

03 Dezember 2021

Dear students

In brief:

- **Time delays in the operational tests**
- **3G+ (protective mask obligation) from Monday, 6 December 2021**
- **Classroom teaching will continue to apply, but for epidemiological reasons all courses will now also be streamed.**

The situation regarding the corona pandemic is escalating again, also because of the new virus variant known as Omikron. The Federal Council has therefore decided today to introduce further measures in the fight against the pandemic.

Delays in operational tests: alternative solution being worked out

The Grisons is currently recording the highest number of cases since the beginning of the pandemic. The number of positive tests has exploded in the last few weeks. Accordingly, laboratory capacities are overloaded, and the Federal Council has also shortened the period of validity of the test results. Rapid antigen tests are now only valid for 24 hours. As a result, the samples cannot currently be evaluated within a reasonable period of time. It is now only allowed to participate in the operational test three times a week. The UAS crisis management team has therefore been working intensively to come up with an alternative solution so that face-to-face teaching can be maintained. We want to bridge the time delays with rapid antigen tests. As soon as we receive the first shipment, we will communicate the details. Either way, it is the responsibility of each and every university member to be able to show a valid certificate on site. However, people who obtain such a certificate by means of operational tests must currently take into account possible delays due to the overloaded labs.

Extension to 3G+ from Monday

As an immediate measure, the crisis management and the university management have decided to extend the compulsory certification at the UAS Grisons by a compulsory protective mask in all indoor rooms (3G+). Thus, from Monday, 6 December 2021, a general obligation to wear a mask will apply both in class and in the laboratories, as well as in the offices. The wearing of a mask can only be waived if the lecturers or presenting students can maintain a distance of at least 1.5 metres or if only one person occupies an office. A complete check of the certificates must be carried out by the lecturers at the beginning of each teaching unit.

Meetings will again take place online if possible. If this is not possible, a mask obligation applies there as well. The home office recommendation will remain unchanged in the manner.

All lectures will be streamed in parallel to face-to-face teaching

With the measures taken, we make it possible to continue face-to-face teaching. However, in view of the current epidemiological situation, from Monday, 6 December 2021, lessons will be streamed in any case, regardless of absences. Exceptions for didactic reasons must be communicated and justified to the director of studies and the students.

All other information, including events, excursions or business trips, will continue to be available on our website fhgr.ch/en/coronavirus, updated.

We hope to be able to pave the best way out of the crisis for all of us with prudent planning and appropriate measures. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you expressly for your understanding.

Kind regards,

Jürg Kessler

Head of Crisis Management, President