

25.02.2021

## **Start of the third Covid semester**

Dear students, lecturers and employees

The Corona pandemic still has us firmly in its grip. Even though the infection figures are moving in the right direction, a lot of restraint is still called for. "The tunnel is still long," said President Guy Parmelin. The easing is therefore to be done slowly and in stages. For the time being, the universities remain in distance mode.

At the beginning of the week, we already started the third Covid semester at the UAS Grisons. In the meantime, we have gained a lot of experience with the virtual university. At the same time, however, we long for a return to a face-to-face environment, for personal exchange and light-hearted contacts. This spring semester demands patience from us once again.

### **Spring semester in distance mode**

In mid-January, we decided to continue our Bachelor's and consecutive Master's programmes in distance mode until the end of the Easter break. Since the Federal Council has not yet announced the opening of the universities and we want to guarantee our university members the greatest possible planning security, the university management decided today to conduct the entire spring semester in the Bachelor's and Master's programmes in distance learning. Special forms of teaching, such as laboratory and model construction, will continue to be possible with the approval of the Prorector. Accordingly, all assessments that are due during the semester will also be carried out online. Here too, justified exceptions can be applied for.

At the moment, the form in which the block week (week 23) can be organized, is still open. The university management will decide on the mode of the lessons as well as on the form of any assessments on 21 April 2021. At the same time, a decision will also be made on the mode in which the final module examinations will be conducted.

Planning security and the health of the university community are at the centre of our efforts. As already communicated on 11 February 2021, the examination structure of all final module examinations will be remote-enabled in the spring semester 2021. This means that the examination will be structured in the same way, regardless of whether it is conducted on-site or as a remote examination. We would like to explicitly point out that according to the updated regulations for study and examination operations in special and extraordinary situations, failed modules can only be repeated once in the spring semester 2021 - as was the case before Corona.

Due to the smaller class sizes, a return to face-to-face teaching will be sought in continuing education as soon as relaxations are possible. As long as the distance mode remains in place, assessments will also be carried out online.

Excursions in Switzerland and abroad are not possible up to and including 4 June 2021, in all study programmes. Also on 21 April 2021, the university management will decide on the

further procedure. The same applies to events organised by the UAS Grisons. Exceptions must be requested from the crisis management. Unavoidable business trips within the country, on the other hand, will continue to be possible.

All information can also be found on the [Corona website](#) under the relevant sections (e.g. "What does this mean for me as a student"). This is updated on an ongoing basis.

Our strong university community has proven over the past twelve months that it can deal with challenging situations. I am proud of this and feel great gratitude towards all of you. Your health continues to come first. At the beginning of the month, we therefore launched the social media campaign #moveFHGR - let yourself be inspired too!

Warmest regards and stay healthy

Yours, Jürg Kessler

Head of Crisis Management, President