

COVID-19
UCEM JUNE 2020 GRADUATION CEREMONY AND CERTIFICATES UPDATE

Please note: there are some changes to the information previously posted on these topics, so please read carefully, and feel free to contact Pru Sly, Graduation Officer at graduation@ucem.ac.uk with any questions.

Rescheduling of postponed ceremonies

We plan to hold ceremonies for all students graduating in 2020 on Saturday 5 December (for those who would have graduated in June **and** for those scheduled to graduate in December). As the situation with Covid-19 is still rapidly developing, we will continue to follow all updated advice from the UK government and arrangements may be subject to change.

We understand how important graduation is to our students and very much look forward to celebrating your success with you, when it is safe to do so. As always, the health and safety of our staff and study body is paramount for us.

Registration for the rescheduled ceremony

We will be sending invitations via email to those who would have been eligible to attend the June ceremony **and** those expected to be eligible to attend the December ceremony.

Anybody who had registered for the June ceremony will need to re-register for the rescheduled date.

Information will also be posted on the VLE communal area and the UCEM website graduation page.

Certificates

Many of you are understandably anxious to know how and when you will receive your degree certificates.

Normally you would receive your degree certificate at graduation (or, for those not attending, following graduation via DHL). As UCEM offices are now closed due to Covid-19, we have sourced a solution to provide certificates electronically and anticipate these will be issued by 27th June, the original graduation date.

Unfortunately, no physical certificates can be provided at this time. You are however able to request a physical certificate at the time of receiving your electronic version and this will be sent as soon as we are able to do so. We do not yet have a timescale for this as the situation is still developing.

Cancellation of robes and official photography orders

Any student who has already ordered robes and /or photographs can transfer their order to the December ceremony date by contacting customerservices@academic-services.co.uk

If you do not wish to attend a future ceremony, please contact Ede & Ravenscroft at the same address and they will cancel your order and process a refund, minus a £1.50 admin charge.

Visas

Graduands and their families travelling to the UK for the purposes of attending the postponed ceremony must have a visa that is valid. Therefore, if your visa will have expired by the rescheduled

date you will need to apply for a new one. Information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa>

Travel costs

UCEM recognises that postponing its graduation ceremony may affect your travel arrangements to the UK. Whilst we understand your circumstances, the decision to postpone your graduation is due to the outbreak of Covid-19 and was taken in accordance with the guidance from the UK government. The outbreak itself is outside of UCEM's control and we cannot offer compensation for any travel costs incurred in preparation to attend your graduation ceremony.

If you have already made your travel arrangements, we would advise that you contact your airline for information on cancelling or delaying your trip to the UK. Similarly, if you have travel insurance, we would advise you contact your provider for information regarding the extent of your coverage in these circumstances.

We would strongly advise that no travel arrangements are made at this time.