

Information on Studies in the 2020/21 Winter Semester (8)

Bamberg, 1 February 2021

Dear colleagues,

As promised in my last newsletter, I am pleased to be able to provide new information so soon.

Mask requirements in university buildings:

The existing requirement to wear a mask when visiting university buildings will be modified to the effect that the University Executive Board now recommends wearing FFP2 masks to the greatest extent possible.

Examinations:

We can now provide more precise information on the planning and implementation of examinations beginning 15 February 2021. The most important news is this: both the university examinations and the state teaching examinations will take place – naturally while strictly adhering to infection protection measures for all in-person examinations. More detailed information will be available on the university's coronavirus website: <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/faq-for-university-members/faq-current-situation/>. Together with the entire Executive Board, I very much hope that this will provide you with the necessary planning security. We are doing everything we can to ensure that even in times of a very unpredictable pandemic, the exams will be held as planned and that we can all have a good end to the semester.

Students registered for an examination who, due to their own risk assessment, wish to refrain from taking it in person at short notice may do so without any negative consequences. For one, the counting of failed attempts for all university examinations has been suspended for the current 2020/21 winter semester. Secondly, there is the possibility of an extra attempt or an additional repetition for the state examination in spring 2021. Additionally, the Bavarian government has decided that the current 2020/21 winter semester will not be counted towards either the maximum allowed duration of study or the BAföG deadlines. The corresponding bill should be introduced in the state parliament shortly.

In accordance with the regulations for state examinations, participants are now required to wear a mouth and nose covering for all examinations. As with general mask recommendations, the University Executive Board recommends wearing FFP2 masks with increased protection against infection as far as this is deemed possible in individual cases. Exceptions to this rule only apply to practical examinations. The specific regulations currently applicable to conducting the corresponding courses in person also apply here.

Dining halls:

One last piece of good news: in addition to the dining hall in the Feldkirchenstraße, the Austraße dining hall is also offering take-away meals again as of today.

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

With my heartfelt thanks – particularly to the Office of Examinations staff and to all examination invigilators – and my best wishes for all our health.

Sincerely,

Stefan Hörmann