

Corona virus update | current info-mail to students of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, Friday, March 27th, 2020

Dear Students,

at the end of the second „online week“ at our university, we would like to supply you with important information and make some suggestions.

Today's topics:

Events apart from Study and Teaching

Please note that with regard to the current situation and the regulations that are already in place in other states of Germany, no events exceeding the number of 100 guests will be permitted to take place on the premises of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences through June 30th, 2020. Events with up to 100 guests cannot take place until April 30th, 2020. After the Easter Holidays, we will assess the situation anew and inform you of the outcome. The Minister of Economics of the federal state of Lower Saxony, Olaf Lies, said yesterday: "...we are well-advised not to assume that there will be any large events in May or June."

At this moment, we cannot assume whether there will be any examination concerts and similar events in June. We will keep you informed as the situation develops.

Exams for international visiting students (exchange students)

International visiting students who never travelled to Osnabrück due to the corona crisis or who had to return to their home countries upon order or request of their home universities, and who are following online classes, will be allowed to participate in alternative exams this semester and only this semester. The university recommends a written paper as preferred examination method. Also, an oral exam can be held online with the teacher of the respective module and a second assessor. Due to the extraordinary circumstances, there will not need to be a supervisor present at the partner university. If free movement is still restricted at the time of the exam, the second assessor may participate online as well.

Reimbursement of any money left on your CampusCard in case of exmatriculation

If you exmatriculate from Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences and have money left on your CampusCard, you can file an application for reimbursement with the Student Service Center Osnabrück (Studentenwerk Osnabrück) – see

<https://www.studentenwerk-osnabrueck.de/de/essen/bezahlen-mit-der-campuscard-unicard/antrag-auf-auszahlung-campuscard-unicard.html> (website in German) Normally, this application is used when you have lost your CampusCard, but in the current situation it can also be used when exmatriculating. Please allow for some time until the reimbursement can be processed.

Reimbursement of Semester Fees

The paragraph on reimbursement of semester fees from our info-mail on Wednesday, was misleading and has led to many questions. Therefore, the Office of the University Registrar has updated their FAQs:

<https://osca.hs-osnabrueck.de/Wikibereich/Studium%20und%20Lehre%20%C2%B0/01%20Studierendensekretariat/00%20Corona%20-%20FAQ%20Pr%C3%BCfungs-%20und%20Immatrikulationsangelegenheiten.aspx> (in German). If you have questions regarding this topic, please turn to your contact person in the Office of the University Registrar.

Library

Our colleagues in the libraries together with the Department of University Communications have adapted the library website to the current situation. Please find daily updates about literature and

other types of media here: <https://www.bib.hs-osnabrueck.de> (website in German). Some details (e.g. on distance loans and internal delivery services) will be added next week.

And one suggestion to help cope with the current situation:

Your fellow student Niklas Roling, a student of the musical class, currently in his second semester, has captured the unusual situation musically in a sensitive song "World is crying". He comments: " In this difficult and uncertain time, I lie in bed at night contemplating – as probably many do - and I ask myself how the world is going to cope with this. I wrote this song to let out my thoughts and emotions and to stop the worrying. That is the message of my song." If you would like to hear the song: <https://youtu.be/-FsiAVuJFbE>

And last but not least: Hilke and Timo, our campus reporters had a videoconference to find out whether student services are still available at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences during the corona crisis: <https://youtu.be/Upu5ybE567A>

Talk to you next week –so stay safe!

Your University Steering Committee