

Ordinance no. 171 of the Rector University of Silesia in Katowice of 5 October 2020 on the implementation of education process at the University of Silesia in Katowice in the winter semester of academic year 2020/2021

Pursuant to Art. 23 Par. 1 of the Law on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (uniform text of the Journal of Laws of 2020, Item 85, with amendments), I hereby order as follows:

Section 1

The Ordinance specifies the rules of implementation of education process at 1st cycle studies, 2nd cycle studies and long-cycle studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice in the winter semester of academic year 2020/2021.

Section 2

1. In the winter semester of academic year 2020/2021, education at the University of Silesia in Katowice is conducted remotely, using distance education methods and techniques, as well as on-site and in mixed (hybrid) form.

2. The implementation method for particular types of classes depends on:

- 1) currently effective level of COVID-19 security status at the University of Silesia in Katowice;
- 2) possibility to ensure safety compliant with the hygienic and sanitary requirements resulting from the currently existing regulations, as well as recommendations and guidelines of the Chief Sanitary Inspector;
- 3) specific nature of achieved learning outcomes appropriate for specific types of classes.

3. Modern language courses and classes within the framework of general university modules are conducted remotely only.

4. Physical education classes are conducted in mixed form:

- 1) 10 hours (5 classes) in the premises of the University of Silesia in Katowice;
- 2) 10 hours (2 or 3 meetings) outdoors;
- 3) 10 hours remotely. 2

5. It is recommended that education as part of international exchange for students who are partly studying at the University of Silesia in Katowice are conducted on-site.

Section 3

1. Remote classes will be conducted according to the schedule effective for a particular group, determined in line with the rules for planning schedules of classes, taking into consideration the assumptions of education organisation specified in the announcement of the Rector of the University of Silesia of 31 July 2020.

2. During the winter semester of academic year 2020/2021, the Dean, in consultation with the relevant Degree Programme Director, may change the form of classes, referred to in Section 2 Par. 1, in line with the changing epidemic, legal and housing conditions, provided that students are informed about it not later than 7 days prior to the change of the form of classes.

3. Remote classes can be conducted in the following forms:

1) synchronous – ensuring direct audio-video or audio interaction between participant of classes in real time;

2) asynchronous – through materials available on a distance learning platform, with the reservation that part of the classes are conducted in synchronous form, which means that the teacher is available for students online during classes – in accordance with the schedule.

4. Remote classes are conducted using the following IT tools:

1) platform – Microsoft Office 365 (including Teams, Skype for Companies);

2) platform – Moodle;

5. Classes are supervised by the Dean in consultation with the relevant degree programme directors.

Section 4

1. Organisation of both on-site and remote classes are subject to monitoring. It is recommended to verify the level of students' workload with duties, effectiveness of communication with students, as well as suitability of the selected method of verification of learning outcomes.

2. The method of organisation of classes both by employees of the University of Silesia in Katowice and by individuals who conduct these classes under civil law agreements, are subject to monitoring.

Section 5

The Dean, in consultation with the relevant degree programme directors, shall decide about the method of carrying out apprenticeship for the programmes which include the appropriate apprenticeship. Current epidemic situation and capacities of the entities in which apprenticeship is carried out are taken into consideration when taking the decision. Decisions on carrying out apprenticeship remotely depend on the specific nature of a study programme and kind of apprenticeship.

Section 6

1. Detailed information about the e-learning tools, access to databases, recommendations for distance learning methods, as well as recommendations for verification of knowledge at the University of Silesia in Katowice are available on: www.zdalny.us.edu.pl.

2. Whenever the Ordinance refers to Dean, it shall be understood as the Deputy Dean for Education and Student Affairs.

3. Provisions of the Ordinance shall apply accordingly to organisation of classes at doctoral studies and postgraduate studies. Supervision over the education process using remote forms is performed by:

1) head of doctoral studies – in the field of education at doctoral studies;

2) head of postgraduate studies – in the field of education at postgraduate studies.

Section 7

The Ordinance shall come into force on the day of signing hereof, effective from 1 October 2020.

RECTOR

Prof. Ryszard Koziółek