

The Rector

Milan, July 2021

Dear Students,

I would like to thank you for selecting Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore as the preferred option for your course of study. I wish to extend a most sincere welcome to you all and I hope that the coming years will prove to be an invaluable and unforgettable experience for you in your personal and professional development.

You are undergoing this significant moment of transition in the throes of an unprecedented global situation. We have all had to radically adapt to the circumstances and, in your case, to embrace new learning styles for the last few years of your educational course, nonetheless, you have commendably decided to commit to pursuing your study goals. As a consequence, we will step forward to do our part by continuing to nurture the personal and professional dreams to which you are entitled.

Our university prides itself in being a place where the transmission of knowledge forms critical consciences, human relationships nurture solidarity with others and our interdisciplinary approach enhances understanding.

The current year marks centenary of our University, in December 1921, and our predecessors - who built, stone by stone, thought upon thought, the great physical and spiritual building of the Università Cattolica - have inspired us with the fortitude and the knowledge to face reality. Universities exist for this reason, to give young people a future through knowledge and, consequently, to ensure the continuity of a civilisation. Furthermore, they were actually created out of crises, so we need not fear their ability to overcome them.

Be assured that, as you take your first steps into our community, you will not walk alone because, alongside the excellence of our lecturers and the technical-administrative staff, our Group Tutors will personally accompany you on your academic journey. These are young university graduates who have undertaken to accompany you and support your educational experience with individual and group meetings. The Tutors will provide you with all the information, details and back up you need to enter quickly and successfully into the daily life of our University.

In addition to the departmental tutoring, you will find numerous facilities that will enhance your University experience: dedicated libraries, SeLdA University Language Service, structures dedicated to internationalisation, internships and placements, the Disability Services Office, plus, the services for the right to education. All the apps, comprising app iCatt, and the university website will also enable you to benefit from distance learning, to communicate with the teachers and central offices and to keep updated in real time, which is particularly important in this complex period.

Throughout your journey, you will come to realise that the University is a microcosm that offers countless opportunities and prospects; within this world you will be encouraged to learn, you will become accomplished and will embark on an important, and indispensable, work of responsibility for your life as adults.

Once again I sincerely wish you all the best as you begin your studies.

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Franco Anelli