest of the health and safety of the VIU community, VIU is asking all students, professors, and staff of the Globalization Program to get a COVID-19 test<sup>1</sup> before your first day of attendance in the program (within 72 hours for a PCR, or 24 hours for an antigen test). You cannot attend classes or other activities on or off campus until you take a test and receive the results. Furthermore, FFP2 masks will be required during all classes and related activities.

#### Introduction

Italy is participating in EU initiatives to digitize documents to facilitate the safe movement of people within Italy and between EU countries.

- 1. The EU Digital COVID certificate (also frequently referred to as COVID Green Pass/Certificato Verde) is a digital document with a QR code, that provides evidence that a person has either:
  - been vaccinated against COVID-19
  - has recovered from COVID-19 in the past six months
  - received a negative test result

For more information on the EU Digital COVID certificate:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate en

The certificates issued by the health authorities of Canada, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom and the USA are recognized as equivalent to the Green Pass issued by the Italy and other EU countries. Certificates from other countries outside the EU may be considered valid if they contain specific data. See dedicated section below.

The EU Digital COVID Certificate, or equivalent, is required for entry into Italy and is required extensively in Italy for avail of services, including public transport, or participate in social activities, cultural activities, and to enter university premises. Consult the dedicated section for details.

2. EU Digital Passenger Locator Form (dPLF)

Passenger Locator Forms (PLFs) are used by public health authorities to facilitate contact tracing in case travelers are exposed to infectious disease during their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> PCR/molecular and antigen/lateral flow swab tests are acceptable

travel by plane, ship (cruise/ferry), rail, bus or automobile. Information that travelers provide in PLFs can be used by public health authorities in destination countries to rapidly contact travelers, with the goal of protecting the health of travelers' and their contacts, as well as preventing further spread of disease.



The EU Digital Passenger Locater Form is required to enter Italy.

(https://app.euplf.eu/#/)

#### Covid Tests

#### Rapid Antigen tests:

The rapid antigen test detects protein fragments specific to the Coronavirus. It requires a swab from the back of your nose or throat. Results are usually available within 30 mins.

Also known as lateral flow tests. In Italian: Tampone antigenico

Self-administered antigen tests are widely available, however they are not recognized in Italy as certified tests for quarantine/isolation purposes.

However, for the pre-arrival test requested by VIU fully vaccinated students and professors can take a self-administered test.

#### PCR tests:

The PCR test detects viral RNA (or genetic material) in early stage of infection. It also requires a swab from the back of your nose and/or throat. The swab must be analyzed in a lab and therefore results take several hours to be reported. Outside of hospital contexts it usually requires minimum 24 hours.

Also known as molecular tests. In Italian: Tampone molecolare

Antigen tests and PCR tests are both recognized by the Italian health authorities for the purposes of the EU Digital Covid Certficate / Green Pass and by VIU for your pre-arrival test.

In this document when the term "Covid test" is used, either the antigen or PCR test is valid, unless otherwise specified.

Rapid Saliva tests and serological antibody (blood) tests are not included in the term "Covid test" as used in this document, and are not valid for the purposes of equivalence to the EU Digital Covid Certificates / Green passes, for entry into Italy, or for access to the VIU facilities.

# Where to get at Covid test.<sup>2</sup>

# **Entering Italy**



The current measures are valid May 1 to May 31, 2022.

Travelers can enter Italy without being subject to quarantine if they provide all the following documents:

#### - Proof of full vaccination.

Accepted vaccines: vaccines approved <u>by the European Medicines</u>
<u>Agency</u> (EMA): Comirnaty (BioNTech and Pfizer), Nuvaxovid (Novavax),
Spikevax (Moderna), Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca), COVID19 vaccine
Janssen; <u>vaccines considered equivalent</u> in Italy: Covishield, Fiocruz, R-Covi.

Validity: 270 days (9 months) after the primary vaccination series is completed. Vaccination certificates with booster doses are valid until further notice.

**Note:** to access public places in Italy, certificates with a full primary vaccination series are valid for **6 months**.

Or

### **Proof of recovery from COVID-19.**

Validity: 180 days (6 months) from the first positive swab.

Or

A negative result to a pre-departure molecular test (valid 72 hours) or to a rapid antigen test (valid 48 hours).

These documents may be required for you to board your flight and/or may be checked by the Italian authorities on arrival.

If you fail to present these documents you may be refused boarding on your flight.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/covid-test

Travelers can provide proof of vaccination, recovery from COVID-19 or a negative test result with one of the following documents, meeting the requirements listed above:



- An 'EU Digital COVID Certificate' (EUDCC) or equivalent certificates;
- Equivalent <u>certificates of vaccination</u> in Italian, English, French, Spanish or German (documents in other languages must be accompanied by an official translation in Italian);
- Equivalent <u>certificates of recovery</u> from COVID-19 accompanied by an official translation in Italian.

Travelers who do not hold valid proof of vaccination, proof of recovery from COVID-19 or a negative test result must **self-isolate for 5 days**, at the address indicated on the Passenger Locator Form, and perform an antigen or molecular test at the end of the self-isolation period.

**Children younger than 6** are exempt from pre-departure testing requirements and from the obligation to self-isolate.

**Children aged 6 or older** must respect the same rules foreseen for adults. These rules are valid until 30 April 2022.

From May 1, 2022 the EU Digital <u>Passenger Locator Form (dPLF)</u><sup>3</sup> – is no longer required to enter Italy

For complete information on measures and restrictions, consult the official Foreign Ministry information <a href="here">here</a>, where you can take the official Foreign Ministry <a href="questionnaire">questionnaire</a> to understand the legal requirements for entry into Italy from your country.

# The EU Digital COVID Certificate/Green Pass is no longer required within Italy from May 1, 2022.

The only exception is for visiting hospitals and care homes in which the super green pass will be required until December 31.

For information on the governmental measures in place in Italy, consult the dedicated section on the VIU website:

https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/covid-19-governmental-restrictions-in-effect

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> EU Digital Passenger Locator Form platform <a href="https://app.euplf.eu/">https://app.euplf.eu/</a>

# **Recognized Equivalent Certification of Vaccination**

The certificates issued by the health authorities of Canada, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom and the USA are recognized as equivalent to the Green Pass issued by the Italian authorities and other EU countries.



Vaccination Certificates from other countries may be considered valid if they contain specific data:

- personal identification data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- data relating to the vaccine (name and lot);
- date(s) of administration of the vaccine;
- identification data of the body that issued the certificate (State, Health Authority).

#### **Important:**

Only EMA-approved vaccines are recognized:

- Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNtech);
- 2. Spikevax (Modern);
- 3. Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca);
- 4. Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).

The vaccination certificate can be in paper or digital format (on your phone), and must be in one of the following languages: Italian, English, French, Spanish. If the certificate is in any other language it must be accompanied by a sworn translation. The validity of recognized vaccination certificates is the same as for the COVID-19 Green Passes issued by the Italian state.

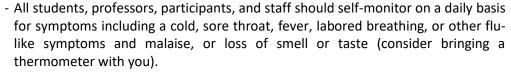
Certification of recovery from Covd-19 in the past 6 months must contain at least the following data:

- personal identification data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- information on the holder's previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, following a positive test (date of first positive swab);
- identification data of the body that issued the certificate (State, Health Authority).

If have been vaccinated abroad, and have a certificate of recovery or vaccination issued in your country of residence that is recognized as equivalent in Italy, but more than six months has elapsed since the completion of the vaccination cycle or from recovery, in order to avail of the services and activities for which the Super Green Pass is required, you can show a negative Covid Test result (taken within 48 hours for antigen tests, 72 hours for PCR).

This opportunity also applies to foreign citizens in Italy who have been vaccinated abroad with vaccines that have not been approved by the EMA or that are not currently recognized in Italy.

#### **General Practice On and Off Campus During Your Semester at VIU**





- Avoid touching your face.
- Maintain appropriate social distancing minimum 1 meter.
- Avoid hugging and hand-shaking.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or into your elbow. Dispose of the tissue immediately.
- As of May 1, 2022 masks are no longer required by law in indoor spaces, although recommended, with the following considerations:
   FFP2 masks will be required on public transport until June 15.
   FFP2 masks will be required also in cinemas, theatres, and other indoor entertainment and sporting venues but only until May 31, 2022.
   In other indoor scenarios masks are recommended but not legally required.

In the workplace, masks are no longer legally required but are recommended. Employers may decide to maintain Covid mitigation protocols that require staff to wear masks.

# Consider however that the VIU Protocols remain in place requiring masks indoors on our premises and specifically FFP2 masks during the academic activities.

- Install Immuni the official Covid-19 tracking app in Italy on your phone https://www.immuni.italia.it
- In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak at VIU or in Venice, cooperate with the authorities in contact and tracing operations.
- If you develop any symptoms that may be indicative of a Covid-19 infection, STAY HOME, (or in your accommodation) contact a doctor, or the health authorities.
   While waiting for further Health Authority decisions, you are required to self-isolate\*.
- If you are told to self-isolate, or put in quarantine you must notify immediately VIU (via email: <a href="mailto:covid19@univiu.org">covid19@univiu.org</a>)

#### Access to VIU on the campus on San Servolo island is not permitted if:

- you have a fever higher than 37.5 °C, a cough, or labored breathing;
- you have been instructed by the health authorities to quarantine or advised to self-isolate.



you know that you have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

#### What VIU is doing:

- VIU has drawn up the protocols, practices and guidelines in cooperation with health and safety consultants.
- VIU will carry out spot checks of Digital Covid Certificates/Green Passes as required by recent Italian legislation.
- All VIU offices, classrooms, and common areas will be cleaned and sanitized every morning.
- Gel hand sanitizer will be available in all offices, classrooms, seminar rooms, and conference halls.
- For academic programs VIU has reduced the capacity in all classrooms, seminar rooms, conference halls, the MacLab and PC room to 50% in order to guarantee adequate social distancing.
- The timetable of classes has been amended to avoid crowding in the corridors before and after class.
- Informational Signage will be placed throughout the campus to remind the VIU community of hygiene protocols and social distancing measures.
- VIU will continue to monitor any reviewed legislation and guidance from the local and national authorities relative to Covid-19.
- VIU will cooperate fully with the health authorities in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak at VIU, or in Venice.
- VIU is committed to keeping the members of the VIU community informed of what is happening at VIU, in Venice, and in Italy in general.

#### For all:

- All students, professors, and staff are required to wear face masks indoors on campus, in all classrooms, corridors, meeting spaces, and common areas, except when eating (allowed only at the bar, dining room and outdoors) and when inside their own residence hall rooms (applicable to campus residents only).
- All students, professors, participants, and others attending the Academic Programs must wear an FFP2 mask during all academic and related activities.

- Always maintain a minimum social distance of at least one meter from other people.
- Restrict your movements around the campus as much as possible.
- You can walk and sit in the park. . Masks are no longer required outdoors at time of writing (May 2, 2022).



- Eating and drinking is not permitted in the classrooms, the MacLab and PC Room. Consume drinks and food only in designated areas where it is permitted.
  - Avoid gatherings of numerous people in common areas.
- The use of the lift is not recommended; if necessary, use it 1 person at a time;
- Do not rearrange the seating in the classrooms. A minimum of 1 meter must be maintained between the chairs.
- Follow all the instructions sent by VIU staff and posted at the entrance to the premises, classrooms, MacLab & PC room or common areas.

#### For students:

- Students presenting in class may remove their mask while speaking (one at a time) only if they can maintain a minimum of 2 meters from others.
- Meetings with VIU staff will be via the virtual office hours, or by appointment via Zoom. We understand that sometimes students really need to talk to a staff member in person and will accommodate such restricted requests by appointment.
- Office hours with professors will by virtual only. A suitable meeting space will be provided upon request of the professor only in exceptional circumstances.

#### For professors:

- During class professors may remove their mask while speaking on condition that they can maintain a minimum of 2 meters from the students in the first row. If the distance is under 2 meters a mask must be worn.
- Please open the windows at the end of your class to ventilate the classroom.
- After 2 hours of activity in a classroom, a break is mandatory, during which the room must be ventilated by opening the windows.
- Office hours and meetings with students should be virtual only. If in exceptional circumstances an in-person meeting is needed, please request the use of a designated meeting space. Your own office cannot be used for such meetings.
- In the event of non-compliance of the participants, the professor or speaker must suspend the activity.

# - <u>Library and library services</u>

During the opening hours of the library students can book a desk for a half-day (morning or afternoon).



Books/resources are available for loan and can be reserved through the online catalogue (OPAC system) available at https://library.univiu.org/. You will receive a confirmation of the reservation via email and can then collect the book/resource from the library within 24 hours of the request.

Library resources must be returned to the boxes located outside the library and only during open hours.

As in all other areas of the San Servolo Campus, masks must be worn in the Library.

#### MacLab and PC Room

The MacLab will be reserved for some courses that use the facilities during the course. It will also be reserved for students enrolled in any courses that are delivered remotely during the course's class times.

At other times, students can book a workstation in the MacLab for a half-day. Students can also book a workstation in the PC room for a half day.

The MacLab and PC Room will be closed for cleaning at approximately 1.30pm (subject to variation). Please cooperate with the cleaning staff when asked to vacate the area, or wait until the cleaning has been completed.

As in all other areas of the San Servolo Campus, masks must be worn in the MacLab and PC Room.

#### Bar / Cafeteria

The Green Pass (or equivalent certification) is no longer required.

#### Students in VIU-arranged housing:

- No visitors whatsoever are allowed in the rooms on campus or in the apartments in the city during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
- Reports of social activity (dinner parties, parties, and so on) in the VIU-arranged housing may be addressed with disciplinary measures from VIU.
- Be respectful of your neighbors, making sure that you wear your mask in all common areas (halls, corridors, stairwells).
- If you suspect that you may have Covid-19 symptoms, call the health authorities (see the dedicated paragraph below), inform your room-mates, and inform VIU (via email: covid19@univiu.org).

# If You Develop Any COVID Symptoms

**STAY HOME,** contact a doctor or the health authorities. While waiting for further Health Authority decisions, you are required to self-isolate.



#### Who you should call:

- 118 emergency medical services, if you have labored breathing. (Veneto)
- 112 emergency services, if you have labored breathing. (other regions)

#### If you have mild symptoms:

- Contact your general practitioner if you are resident in Italy
- If you are only living/staying in Venice temporarily, call one of the following:
  - Health Assistance Point for Visitors
  - Piazzale Roma +39 041 5235134
  - Piazza San Marco +39 041 2960784

Out-of-hours Health Assistance (ex Guardia Medica): +39 041 2385600 Everyday 8pm to 8am, and also Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 8am to 8pm

Consult also the information on these pages on the VIU website:

If you have Covid symptoms: <a href="https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/if-you-have-covid-symptoms">https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/if-you-have-covid-symptoms</a>

Where to get a Covid Test: <a href="https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/covid-test">https://www.univiu.org/about-viu/brochures-reports-and-regulations/covid-19-protocol-and-practice/covid-test</a>

#### Other useful numbers:

- 800 938 811 Venice District Health Service Helpline (or +39 041 8724999 if calling from a phone registered abroad)
- 800462340 Veneto Region Covid Helpline;
- 1500 Italian Ministry of Health helpline (or +39 0232008345 OR +39 0283905385 if calling from a phone registered abroad)

If you have private health insurance, contact your insurance company. Notify VIU by email (<a href="mailto:covid19@univiu.org">covid19@univiu.org</a>).

If you are in shared housing, do your best to self-isolate in your room. Your roommates should also restrict their movements. If you are in VIU-arranged housing, inform VIU staff immediately by email.

#### Inform VIU:

You can request online access to your classes if you are suffering symptoms that could be indicative of a Covid infection (sore throat, headache, fatigue, fever, cough, cold, etc). We invite our students to be prudent and avoid coming to campus if they suspect they may be unwell:

- send a request by email by 8.30am to: <a href="mailto:covid19@univiu.org">covid19@univiu.org</a>
  Requests sent directly to the professors or to other email addresses will not be considered.
- If symptoms persist or worsen, you should get a Covid test
- After 2 days precautionary absence you must get a Covid test returning a negative result to return to class (self-test kits are not recognized)

#### If you develop symptoms while you are on campus:

- Go immediately to the 7K office on the ground floor as indicated in the map on the last page of this information sheet.

If you have serious symptoms:

- 118 for emergency services if you have labored breathing or other serious symptoms;
- 112 for emergency services as an alternative to the first emergency number.
- Notify the VIU staff responsible for your program using the telephone in the 7K office.

#### **Quarantine Rules for Close Contacts**

Valid from December 31, 2021 (Legislative Decree, n. 229) and as updated according from April 1, 2022 (Legislative Decree, n. 24)

If you have learned that you are a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 and have no symptoms:

You must self-monitor for 5 days (auto-sorveglianza). If you develop any symptoms you must take a test. Even if no symptoms emerge you are advised to take a test on the 5<sup>th</sup> day. You must also use an FFP2 mask for 10 days from day of last contact.

The Covid tests in these circumstances can be taken at public testing centers, pharmacies, or private clinics. Self-test kits are not valid for certification.



If you test positive for Covid:

- If you have are vaccinated you must isolate for 7 days as long as you are asymptomatic, or have been asymptomatic for at least 3 days.
- If you are unvaccinated you must isolate for 10 days.



In all these circumstances, you must take a Covid test to end the isolation period. The Covid tests in these circumstances can be taken at public testing centers, pharmacies, or private clinics. Self-test kits are not valid for this purpose.

#### **Additional Precautionary Measures Introduced by VIU**

All participants of Academic Programs must take a Covid test before their first day at VIU.

FFP2 masks are required during all academic and related activities.

If you test positive for Covid you must inform VIU by writing to covid19@univiu.org

#### Class management:

- If there are one or more positive cases in a class, lassmates and professor should self-monitor for 5 days. Testing on day 5 since the last contact is recommended.
- From May 1, 2022 considering that fewer restrictions are in place on a national level, situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

### **Conduct**

All members of the VIU Community will be expected to participate fully in our joint efforts to limit the potential spread of the coronavirus.

If you have any concerns about the protocols, or compliance, please discuss them with your program coordinator.

Updates and integrations to this protocol will be published as needed.

PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE for COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION at VENICE INTERNATONAL UNIVERSITY

#### **Co-Responsibility Pact:**



I confirm that I have received the VIU PROTOCOL AND PRACTICE for COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION: Information for students and professors of the Globalization Program.

All members of the VIU Community will be expected to participate fully in our joint efforts to limit the potential spread of the coronavirus.

I agree to adhere to the provisions provided for therein, and in particular:

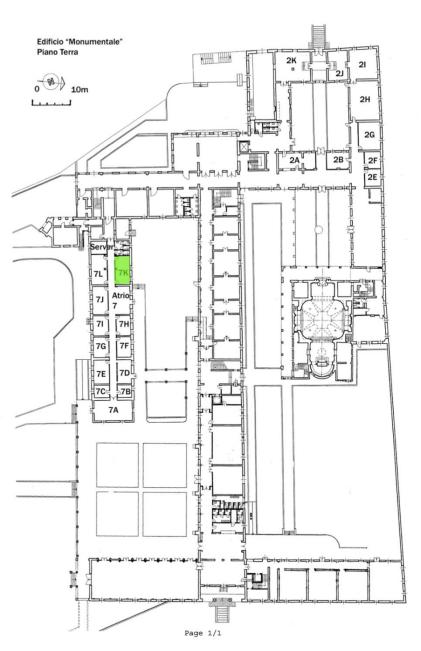
- I undertake to take a COVID-19 test prior to my arrival at VIU (within 72 hours for a PCR test, 48 hours for an antigen test).
- I will not go to the VIU campus on the island of San Servolo, or participate in-person in any VIU activities, even off campus, until I have received the negative result of the aforementioned COVID-19 test.
- I undertake to cooperate with VIU staff when spot checks of Digital Covid Certificates are being conducted.
- I undertake to follow the instructions of the health authorities in the event I test positive for COVID-19.
- I undertake to follow the instructions of the health authorities, and VIU, in the even that there is an outbreak of COVID-19 among the VIU community.
- I will not go to the VIU campus on the island of San Servolo, nor participate in-person in any VIU activities, even if off campus, if I have a fever above 37.5° C, a sore throat, cough, or loss of smell or taste, or general malaise.
- I undertake to inform VIU (via email: <u>covid19@univiu.org</u>) if I receive a
  positive test result, or contact the health authorities because I suspect I
  have symptoms.
- I undertake to install the Immuni (<a href="https://www.immuni.italia.it">https://www.immuni.italia.it</a>)

To accept the co-responsibility pact, go to the form on the VIU website and enter your name, surname, and email address:

https://www.univiu.org/component/rsform/form/87-covid-19-protocols-and-practice-protocolli-e-comportamenti

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!





**7K OFFICE Map**