

Dear Students,

As we all know, the new type of the Corona virus (COVID – 19) which first appeared in Wuhan, China on December 23, 2019 is spreading rapidly across many countries. This unfortunate event was declared as a “pandemic” by the World Health Organization (WHO) on March 12, 2020. Following the next day, on March 13, 2020 the Turkish Government has also made an announcement regarding the educational institutions and declared that *“starting on March 16, 2020 (Monday) all universities in Turkey will be vacationed for 3 (three) weeks”*. In order to protect the well-being and health of all university students, academics and administrative staff members The Council of Higher Education (Abbreviated as YÖK in Turkish) has announced that starting from March 23, 2020 all universities across the country will continue their education through distance learning.

As the Government has moved from containment to delay, our university has taken many steps to safeguard our community. In order for the students of Istanbul Kultur University (IKU) to continue their educational programs, we have been working on improving our distance learning practices, strengthening our existing infrastructure and forecasting solutions to possible problems we may all encounter. Our faculty's academic and administrative staff have prepared the necessary infrastructure in less than a week for all courses to be taught via distance learning. We would like to announce that we are all well prepared. The Dean's Office of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences has put together a “Digital Process Commission” to evaluate *“how not to leave any student behind from its studies in the most effective way”*. The studies have come to a conclusion. Below you can find the steps which students are responsible to follow during this process.

- All educational and training activities within our faculty will be carried out through distance learning.
- The activities will be carried out through our university's Learning Management System (LMS) CATs.

- You can access the CATs system via <http://cats.iku.edu.tr/> by filling in your username (student number) and password just like you always do.
- If you encounter any problems during the distance learning period, please do not hesitate to contact us by mailing your problems to dijitalsurecler@iku.edu.tr. We will make sure you get an immediate response.

Please do not forget that we are all a member of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences family. We have full confidence that you, our esteemed students will overcome this unfortunate period without encountering any problems with the help of our professional staff members. All we need is your trust. We all know that you are very excited. You must that know that these are mutual feelings. Even though we are eager to meet you back on campus, for now see you all in the Digital World of CATs.

Stay with love, health and enthusiasm.

Istanbul Kultur University

Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences

Digital Process Comission