

Information on Teaching in the 2021 Summer Semester (4)

Dear colleagues,

According to information from the Ministry, it currently appears that the special coronavirus rights will expire on 30 September 2021, at the end of the 2021 summer semester. If the regulation was actually intended in this way, the 2021/22 winter semester would once again be regarded as a normal semester.

In light of this, I would like to inform students and instructors (and not least examining boards and subject advisors) at this early stage that there would then be no further extensions of individual standard programme durations, maximum allowed durations of study and examination deadlines. This would also restore any existing limits on the number of failed examination attempts and the requirement for successful progress assessments. Furthermore, it would no longer be possible to withdraw from examinations at short notice for unspecified reasons, and medical certificates would again be required in order to avoid negative consequences of missed examinations. Deviations from officially stipulated examination formats could also be eliminated.

Special communication is particularly necessary with regard to students who have either only experienced university studies during the coronavirus pandemic, but not regular examination processes, or whose problems with successfully passing examinations or completing their studies prior to the 2020 summer semester have only been temporarily resolved by the relaxed coronavirus regulations. Please alert your students to the potential changes whenever it seems necessary.

If deviations from the study and subject examination regulations appear to be justified for reasons for which students are not responsible, the examining boards may in the future - as in the past - make specific determinations in individual cases upon request (hardship regulations). I have advised students to contact the relevant examination board in confidence if necessary.

It is currently uncertain whether the Ministry will also make special provisions for BAföG deadlines, proof of internships that cannot be carried out due to pandemic-related restrictions, and the extension of deadlines for submitting the documents required for a master's degree. However, the university is working to obtain answers to these questions, and I will notify you as soon as reliable information is available.

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,

Stefan Hörmann