

## Information on Teaching in the 2021 Summer Semester (3)

Dear colleagues,

We have recently received some new information which I would like to share with you:

### Decentralised examination periods:

Following the completed scheduling of centrally organised examinations, the following schedule has been established for decentralised examinations in the current summer semester: The last week of the lecture period, from 12 July 21 to 16 July 21, is reserved exclusively for decentralised examinations. Additionally, examination times for decentralised examinations are also available in other weeks and parallel to central examinations. The specific time and room scheduling for all decentralised examinations outside of the regular course times should be made in consultation with Site Management staff (Ms. Gegner).

### Infection risk in in-person examinations:

According to a new regulation issued by the Robert Koch Institute on the classification of contact persons, there is no substantial change in the situational assessment of our in-person examinations. In the future, as long as all infection control measures are observed, it will not be necessary to automatically quarantine all other examinees in the event that a participant is diagnosed with the coronavirus after the examination. However, particular importance is placed on a sufficient supply of fresh air. In many of our (especially large) examination rooms, this is achieved using ventilation systems. In the remaining rooms, adequate manual ventilation is of increased importance. If a room has a ventilation system, this is usually indicated on the entrance doors. The examinations room at Kapellenstraße 13 and the large rooms additionally rented for examinations (such as Brose Arena and Hegelsaal) are also equipped with ventilation systems.

### Mask requirements in examinations:

Wearing medical masks will be required as a minimum standard for our university examinations, effective immediately. In consultation with the Ministry of Education, the wearing of a medical mask is also strongly recommended for outstanding spring 2021 state examinations. Alternatively, wearing FFP2 masks remains an option for state and university examinations.

### Testing in the context of courses and examinations:

As of today, the Bavarian state government is providing universities with funding for coronavirus self-tests for students. The tests are intended to serve as an additional safeguard for currently scheduled practical courses and in-person examinations. Testing remains voluntary. It is also important that, in addition to this self-testing opportunity, students continue to be mindful of rapid testing services provided under medical supervision outside the university.

Information on how students can obtain self-tests is available here: <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/covid19/tests/studierende/>. This registration system is the same as the one for staff and makes it easy to track the delivery of the tests and also to avoid crowding at the pick-up

stations. When registering, students must select whether they want to use the tests for courses, group work or examinations, and when and at which of the following drop-off points they would like to collect the tests:

Feldkirchenstraße:	FG2/1.OG, Mon. und Thurs. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
ERBA:	WE5/01.018 (WIAI Dean of Studies office), Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Standort Innenstadt:	U11/00.23 (Guk Student Representatives), Tue. 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. M3N/-01.21 (Huwi Student Representatives), Wed. 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (and possibly other times)
Am Zwinger:	ZW6/01.10, Mon. – Thurs. 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The tests are provided in packs of 5. For in-person courses, instructors can collect the tests they need for their students at the distribution points and distribute them directly. We urgently request that both students and instructors test themselves or be tested before courses and examinations, preferably at home or before entering university premises.

According to information provided by the state ministry, the legal situation pertaining to the use of tests in the context of higher education is as follows: Since testing is in principle voluntary, persons who do not take a coronavirus test cannot be excluded from taking part in a course or examination. At the same time, however, it is also true that someone who has tested positive for the coronavirus must observe the generally applicable infection protection regulations. The immediate isolation required in the event of a positive test also means that the persons concerned can be denied access to a course or examination (if necessary, by referring to the householder's rights or involving the authorities).

#### Information on conducting remote examinations:

The Remote Examinations Taskforce has begun compiling and sharing information on certain relevant topics (e.g. video proctoring and identity checks) and examination formats (e.g. open book examinations and online paper examinations). This is all available in the VC course with the title *Werkstatt: Werkzeuge in der Online-Lehre nutzen* (<https://vc.uni-bamberg.de/enrol/index.php?id=39441>) and is intended for all persons seeking support and motivation for creating and conducting remote examinations.

#### Possibility of individual examination flexibility:

With a recent amendment to the university's Corona Statutes, instructors, in consultation with the Dean of Studies, can now grant both students from abroad and within Germany who cannot take part in an examination for objective Corona-related reasons an individual make-up date – if necessary, also with a different examination format. Information on the exact procedure for submitting an application can be found here: <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/faq-for-university-members/faq-for-teachers/>.

#### Teaching in the 2021/22 winter semester:

Although the summer semester started only a few weeks ago, plans for the winter semester must already be considered. Generally speaking, we will approach the coming 2021/22 winter semester in the same way as the current summer semester. As things stand, we can still expect a high degree of online teaching with opportunities for limited in-person courses. The extent to which the latter will be permitted and can be carried out is, of course, not yet foreseeable. In any case, an online option will again be provided for each in-person course. Furthermore, room scheduling in UnivIS will function as in the current summer semester, meaning that the starting point is the normal allocation of rooms for in-person courses (with accompanying online offerings as required). The actual form courses will take will then be adapted and indicated according to current circumstances. (Temporarily) unused lecture rooms can be assigned for other in-person courses with increased corona-related space requirements. This means the default starting point is the normal on-site room allocation (with an accompanying online offering if necessary). The format of each course will then be adapted according to the current circumstances and designated accordingly. (Temporarily) unused lecture halls can be used for other in-person courses with increased corona-related space requirements. Original room reservations that are no longer relevant due to online teaching will be deleted from the room scheduling in order to avoid confusion among students and teachers. However, these original bookings are retained in the official logged-in entries and can be reactivated when regular operation is resumed. If you have enrolled in the relevant VC course, you will receive more detailed information on the specific procedure for registering courses in UnivIS in a designated UnivIS newsletter.

A letter with similar content is also being sent to the students. It is available on the coronavirus website (<https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/>).

Best regards and best wishes for you and your families. Sincerely,

Stefan Hörmann