Dear students,

I am pleased to inform you about some new developments both related and unrelated to coronavirus.

Mask requirements:

In close coordination with the other Bavarian universities, the University of Bamberg is also changing its requirement to wear FFP2 masks indoors into a strong recommendation to wear FFP2 or medical masks. Beginning on Friday, 27 May 2022, this regulation will apply to all situations in which a minimum distance of 1.5 m from other persons cannot be reliably maintained. Planning room occupancy with the minimum required distancing is strongly recommended for all examinations – and especially highly frequented examinations. However, examination time allowances when wearing masks will no longer be granted.

Course participation by pregnant students wearing masks:

Due to increased breathing resistance, tight-fitting protective masks (especially FFP2 masks) are only of limited suitability for pregnant women. Periods in which masks are worn should be limited in time depending on the individual's physical condition, the stage (month) of pregnancy and local conditions. If required, pregnant persons should cooperate with instructors to determine alternative protective measures to wearing FFP2 masks. If possible, masks should be removed while keeping a protective distance of at least 1.5 m from other persons. Otherwise, students and instructors must agree in advance upon individual periods for wearing and removing FFP2 or surgical masks during course sessions. You can find further German-language information here: https://www.uni-bamberg.de/fgh/familienfreundlich-studieren/mutterschutz/.

Student Service Centre opening hours:

The Student Service Centre (Sections II/1-4: Academic Registrar's Office, Central Student Advisory Service, Office of Examinations, International Office) once again has regular opening hours for the public. The core opening hours for all departments are Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and additionally on Monday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Registrar's Office and International Office. Additionally, outside of these times, the Office of Examinations and the Central Student Advisory Service are available Monday afternoons, and all sections are available from Tuesday to Friday by appointment. During core opening hours, scheduled appointments are only possible if specific questions are involved or if certain contact persons in the respective unit must be consulted.

Certificate of inability to take an examination:

Following the expiration of corresponding, pandemic-related special regulations in the University's Corona Statutes, it is no longer possible for you to withdraw from a university module examination by simply not attending. If you are absent without excuse from an
examination for which they are registered, this will again result in a failed attempt due to unexcused absence. For an illness-related withdrawal from examinations, students are again required to present a medical certificate. The Office of Examinations has compiled extensive information on this, which is available in German here: https://www.uni-bamberg.de/pruefungsamt/atteste-formulare-fuer-den-arztbesuch/. This website also provides

- a form for the certificate of inability to take an examination in case of not attending a written/oral/practical examination (medical certificate) and
- a form for requesting a deadline waiver for seminar papers/final theses due to illness combined with a doctor’s certificate of inability to take examinations.

You are advised to use the corresponding form in the event of illness in order to simplify processing. The section with the student and examination data can be edited directly in the PDF, and the correspondingly pre-completed form can then be presented to the examining doctor for certification of the inability to take the examination.

Outline schedule for centrally organised and decentralised examinations:

A schedule for all (written) centrally organised and decentralised examinations will be available online from the 2022 summer semester onwards. An existing overview of the registration dates for decentralised and centrally organised examinations on the pages of the Examinations Office under the heading “FlexNow/FlexNow for students” has been revised for this purpose. The complete schedule can be found at https://out.uni-bamberg.de/prf/an_abmelde_fristen-prf.jspx. The precise examination dates for centrally organised examinations will be available once the planning phase has been completed (around mid-July). The individually responsible teaching units handle entry of decentralised examination dates.

Function-specific email addresses for degree programme representatives:

Starting in the 2022 summer semester, degree programme representatives are required to use and announce official, function-specific email addresses. General concerns about the degree programme that do not fall under the responsibility of the Student Advisory Service or the Examining Board can now be sent directly to this function-specific email address. You will find the respective address on your degree programme website. Another new feature is the establishment of programme-related email distribution lists. The degree programme representatives can use these to contact all students in the degree programme by email.

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)

Results of the study conditions evaluation:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your participation in the evaluation of study conditions in the 2021/22 winter semester. With your support, we were once again able to gather valuable information for the further development of our degree programmes and service institutions. Results are available in the QM-ServiceNet at https://www.uni-bamberg.de/qm/evaluation/zentrale-evaluation/studienbedingungsevaluation/202021-1/. In
addition, the degree programme representatives will receive the results for discussion in their respective degree programme's quality circles.

The Committee for Study and Teaching Quality already discussed the results in its meeting on 18 May. Central topics were the different modalities and deadlines for examination and course registration and deregistration, as well as access to courses. From the committee's point of view, the communication and transparency of deadlines for registration and deregistration of examinations has already been improved by the introduction of the outline schedule for centrally organised and decentral examinations (see above). In order to increase the transparency of registration and deregistration modalities and deadlines for both examinations and courses, the information should be published more uniformly on teaching units' and degree programmes' websites in the future.

9-euro ticket:

Your semester public transport pass is automatically valid as a 9-euro ticket. You do not have to do anything; you will neither be required to make a payment, nor will you receive a refund. Beginning 1 June 2022, you can use your semester pass for short-distance public transport (all commuter trains, buses, underground trains and trams) throughout Germany for the period from June to August 2022. Please note that this ticket is not valid for long-distance travel (for example ICE/IC/EC trains). The University of Bamberg semester public transport pass (validated student ID/enrolment certificate) in conjunction with your official identity card is valid for this purpose.

Best wishes and warm regards,

Stefan Hörmann