

Corona Virus Update | Current Information Email to Students of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, Thursday, June 18th 2020

Dear Students,

this week, we are all entering the last mile of this summer semester 2020. It has been a demanding semester for all of us, and we are very proud of the way you mastered this semester with all its difficulties.

Before the end of the exam period, we will give you more detailed information on your study conditions in the next semester. The winter semester will be a “hybrid” semester with both online and face-to-face classes.

Writing Exams with Larger Numbers of Participants

If you are writing exams in larger locations, especially in the Alando Discotheque, the Aula or the Mensa, please make sure you arrive ahead of time. Also, keep your distance when in line in front of the entrance to the buildings. The examples from neighboring districts show that being in a larger group can be dangerous with regard to spreading the virus. We would like to avoid such incidents.

Are Sexual Crimes and Violence not Relevant for Universities?

Sexual harassment and sexual violence are topics that are often tabooed and under-estimated in all strata of society. Universities as places of study and work make no exception. Neither does our university and the topic is present during the Corona crisis. Our university does not accept these crimes nor does it trivialize them. Of course, we will pursue any cases that occur.

The university wants her members to study and work in an atmosphere that is free from discrimination. Therefore, the university has started to develop regulations against sexual discrimination and violence that will create a common and transparent framework on how to deal with any such cases.

For students, phd students and apprentices, sexual harassment and violence pose a special burden because they might feel they are dependent on their teachers and professors. Therefore, it can be especially difficult for them to speak out and look for help.

We are constantly monitoring, evaluating and improving existing measures against sexual crime at the university. Therefore, we would like to explicitly encourage students who are victims of sexual crime to not accept this situation, but to come forward and talk to experts in order to end the abuse.

[The Equal Opportunities Office cooperates with the womens' counseling service of the City of Osnabrück.](#) (leaflet in German)

In September 2020, there will be target group specific working groups that will address the question of how to deal with sexualized violence in the workplace. If you would like to contribute to these groups, please contact the Equal Opportunities Office.

And please save the date: November 25th 2020 will be the Global Day to end violence against women.

This year, we would like to make this day visible at the university once again, and we are looking for people who would like to develop projects at the different campuses and entities. If you are interested, please make contact with the Equal Opportunities Office: www.gleichstellungsbuero.hs-osnabrueck.de (in German).

New Edition of University Journal “WIR” – for the first time as an online magazine

This week, the 18th edition of our university journal „WIR“ has been published. The focus topic is how the university has been dealing with the Corona pandemic. Teachers, students and employees talk about their experiences. But there is also lots of room for other topics: Read about research work (e.g. on mobile stables for hens), about a new kind of apple, on music physiotherapy and on people who support refugees.

Please find the online magazine here:

www.hs-osnabrueck.de/wir-journal Of course, you can download it as pdf-file. If you would like to have a printed version, please send us an email to kommunikation@hs-osnabrueck.de .

Online-Podium Discussion: What are COVID-19's effects on the world of work?

In an online discussion, six scientists from Osnabrück will shed light on the various effects that the Corona Pandemic has on companies, institutions and organisations, their leaders and their employees. The event will take place on Wednesday, June 24th at 7 p.m..

You can follow the discussion on the youtube channels of both universities, as well as on OS-Radio.

Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences will be represented by Prof. Dr. Uwe Kanning (Business Psychology), Melanie Malczok (phd student) and Prof. Dr. Carsten Steinert (Human Resources Management). Any additional information can be found here:

<https://www.hs-osnabrueck.de/veranstaltungen/2020/06/corona-und-die-arbeitswelt> . (in German language)

Have a great end of the week!

Your University Steering Committee