

Information on Studies in the 2021/22 Winter Semester (1)

Dear students,

First, I'd like to offer my best regards at the start of the winter semester. I again have some information to share with you today. Among other things, this newsletter is intended to provide clarification on some points that remained open in previous communications and to remind you of some important issues (please also see the FAQ website).

The 3G rule and its enforcement:

As previously, the so-called 3G rule (access only for vaccinated, recovered or tested individuals) continues to apply to access to the university (i.e. to its buildings and other enclosed spaces, including the libraries) when the 7-day incidence rate within the city of Bamberg is 35 or higher. As soon as it is officially established that this threshold has not been reached for three consecutive days, the corresponding 3G checks will no longer be carried out beginning two days later in accordance with the official announcement. Furthermore, it should be noted that restricted course access to only vaccinated and recovered students (2G rule) is not currently planned for Bavarian universities.

For the time being, free testing services will be available to students through the end of November. Detailed information is available at <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/covid-19-testing-for-students/>. Whether or not this offering will be extended depends on ministerial directives.

Chessboard pattern seating and mask requirement:

The chessboard pattern or 50% seating occupancy of teaching rooms systematically leads to a situation where a minimum distance of 1.5 m between individuals can usually no longer be maintained. For this reason, wearing medical masks is mandatory for participation in courses. Exceptions to this mask requirement under the condition that the minimum distance of 1.5m is reliably observed can be made for both lecturing instructors and students giving presentations.

Collection of contact data:

Unlike in the past, students' contact information does not currently have to be collected in courses or when using the library and common rooms. However, in the interest of one's own safety, I would recommend continuing with the now well-practised data collection routines. This means that contact tracing in the event of an infection can continue to be carried out on the basis of the attendance list in the VC course. For other visits to the university premises, it is possible to register using the QR codes located on the doors.

Scope and disclosure of in-person teaching:

Many of you based your decision to return to Bamberg on the expectation of in-person courses. With this in mind, I have asked teaching staff to ensure that there is a sufficient in-person course offering in every degree programme – particularly for new students.

Extension of the Corona Statutes for the 2021/22 winter semester:

Our university's Corona Statutes were recently extended to apply to the 2021/22 winter semester. This means that, in particular, the possibility of choosing alternative examination formats and of individual flexibility in examinations (see Information on Studies in the 2021 Summer Semester (3) of 20 May 2021) will be maintained.

University Library opening hours:

With the start of lectures on 18 October, the regular long opening hours will apply again for all University Branch Libraries. Please see <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/ub/oeffnungszeiten/normal-semester-schedule/>.

Once again, I wish you all a good start to the new semester.

Sincerely,

Stefan Hörmann