



**Universität Hamburg**

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

UHH · Vizepräsidentin Mittelweg 177 · 20148 Hamburg

To all teaching staff at Universität Hamburg

**Prof. Dr. Susanne Rupp**

Vizepräsidentin  
Studium und Lehre

Mittelweg 177  
20148 Hamburg

Tel: +49 40 42838-6906  
VP.Rupp@uni-hamburg.de  
www.uni-hamburg.de

22.02.2022  
VP2

## **Summer Semester 2022**

Dear instructors,

We are delighted that the coronavirus pandemic situation appears set to improve over the next few months and that, at this point in time, we can assume we will be able to offer an in-person summer semester.

After two years of predominantly digital teaching and learning at universities, the return to in-person courses will be a special step for all University members. The past few months have made the importance of direct contact and chance interactions abundantly clear. As a social and cultural space, the University cannot be accessed purely digitally. Therefore, we would like to explicitly encourage you to offer your students the opportunity to enter into direct exchange with each other during and alongside their courses during the summer semester.

Digital teaching has proven indispensable in many areas during the pandemic and will continue to play an important role in Universität Hamburg's curriculum in the future. In this context, a significant challenge will be to determine the appropriate ratio of in-person teaching formats to digital teaching formats with regard to subject-specific and didactic matters while considering students' needs and ensuring subjects can be studied. The pandemic semesters have raised awareness of the need for good teaching. We must now incorporate the experience gained into the design of future-oriented teaching.

In order to allow for a flexible planning framework for the summer semester, the Executive University Board decided in November 2021 to allow online teaching to account for up to 100 percent of the obligatory teaching load in Summer Semester 2022 as well. This was decided when the pandemic's development over the medium term was still unforeseeable. However, this exception will remain in place even during the current favorable forecasts. This ensures

we have the necessary scope for testing and implementing digital teaching concepts where these make didactic sense, or help to meet the needs of vulnerable groups during what are still special conditions.

Despite our joy and confidence in these positive developments, we must continue to keep an eye on the coronavirus pandemic situation. The protective and hygiene measures (e.g., wearing masks) in place for the summer semester will depend on developments in the coming weeks and the City of Hamburg's coronavirus containment ordinance. We will provide you with the relevant information as soon as the conditions are clear.

I wish you a pleasant reading period and look forward to seeing you and your students once again filling the University's buildings with life in the summer semester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susanne Rupp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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