

Corona Virus Update | Current E-Mail Update to Students of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, Friday, April 24th, 2020

Dear Students,

today, on Friday, just before the end of the sixth week in online-mode, we would like to update you with important information about this unusual summer semester.

Schedule and Proceedings for the Summer Semester 2020

On April 20th, 2020, the federal state of Lower Saxony has decided that all university classes wherever possible must be completed in online mode.

Exams and classes that require face-to-face teaching and special surroundings (e.g. lab classes), as well as the libraries may be resumed under very strict hygiene measures.

Based on this decision, the University Steering Committee will activate the scenario described as “face-to-face classes under restrictions” (<https://bit.ly/39UoVgg>) from May 11th, 2020. Practical classes and exams that require a face-to-face situation will be possible again.

All other classes will be completed in online mode.

That is valid for all continuing education as well.

The period for completing practical classes and exams will be extended by two weeks until July 18th, 2020.

In order to resume these selected classes, strict orders must be obeyed that are currently developed by the Vice President for Study and Teaching in cooperation with the academic deans. We will communicate these orders to you on May 4th, 2020. On the same day, the faculties and the Institute of Music will publish the dates for all face-to-face classes and exams.

The same scenario applies to a surveyed area of the library in the month of May. We will communicate the exact date to you next week. In order to do so, agreements with the University of Osnabrück need to be reached since we share the library building on the Westerberg Campus.

Obligation to wear protective masks on all campuses

As detailed above, on May 11th, selected classes will be resumed so that there will be more people. Therefore, from May 11th, anyone who enters the university campus is obligated to wear a protective mask that covers nose and mouth. In addition, a distance of 1.5 meters must be kept between all persons, even when walking by.

We will inform you of any further hygienic regulations in our upcoming newsletters. The university has received protective masks and we will inform you on how you can acquire them. As soon as possible.

If you have already produced or bought protective masks on your own initiative, we ask you to use those masks so that we will not have any shortage on campus. Wearing protective masks is strongly recommended from now on.

Events and Activities apart from curricular teaching:

At Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, there will be no extracurricular activities or events until August 31st, 2020. This applies to all events and activities where the university is the organizer and which address the general public or groups that are not members of the university.

Exams – as well as exams that are organized by other institutions in our buildings – are part of study and teaching and will take place along the lines of special regulations that will be communicated shortly.

Special Counseling Offer in Difficult Times

We would like to take the opportunity of this newsletter to inform about the counseling services of the Equal Opportunities Office. Isolation at home in connection with financial worries and burdens, increase the danger of conflict and violence. In addition, it is harder for persons affected by violence to call for personal help. The Equal Opportunities Office, in cooperation with the Women's Counseling Center at the City of Osnabrück, offer advice: <https://bit.ly/2xEkZn3>

This offer is free from charge for the members of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, anonymous if needed, and will be conducted by an external expert who is independent from the structures and hierarchies of the university and who has a non-disclosure obligation. Men who would prefer to receive counseling from other men, can obtain contact data from this service.

And again today, we would like to present you artists who who at our university in a video. Mr. Edwin Schulz and Ms Marion Gutzeit who teach in the specialization pop music at the Institute of Music have produced a song – locally separated but united in their creativity:

<https://youtu.be/uoemB8JcWo>

„After we had adequately equipped our home offices for online singing lessons, the scene made us smile and we were just too tempted to produce a small musical piece. In a two-hours' Zoom-discussion (...there are so many great songs out there!) we chose "I'll be there for you" by The Rembrandts because it transmits such a great and fitting message: A positive song on how friendship and solidarity carry us through the hard times. We hope you'll have as much fun watching as we had recording. Even if the times are rough, we may try to take some things easy", say Marion Gutzeit and Eddy Schulz with a wink. 😊

Wishing you all a happy and healthy weekend,

your University Steering Committee