



Dear new student at VIA University College

Congratulations on your new study place! We hope you are looking forward to get started on your education - we look forward to meeting you and your fellow students.

We have made an effort to create a great study start for you. In addition, we have decided that you, as new students, have first priority when it comes to in-person teaching on campus, while other students will have some online teaching – because the situation with coronavirus means that we are not allowed as many people on campus as usual.

This means that you as a new student get the best conditions from the beginning to get to know each other, the teachers and VIA well.

Unfortunately, the situation with coronavirus means that study start this year will be without cottage trips, parties and Friday bars, but we are sure that you will have a great time anyway.

VIA follows official authority guidelines

Before your study start and presence on campus, you must know that VIA, in the current situation with coronavirus, follows the guidelines of the health authorities in order to minimize the risk of spreading infection.

Concretely, we avoid hugs and handshakes, keep our distance, ask everyone to be diligent with hand washing and/or hand sanitizer, do extra cleaning and have introduced special procedures regarding the food in the canteen. A few activities in e.g. workshops will be carried out with facemasks, which we will provide for you. In addition, we ask all students and employees to stay home and be tested if having the slightest symptoms of COVID-19.

Dispensers with hand sanitizer and posters with guidelines in relation to coronavirus are placed at all teaching locations. Signs have been put up at all class rooms, auditoriums, workshops, canteens, etc. with the number of people allowed in the room at the same time.

At VIA's locations in Aarhus and Silkeborg, there are stricter guidelines due to the current outbreaks there.

In other words, you can be completely confident that we at VIA safeguards your health – while providing a good study start and educational teaching spearheaded by with skilled lecturers.

We hope that you also contribute with solidarity and help minimize the risk of spreading infection!

Read more about study start and about VIA's guidelines for handling coronavirus on VIA's website at www.en.via.dk/coronavirus. This website is updated continuously, so please keep yourself informed.

Welcome to the big VIA family

As a VIA student, you become a member of a huge 'family', because VIA is one of Denmark's largest institutions of higher education.

We have more than 40 different study programmes with approximately 19,000 students in 11 cities and towns in the Central Denmark region. Many of the study programmes are located on campuses with several other study programmes under same roof.

VIA educates, among others, teachers, pedagogues, nurses, medical laboratory technologists, engineers, building constructors and designers. For most of the professional groups we educate, there are great employment opportunities and low unemployment for you when you graduate.

At VIA, we make a focused effort to link high-level, research-based theory with practice. We focus on equipping you with the skills that the labour market demands today and in the future.

Both VIA's study programmes aimed at the public and private sectors contain teaching focused on innovation and entrepreneurship – which is one of the reasons why VIA has been elected as "Entrepreneurial educational institution of the year" in 2014, 2018 and 2019. Similarly, we have courses centred on sustainability.

You can read much more about VIA at www.en.via.dk, just as you are always welcome to contact your lecturer or Dean with questions or anything else on your mind.

Here is a video in which I explain more about VIA's approach to handling the situation with coronavirus: <https://youtu.be/CDLIEmEMQs8>

Warm greetings

Gitte Sommer Harrits

Vice Rector and responsible for all study programmes at VIA University College

The Danish Health Authority's five general corona guidelines are:

- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Avoid handshakes, kisses and hugs – limit physical contact.
- Pay attention to cleaning – at home and at the work place.
- Keep a distance to others and ask others to show consideration.