

## Information on Teaching in the 2021 Summer Semester (5)

Dear colleagues,

The most recent decisions by the Bavarian state government on handling the coronavirus pandemic and the associated announcement of the 13th regulation on infection prevention and control measures (*Infektionsschutzmaßnahmenverordnung*) have set a new course and created a new scope for university operations. At our university, our approach will be as follows:

In addition to practical courses, a number of additional in-person offerings are possible. This option is aimed at courses and events for early-stage students not yet familiar with in-person teaching, as well as students in the final phase of their studies. This may seem attractive in some cases, but it of course does not imply that you are generally obligated to immediately convert your own courses to in-person offerings. With this option, the situation known from the start of the last winter semester is more or less restored. This also means that if you want to use this option, you will still have to create an online version of each in-person course as soon as one or more students cannot or do not wish to be on site. Please promptly inform your students if you would like to make use of the new in-person teaching option.

The prerequisite for conducting such courses is compliance with the established rules for infection protection (observance of the required physical distancing in sufficiently large rooms, the mask requirement as well as the relevant hygiene standards) and the up-to-date registration of the course in the UnivIS room planning system. With regard to the latter, please tick the corresponding box for hybrid or in-person and also note that priority is given to in-person examinations that have already been entered. In addition, if you have not already done so, you must submit the declaration on the implementation of in-person teaching and examinations to the university executive board as detailed in my newsletter of 1 April 2021. The necessary form is available in the university intranet at <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/intranet/universitaetsinterne-informationendokumente-zum-coronavirus/>.

Furthermore, two new regulations are applicable with immediate effect. Firstly, an FFP2 mask is now always required on university premises. Secondly, if there is a 7-day incidence rate of over 50, coronavirus testing is compulsory for all in-person courses – even for the previously approved practical courses. In this case, students must submit a written or electronic negative result from an externally administered PCR or POC antigen test. Those persons conducting the courses are responsible for verifying the test results. Since Bamberg's 7-day incidence rate is currently below 50, this regulation is not relevant at present. On the other hand, the university executive board's urgent request that you get tested prior to courses and examinations (see my newsletter of 20 May 2021) continues to apply. In the event that the incidence rate increases and the issue of compulsory testing becomes relevant, I will contact you again with additional, updated information.

According to current knowledge, the two new legal regulations do not affect examinations. For the administration of in-person examinations, the most recent prior regulations continue to apply unchanged and irrespective of incidence rates. This also means that you must provide the university executive board with the above-mentioned declaration on the implementation of in-person courses and examinations.

The new situation undoubtedly presents us all with special challenges due to its somewhat new system of action and rapid communication. In light of this, I would like to thank you once again on behalf of the entire university executive board for the continuing quality of your teaching.

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

Best regards,

Stefan Hörmann