

March 13, 2020

## Continuation of university operations in distance learning

During the coronavirus pandemic, the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons is committed to protecting the health of its members and that of the public as well as maintaining regular teaching and research activities. Today the government of the Canton of Graubünden decided to suspend attendance at all tertiary education institutions in Graubünden from Monday, 16 March 2020, 06.00 a.m. until 30 April 2020, 24.00 p.m. (official communication available in German, Rumantsch and Italian). From 1 May onwards, attendance teaching will be resumed as far as possible according to the timetable. Tomorrow's classes will take place normally on Saturday, 14 March 2020.

This ordered closure does not catch us unprepared, as we have already been preparing for this scenario for several weeks as part of our crisis management. The attendance classes of the current spring semester will be offered in distance learning from Monday, 16 March 2020, 14.00 hrs. Solutions are being sought for internships and laboratory lessons and will be communicated shortly. This will ensure that you, esteemed students, can take the examinations of the spring semester and that there will be no delay in your studies. For further information, please contact your course administration directly.

The transition to a fully-fledged virtual UAS Grisons is proceeding in phases. From Monday, 16.3.2020, 14.00 hours, we will offer accompanied self-study in distance learning mode. In study programmes that already use video conferencing and other systems, these will be used from this time onwards. In a second step, all study programmes will implement a video conferencing system in order to facilitate the exchange with the lecturers. The system will be further upgraded with chat and forum functions in order to enable an exchange similar to that in classroom teaching. In this way we want to continue teaching largely according to the timetable. We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding, should not everything work out right away at the beginning.

In order to ensure that the recommendations for companies communicated by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) are ensured, the majority of employees are asked to spend the first two working days, from Monday, 16 March 2020, to Tuesday, 17 March 2020, in their home office. All employees with laptops are requested to take them home at all times starting today. Information on the further procedure for employees will be provided again within these first two working days to ensure that operations can continue on site. Lecturers should contact the respective heads of studies for detailed questions about teaching.

This does not apply to those employees whose presence on site has been defined as critical by the crisis management team and who are informed accordingly today, Friday, 13.3.2020.

All distance learning training courses will be conducted according to plan. The presence of all healthy persons in the «Virtual FHGR» training courses communicated at noon today is therefore of the utmost importance for successfully ensuring that all study programmes can continue.

The services of the UAS Grisons are available to students, lecturers and staff at a reduced rate. Students may only enter the buildings for the use of the following services. The administrations (locations A and E), libraries (locations A and E), technical lending (location I) and the International Office (location F) are open Monday to Friday from 9.30 to 12.30. The buildings are closed during other times. Employees have free access at all times with a badge.

Information on our measures can also be found on the website [fhgr.ch/en/coronavirus](https://fhgr.ch/en/coronavirus). We will keep you up to date on this website. If you have any questions, please contact the «Coronavirus» crisis team at [notfall@fhgr.ch](mailto:notfall@fhgr.ch).

Thank you very much for your understanding and support in this exceptional situation.

I wish you good health, much success and best wishes,

Your Jürg Kessler  
Head of Coronavirus Crisis Team