

Corona virus update | Current information e-mail to students of OsnabrückUniversity of Applied Sciences, Friday, April 3rd, 2020

Dear students,

at the end of the third full week of “online mode”, we would like to give you some important information and suggestions.

Today’s topics:

Exams at the end of summer semester 2020:

At this moment, we cannot tell you how exams can be offered during this semester’s exam period (June 13th until July 4th). Especially with regard to written exams, there is a great deal of insecurity, however oral exams, presentations and some other types of exams are affected as well.

Of course, face-to-face exams will only be held, if the authorities allow us to proceed this way. If this is not the case, we will have to defer all face-to-face exams. At this moment, we are working on more detailed scenarios regarding your classes should face-to-face classes remain in recess beyond April 20th 2020. We will introduce these scenarios to you on Wednesday, April 8th, 2020.

Security advice when using „Zoom“

Currently, many classes are held online through the software “Zoom”. At the same time, the media are full of doubtful reports on the software’s data protection measures and security. Under the current conditions (continuation of studies and teaching online versus security doubts), we have come to the conclusion that there is no other videoconference system besides the commercial “Zoom” that guarantees stable and reliable videoconferencing in order to continue our classes this semester. Currently, our university proceeds with around 500 videoconferences and 10,000 participants every day. Please have a look at our eLearning Competence Center’s advice on security, handling and update functions of “Zoom”: <https://www.hs-osnabrueck.de/de/elearning-competence-center/sichere-online-vorlesungen-mit-zoom/> (website in German)

Returning to the university

Osnabrück’s utilities provider (Stadtwerke Osnabrück) has issued a warning to all companies and institutions in Osnabrück that bacteria and germs can spread if the water pipes are not used regularly. Many water pipes have not been used for a while due to the absence of students in the past weeks. Therefore, if students return to the university (e.g. student bodies and student aids and tutors), please make sure you open the water pipes for some minutes before actually using the water. This ensures that any bacteria and germs will be flushed out of the water pipes.

Aufenthalt nach längerer Abwesenheit in der Hochschule

Online university sports

The Center for University Sports has put together some suggestions for you on how to stay in shape while at home. Check out #beactiveathome on this website: <https://www.zfh.uni-osnabrueck.de/sportangebot/beactiveathome/tipps-fuer-einen-bewegten-alltag-zuhause.html> for more information.

In addition, there are videos for a fitness break “Digitaler Pausenexpress” as well as “Pick & Mix – Create your own workout”. And there is the option to join live streaming of yoga and calisthenics programs: <https://www.zfh.uni-osnabrueck.de/sportangebot/beactiveathome/digitale-bewegungsangebote.html>

Our Special weekend music clip:

Your fellow student Marlene Schittenhelm, specialisation pop music, has to do without her band "MELE" during the corona situation, and has recruited her parents instead!

"Although I have the best band in the world, we were unable to overcome corona and had to separate geographically. Instead, I rehearsed with my parents for three days and now I can announce with pride: we can perform "deine cousine" while asleep and the a-Capella part runs very smoothly." To listen to the song, have a look at <https://youtu.be/XBvf8J2kXuA>

By the way: The Department of University Communications has been collecting creative ideas from the university. Check out their playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSjDva2jYXd2PAB0othPdRHdv4aQwCRDQ>

Talk to you again next week – make sure you stay safe!

Your University Steering Committee