

Teaching operations until the end of the instructional period – Uni-list-e-mail from Prof. Andreas Musil, 8 January 2021

Dear Sir or Madam, dear students, dear colleagues,

I hope that the new year will bring you and all of us more positive surprises than the previous one. The new containment ordinance passed by the state government on Friday is not exactly surprising, but nevertheless marked by consequences for teaching operations.

As announced in December, we have used the new provisions to derive how we will proceed with the organization of teaching as of Monday, January 11:

1. Courses will not take place in on-site attendance formats until the end of the instructional period (February 12).
2. Practical laboratory courses are exempt from this rule. However, the maximum number of people allowed in each room is 5. This provision will initially apply until the end of January. A reassessment of the situation will take place on the basis of the containment ordinance in force at that time.
3. In addition, practical athletic courses offered in the context of degree programs may also take place in compliance with the hygiene guidelines.
4. Examinations may take place in on-site attendance formats. The maximum number of persons is 50 per room in this case. It is mandatory for everyone to wear a mask covering mouth and nose.
5. Furthermore, courses that serve the immediate preparation of examinations may take place in on-site attendance formats. It is also mandatory in this case for everyone to wear a mask covering mouth and nose.

The University Library also offers low-contact media borrowing and return services. You can also make copies. Reading spaces and workstations are not to be used for the time being. Further information, including the opening hours of the circulation desk, will be published on the [websites of the University Library](#).

As you have witnessed over the past few months, teaching with on-site attendance continues to be very important to us. Decisions like the ones we have to share with you today are not easy for us, but they are warranted under the current circumstances. We very much hope to be able to contribute to a rapid improvement of the situation with this.

So allow me to give you a brief preview of the summer semester: While we expect some easing of restrictions, it will certainly not yet be possible to organize teaching in the way we were accustomed to until February 2020. Reduced capacity in terms of space will likely continue to be a factor throughout the summer semester. It is therefore desirable to also plan for as many digital teaching offers as possible – using all the various options that this format provides. If courses are planned as face-to-face formats at the same time, this will allow for a high degree of flexibility, as both students and teaching staff can adapt their teaching and learning methods to the respective situation – in the home office

and in the lecture hall.

With the experiences gained during the summer and winter, this approach should be in everyone's interest. Both students and teachers can cultivate and further optimize their use of digital media; at the same time, both the vaccines and warmer weather will hopefully allow us to have direct contact again.

Sincerely,

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