To all students

19 January 2021
VP2

Examinations for Winter Semester 2020/21 and Planning for Summer Semester 2021

Dear Students,

Firstly, let me wish you all a happy new year, one in which we all hope that we will gradually return to normalcy.

Due to the development of the pandemic, the University is obliged to conduct lectures in digital form only for the remaining weeks of the winter semester lecture period. The University leadership has decided that written and oral examinations should also be carried out digitally. This should give you the greatest possible certainty when you plan and ensure that, with few exceptions, you can take your examinations in February and March even if there is a stricter lockdown.

The faculties are currently converting their written examinations to digital formats (take-home exams) or equivalent forms, and will let you know about your examinations and how you will take them as soon as possible. This process is very work-intensive for our teachers and their support staff, and we ask for your understanding if the usual procedures cannot be maintained.

If you have any other questions regarding your studies or teaching (organization of studies, examinations, advice) I refer you expressly to the FAQ (https://www.uni-hamburg.de/en/newsroom/intern/2020/0131-corona-faq.html). These are updated regularly and provide the most up-to-date information on our regulations. For any other questions, contact your academic office.
We have already received a large number of questions regarding how Summer Semester 2021 will be carried out. Unfortunately, this is currently uncertain, as no-one knows how the pandemic will play out. At the moment, we are assuming that the distancing and hygiene rules will continue to apply. Therefore, in-person lectures will take place only to a very limited extent. To provide as much certainty in planning for both you and your teachers, the range of subjects on offer will be largely taught digitally. Sadly, this means in-person teaching will remain the exception for the summer semester as well. We hold out strong hope that circumstances will allow us to conduct practical courses, such as laboratory internships, excursions, and sports exercises in person.

We know that the pandemic and the associated lockdown are demanding a lot from you and from us all. But by consistently reducing contact at the University, we are making a valuable contribution to containing the pandemic. I hope the outcome will be worth all our effort, and that we can all get back to the university life that we know.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Susanne Rupp
Vice President for Studies and Teaching