DISCLAIMER: This is a commodity use, legally non-binding translation of the German original.

Newsletter Studium und Lehre, Issue 18/2021

published by the Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Link to English version: <u>https://www.qsl.uni-</u> wuppertal.de/fileadmin/qsl/7_Newsletter/Newsletter_PI_QIV-2021-18_en.pdf

Contents:

- 1. Continue: Presence is the rule
- 2. Hygiene and other precautions
- 3. Specialities with regards to compulsory attendance
- 4. Dealing with symptoms of illness and infections
- 5. Course evaluation WS 21/22
- 6. Link and contact collection

1. Continue: Presence is the rule

We all observe with concern the development of the CoViD-19 infection figures. Like other universities in NRW, we have implemented a concept for this semester that enables presence in large parts, reduces contacts and at the same time implements a comprehensive 3G-concept. The legal situation imposed by the state remains unchanged for the time being: Presence is the rule.

An interesting piece of information in this context: From the count at the issuing points for the festival wristbands we know: 95% of the people who attend our courses are fully immunized, i.e. vaccinated or recovered.

2. Hygiene and other precautions

The rectorate has decided today by house rules: In all courses it is obligatory to wear a medical mouth-nose-protection. This also applies to courses where a minimum distance of 1.50 m can be maintained. When moving around in the building, the obligation to wear a mask will of course continue to apply.

It is important that hygiene measures are consistently observed: Among other things, remind everyone to regularly ventilate course or seminar rooms that are not technically ventilated. Cancel a course if the masks are not worn or not worn properly.

A privately operated testing center will reopen at the Grifflenberg campus, probably the first week of December.

3. Specialities with regards to compulsory attendance

Reminder: According to the Higher Education Act, compulsory attendance for a course must be specified in the module description as part of the examination regulations. Constructs such as "no compulsory attendance but compulsory participation and therefore attendance or compensation" are not permitted for courses without compulsory attendance. Likewise, an attendance obligation cannot be derived from the workload in LP (CP) shown in the module reference handbook for the possible attendance.

If attendance is compulsory, there are often regulations that ask for compensation for lack of attendance in the form of written work, for example. Even if this is generally a desirable approach to students' special circumstances, such an approach also creates disincentives in times of pandemic: if compensation is time-consuming, students might prefer to continue attending the class despite symptoms of illness.

The Rectorate has therefore decided on the following regulation for the winter semester 21/22 for all courses with compulsory attendance: Students may not attend a course for up to 4 weeks due to illness without being required to make up for it. The only exception to this rule is the use of additionally offered substitute dates in presence.

4. Dealing with symptoms of illness and infections

The following is not new and can be found in the FAQs as well as in previous newsletters. Attendance at a course with symptoms that may indicate a CoViD-19 illness is not permitted until it has been clarified that it is not a CoViD-19 illness. If you are ill with CoViD-19, please inform the university - employees as well as students - in the ways described in the FAQs.

Whether further persons have to be quarantined because of a CoViD-19 disease that has occurred in the environment is decided by the health department. In particular, the possible occurrence of a case in a course is not a reason to no longer offer this course in attendance.

5. Course evaluation WS 21/22

The registration portal for course evaluations in the winter semester 2021/2022 is open again: <u>https://www.qsl.uni-wuppertal.de/de/evaluation-und-befragungen/evasys-</u><u>lehrveranstaltungsevaluation/anmeldung-einer-lvb.html</u>

To Instructors: Please see the course evaluation cover letter linked here:

https://www.qsl.uni-

wuppertal.de/fileadmin/qsl/3_Evaluation/Lehrveranstaltungsbewertung/Anschreiben_Evasys_Info_z ur_Anmeldung.pdf

6. Link and contact collection

Questions and answers about Corona: https://www.uni-wuppertal.de/de/universitaet/coronavirus/

For students:

Contact form of the quality representative: <u>https://uni-w.de/xt50v</u>

For teachers:

Information from the BU:NDLE network: <u>https://www.bundle.uni-wuppertal.de/</u>

Instructions for technology in the lecture halls: <u>https://uni-w.de/zimhs</u>

Distance Teaching Requests: e-teaching@uni-wuppertal.de

Also check out our social media channels:

www.facebook.com/uni.wuppertal www.instagram.com/uni.wuppertal

www.twitter.com/Uni Wuppertal

www.linkedin.com/school/buw

Prof. Dr. Andreas FrommerProrector for Studies and TeachingBergische Universität WuppertalTel. +49 202 439 2217