

Information on Teaching in the 2021/22 Winter Semester (8)

Dear colleagues,

I already have some new information to report to you today.

Examinations:

Following the recent resolutions of the Bavarian Council of Ministers, the regulation generally applicable to examination access is the 3G rule – and no longer 3G+. Due to the local scarcity of PCR testing resources, the previously exceptional possibility of submitting a negative rapid test carried out by an authorised testing centre has now been established as the rule.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Education has now adopted the minimum requirement that candidates taking the state teaching examination wear a medical mask at their assigned seats during the examination. This means that our university has consistent access regulations for all University and state examinations.

At the outset of the examination period, I would also like to remind you again of the existing possibility for instructors, in consultation with the Dean of Studies, to grant those students from abroad and within Germany who cannot take part in an examination for objective coronavirus-related reasons an individual later appointment – if necessary also with a different examination format. This option, which was adopted in the University's corona statutes last summer semester, provides an instrument that enables flexible solutions in times of high infection rates and increasing burdens due to quarantine measures. Particularly for those students who miss the final examination(s) of their degree programme due to coronavirus and who would have to extend their studies in order to make up the examination in the following semester, this could make it possible for them to complete their studies as planned. Detailed information on the application procedure can be found in the coronavirus FAQs at <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/faq-for-university-members/faq-for-teachers/>.

Course access for persons who have not been vaccinated for medical reasons:

Analogous to the change in the G-regulation for examinations, the 3G rule – and no longer 3G+ – now also applies to students who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

Testing services:

I am pleased to inform you that Malteser International will again be operating a testing station at our University at selected times from the middle of next week. You can find details at <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/health-management/coronavirus/covid-19-testing-for-students/>.

Summer semester planning:

As communicated on previous occasions, together with the other Bavarian universities, we are planning to return to in-person teaching in the 2022 summer semester. Needless to say, we will have to keep an eye on as yet unforeseeable developments in the pandemic situation in the

coming months and, where necessary, react to them as the situation demands. At the beginning of April, we would like to acquire an overview regarding the current state of course planning. Special consideration will be given to teaching formats that are strongly online-supported. Especially as our University cannot compete with the drawing power of other universities located in large cities, personal support is extremely important for the retention of the students who choose to come to Bamberg. Students consistently confirm this and it should always be kept in mind in times of increased competition to attract and retain students.

Sincerely,

Stefan Hörmann