WelcomeDay Meeting – 21.10.2026

Overview

Participants: Professor Alberto Paleari (coordinator/tenured professor) leads the session, speaking primarily to new master's degree students. The meeting covers the program structure, required resources, study plan procedures, course organization, exam logistics, language requirements, internships, and where to obtain administrative support.

Main Topics and Outcomes: Paleari outlines the structure of the Master's curriculum—five mandatory core courses plus track-specific electives for Functional Materials, Materials for Energy, Materials for Nanotechnologies, and Materials for Digital/Quantum technologies—and directs students to the e-learning platform for full course lists. He emphasizes that submitting the study plan (typically in November and March) is required to register for exams in chosen courses, and that tutors and the International Office are the correct points of contact for bureaucracy and deadlines (as indicated by Paleari). Paleari clarifies exam formats (usually oral) and the flexible approach to retakes in the Italian system, advising students to verify specific course rules with department offices or instructors.

Action Items and Next Steps: Students must use their personal online dashboard to submit and modify study plans during open windows and consult tutors for assistance; Paleari explicitly advises students to contact tutors for guidance. Students planning internships must satisfy specified credit prerequisites before starting and should consult the internship/thesis e-learning pages for requirements. For language requirements, non-native speakers must pass the university's language proficiency test and can enroll in Italian language courses via the Language Office page.

Concerns and Directives: Paleari notes that administrative and financial support matters (residence, DSU scholarships) are managed by administrative offices and regional authorities and that he cannot directly resolve administrative processes, though he can direct students to appropriate offices. He emphasizes active lecture participation and early engagement with faculty to receive clarification and feedback to prepare adequately for oral exams. Overall, the meeting serves as a program orientation with clear pointers toward online resources, tutors, and administrative contacts for further details.

Detailed Summary

Program Introduction and Resources

Professor Alberto Paleari presents the structure of the Master in Materials Science and Nanotechnology and shows where students can find administrative and campus life information. He highlights tutors, the International Office, and online pages (including a QR code) as main resources for bureaucracy, deadlines, and services. The current status is that most information is available on the university web pages, and tutors can direct students to specific offices when needed.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that tutors and the International Office are the main contacts for bureaucracy and deadlines.

- Professor Alberto Paleari highlights a QR code and web pages that consolidate information on campus life, transportation, the library, laboratories, and software access.

- Professor Alberto Paleari advises students to use official channels (university email and e-learning pages) for communication and further details.

Course Format and Expectations
Paleari explains that lectures should be interactive and that students should ask teachers for clarification regarding content and exams. He clarifies that exams in this master's program are typically oral and focus on applying concepts to practical problems rather than memorizing formulas. The status is that teachers will provide guidance and feedback, and students should aim for a deeper understanding.

- Professor Alberto Paleari requests that students actively participate in class and ask professors for clarification during lectures.

- Professor Alberto Paleari explains that exams are usually oral and assess problem-solving and application of knowledge rather than rote memorization.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that teachers provide interim feedback to guide students toward the next stages of study.

Exam Logistics and Retakes
The speaker describes exam sessions, timelines, and registration through the student's online administration page, indicating typical windows (e.g., end of semester). He mentions that there is generally no strict limit on the number of attempts in the Italian system and that students can reject or retake unsatisfactory grades, though processes vary by course and professor.

- Professor Alberto Paleari instructs students to register for formal exam sessions via their personal online administration page.

- Professor Alberto Paleari explains that Italian regulations typically allow multiple exam attempts.

Mandatory Courses and Program Tracks
Paleari lists the five mandatory foundational courses (e.g., materials strategies, mathematical methods) and explains the program tracks: Functional Materials, Materials for Nanotechnology, Materials for Energy, and Materials for Digital/Quantum technologies. He stresses that mandatory courses are required regardless of the chosen track, while elective and materials engineering courses vary by track. The program currently organizes core and elective options through the e-learning platform and the study plan system.

- Professor Alberto Paleari identifies five mandatory courses that all students must attend to build a common foundation across tracks.

- Professor Alberto Paleari describes four specialization tracks: Functional Materials, Materials for Nanotechnologies, Materials for Energy, and Materials for Digital/Quantum technologies.

- Professor Alberto Paleari clarifies that choices for elective and materials engineering courses differ by track and are listed on the e-learning platform.

Study Plan Submission Windows
He explains the windows for submitting the study plan—typically November and March of each academic year—and how submission allows students to sit for exams in formal sessions. Students can change elective choices during these windows and must follow track-specific rules. The current status is that students must use their personal online page to submit and edit the study plan during open windows, and tutors can assist if needed.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that the study plan submission windows are in November and March of each year.

- Professor Alberto Paleari warns that submitting the study plan is necessary to register for the exam sessions corresponding to chosen courses.

- Professor Alberto Paleari advises students to ask their tutor for help in preparing and submitting the study plan.

Elective Courses and Materials Engineering Courses
Paleari describes lists of elective courses in materials application areas, nanosystems, energy, quantum systems, and a specific set of materials engineering courses that can only be taken in the second year. He highlights credit requirements for free-choice electives and language credits. The current status is that course lists and rules on when courses can be taken are available on the e-learning pages and within the study plan interface.

- Professor Alberto Paleari indicates that certain materials engineering exams can only be taken in the second year.

- Professor Alberto Paleari reminds students that credit rules for free-choice electives and language credits (e.g., three-course/6-credit schemes) apply and are documented on the platform.

Language Requirements and Italian Courses
He outlines university language proficiency requirements and directs students to the "Language Office" page for Italian courses for non-native speakers. Paleari notes that students must pass a university language certification test and that enrollment and schedules for Italian courses are available online with specific dates (e.g., October–November offerings). The current status is that registration periods and course details are posted on the language office page, where students must enroll.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that non-native students must pass the university's language proficiency test and can attend Italian language courses.

- Professor Alberto Paleari directs students to the Language Office page on the university website for enrollment and schedules.

- Professor Alberto Paleari mentions details regarding course periods (e.g., October–November sessions) and encourages students to register online.

Internship and Thesis Requirements
Paleari explains the prerequisites for internships (training) and theses, noting that students must earn a minimum number of credits before starting an internship and that internships are training periods supporting thesis work. He directs students to the e-learning sections on internships and theses for complete requirements and procedures. The current status is that internships are allowed once credit requirements are met, with details available online.

- Professor Alberto Paleari outlines a credit threshold that students must reach before starting a thesis-related internship.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that internships are structured training periods distinct from other activities and that information is available on the internship/thesis e-learning pages.

- Professor Alberto Paleari recommends consulting e-learning resources for exact internship requirements and procedures.

Administrative Support and Financial Aid
He states that administrative specifics (residence, scholarships, DSU) are handled by university administration and regional authorities, and that students can find scholarship information on university pages. Paleari notes that he cannot make detailed administrative or bureaucratic decisions but can direct students to the appropriate offices. The current status is that students must consult the university website and specific administrative offices for DSU scholarships and regional support.

- Professor Alberto Paleari clarifies that administrative and bureaucratic matters (residence, DSU scholarships) are managed by university administration and regional bodies.

- Professor Alberto Paleari advises students to consult official university pages for information on scholarships and financial aid.

- Professor Alberto Paleari states that he is not the administrative contact person but can indicate which office to contact for assistance.