

The upcoming academic year in Nebrija

Quick guide

1.- We have in-person classes

Nebrija University is an institution that eminently holds in-person classes, which **are planned to start the next academic year in September 2020 with class attendance**. In general, and except for special programs, **first year students will start on September 28, and the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year student will do so on September 14, 2020**

Of course, the campuses and their use have been carefully adapted to the new requirements regarding **health and hygiene**. The cleaning service has been reinforced, partitions, a disinfecting mat at the entrance to the campus and specific containers for protection residues have been installed, sanitary regulations have been placed in visible places so that everyone is aware of them, and all kinds of measures have been taken to make the return to campus safe and satisfactory..

2.- There is a plan B: hybrid attendance

If the health circumstances, the directives of the authorities or the recommendations by experts discourage the purely class attendance option, Nebrija University has planned **a model that also guarantees the students' learning results: blended attendance**.

Blended attendance admits students physically present in the classroom and those who are virtually connected from outside the campus. Both of them enjoy the same experience: the professor is in the classroom, he/she has the technological means that allow him/her to share the content with the present and remote students, who will also be able to see each other and interact with each other also thanks to the technology. This is meant to maintain the **same excellent learning experience that characterizes Nebrija, regardless of where the students are**.

Nebrija University's proposal has been carried out for years and arises not only from the need to limit spaces, reduce ratios and establish physical distances based on the foreseeable socio-sanitary requirements, but also from an educational concern and **commitment to innovation**.

3.- We have experience: our own methodology is recognized internationally

Nebrija University, through its Nebrija Global Campus division, has been researching and testing the success of its own methodology in digital environments for a decade. We are also **pioneers in blended teaching models**, combining class attendance and online teaching in the same program with optimal achievement results. We have been teaching these hybrid degrees for ten years in different fields of knowledge: Architecture, Law, Education, Languages... This provides us with real and proven experience in mixed class attendance-online teaching.

In addition, Nebrija's digital methodology has garnered several international awards for its quality and effectiveness:

- Maximum score (five stars) in the prestigious QS Stars international ranking in the online teaching category.
- Educational Excellence Awards.
- Distinguished for "Good Practice" by the Unesco Chair of University Management and Policy.

Our digital teaching model focuses on the **student as the protagonist of the learning process**. **Students learn by doing**, they are invited to think, to try and to experiment. The class is a participatory environment presided over by collaboration, closeness and personalization of the educational experience. We promote the student's **autonomous/collaborative/reflective work** and we focus on the practical and interactional aspects. We also have **an international approach** based on the acquisition of both academic and interdisciplinary skills: teamwork, communication, leadership, languages, etc.

4.- We have the technology

Nebrija University has invested approximately a million euros in the technology necessary to carry out its blended attendance model. This investment has as its result the complete modernization of the classrooms:

- **Microphones and cameras** installed in all classes ensure that connected students listen and see the professor and their classmates with the necessary quality.
- **Technological devices allow the professor to share content** with both present and virtual students.
- **Screens in the classes bring present and remote students** closer so that they all have the same immersive learning experience.

5.- Our teaching staff is ready

During the summer, the professors of Nebrija University will receive **intensive training in the use of specific technology and in the digital methodology necessary** to materialize blended attendance.

In any case, **Nebrija's faculty is always in continuous training and has a high level of digital competence**. The institution has been providing digital education training to all teachers since 2012. **More than one hundred specific training workshops have been carried out, in which over 1,000 University professors** have taken part. These workshops have gone far beyond the instrumental use of technology and have opted for methodological and pedagogical training.

Specifically, there has been training in platforms and tools (Blackboard Learn, Blackboard Collaborate, Kaltura, Respondus, etc.); communication, interaction and educational feedback; narrative and oratory in digital settings; e-learning skills; creation of educational videos; evaluation systems in digital environments; agile methodologies, among others.

In addition, specifically, a training program has been developed, the **eTeacher Course**, specialized in digital teaching, which has been taught to more than 130 teachers in the five calls that have been held since the 2016/2017 academic year.

Nebrija University is considered **number 1 in Teaching** by the prestigious U-Ranking developed by BBVA and the IVIE Institute.

6.- Students will be prepared

Nebrija University will ensure that students receive the necessary training to successfully use the technologies necessary for blended classes.

Structurally, we carry out a project of **certification of digital competence** according to the ICDL (International Computer Driving License) standard. This international standard certifies that the student has digital skills such as the ability to communicate and collaborate in digital environments, and the management of computer applications.

7.- Practical classes will be done in-person

All strictly practical knowledge will be taught in person, unless the authorities say otherwise. As many groups as necessary will be created in order to guarantee the safe distance between students.

8.- Curricular internships will be done in person, if possible

The curricular internships will be carried out in person in the cases in which the collaborating companies have resumed their face-to-face activity, and always respecting the security measures established by the authorities.

The internships whose nature allows it can also be carried out remotely in companies that have this option enabled.

During this academic year, despite the difficulties and the unexpectedness of the situation, **85% of the planned professional internships were carried out remotely.**

9.- There will be university life

Students will be able to enjoy the rich offer of parallel activities that Nebrija University traditionally offers. Conferences, workshops, congresses, competitions, masterclasses, laboratories, sports activity, clubs, etc. will continue to be part of the academic life of our students. If possible, in person. If it is not possible for reasons beyond our control, we will hold them virtually as we have been doing from the first week of confinement, as can be seen in [this video](#).

On the other hand, we have already planned an endless number of proposals for next year, some of which are included in [this other video](#).

10.- Foreign students may join the academic year later

If the uncertainty about the viability of class attendance extends over time, **students from other countries may start the year in blended modality, and attend class in person later on at the Madrid city campus**. Foreign students who are going to take a degree at Nebrija University will have the entire first semester to attend our classrooms. They must, however, **attend in person at the latest in the month of January and take exams in person** (if the authorities allow it).

International students of integrated programs, that is, those who come to study a semester with us, will also be able to take advantage of these exceptional flexibility measures. Of course, they must attend the campus with **October 31 as the deadline** to be able to go to class and take exams within their semester.

All these initiatives are aimed at providing international students with a greater margin of maneuverability in times of indeterminacy and greater peace of mind when it comes to securing their places.