



Containment ordinance and best wishes – Uni-list-e-mail from Prof. Andreas Musil, 3 December 2020

Dear Sir or Madam, dear students, dear colleagues,

The new containment ordinance for Brandenburg which came into effect on Wednesday will not result in any further restrictions for teaching operations at the University of Potsdam. The health of our employees and students will continue to be a top priority. At the same time, on-site teaching is still possible as long as the applicable framework conditions are met. In addition to the established hands-face-space rules, it has become mandatory for everyone since the beginning of the instructional period to wear a face covering inside buildings, for students also inside lecture halls, and there is also a newly imposed maximum of 50 people within rooms. This also applies to lecture halls in which more people had previously been allowed to teach and learn together.

The University of Potsdam has made the decision to also compensate for the additional burden put on students by the necessary hybrid semester with regard to the winter semester 2020/2021 by extending the examination deadline accordingly. That is to say: The examination deadline will be extended by one semester for all students who were enrolled in the winter semester 2020/2021, regardless of when the examination deadline will come into effect. You can find example to clarify this on the website <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/studying/corona>, see “Consequences on your studies due to the introduction of individual standard periods of study”. This link will also take you to further, frequently updated information with regard to teaching and studies.

It is safe to assume that there will be no new interpretation of the prevailing legal situation until the beginning of the academic Christmas break. Unfortunately, it is not yet possible to make predictions for the new year. We ask for your understanding in this situation, since we will not be able to inform you about how things will proceed before the break.

A year that has been eventful and moving slowly at the same time is coming to a close. When it comes to teaching and studies, this year turned many things upside down, but some things might have been put back on their feet as well. We sincerely hope that we can get back to calmer waters in 2021 and interact as we used to, while continuing to make use of this digital impetus. I wish you all the best for the upcoming holiday season, but above all else: I hope you can relax and find many opportunities to slow down for a moment!

Sincerely,
Prof. Dr. Andreas Musil
Vice President for Teaching and Studies