



Universität Hamburg
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

UHH · Der Präsident · Mittelweg 177 · 20148 Hamburg

To all Universität Hamburg employees

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dieter Lenzen

Präsident

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Staff code P

Instructions No. 12 to contain COVID-19

Dear Colleagues!

I am providing you with Instructions No 12 issued on 22 January 2021 to contain COVID-19.

These instructions—released shortly after Instructions No. 11—are necessary because the decisions taken by the chancellor and the state prime ministers resulted in several changes, which you can find in Instructions No. 12 and the FAQ (<https://www.uni-hamburg.de/en/corona-faq>). This particularly concerns the following topics:

- Examinations (section 1.2)
- Mask requirement (section 3.1)
- Emergency childcare and school closures (section 3.10)
- Working from home (section 4.2)
- Library operations (section 4.3)

Please make note of the new instructions in the respective sections.

The University is not only responsible for making a valuable contribution to containing the coronavirus pandemic in Hamburg but also prepared to do so. With more than 60,000 members, the University body is the size of a medium-sized city in Germany. This is why we have taken measures to avoid on-site presence. Simply being aware that all rules are observed in the University (distancing, hygiene, face mask, etc.) fails to recognize that our contribution must also minimize comings and goings on campus, because coronavirus spreads particularly in public transport.

I thus urgently ask all staff to work from home until 14 February 2021 if at all possible. This means that the University management in its role as employer should ensure that on-site presence is avoided where not operationally absolutely necessary. For this reason, the respective supervisors are obliged to act accordingly and enable each employee who wishes to do so to work from home provided that no absolutely necessary work-related reasons prevent doing so. Absolutely necessary reasons are those that make it impossible to properly maintain university operations when working from home.

I ask for your understanding that written and oral examinations should be carried out digitally for all of Winter Semester 2020/21. With this decision, we are acknowledging the wish of many to have a degree of certainty for the future. The offices of the dean and the Executive University Board are currently making the necessary plans for this.

Of course, this may hinder usual working methods in a particular field of activity. Unfortunately, that is something we must accept during these times.

Therefore, I ask you to respect and treat your colleagues' health with care.

In addition, flexibility is also expected for those employees who have to care for their children themselves, for example, due to the closure of childcare centers and schools. Please be mindful and accommodating of such matters.

We all hope for a change in regulations from 14 February that will result in an easing of work hindrances.

The executive university boards of Hamburg's higher education institutions are in close contact with the Hamburg Ministry of Science, Research, Equalities and Districts over numerous issues that have arisen due to the current regulations, such as extending the regular period of study, waiving the grading of examinations, and much else.

In our openness toward the concerns and needs of our colleagues, we are contributing to the fight against the coronavirus as well as to the development of a close-knit community in which everyone stands up for each other.

Please do your part.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Lenzen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dieter Lenzen