



To all Students at the
Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources

Corona virus: information (March 9, 2020)

Dear students,

The spread of the Corona virus (SARS-CoV-2) in our region is causing concern, numerous inquiries and a bundle of measures in everyday university life. With this letter, we would like to provide up-to-date information regarding possible consequences for your studies and provide you with measures for dealing with the situation. Rundschreiben No. 3/2020 (only in German) of the Rectorate provides more detailed information.

Lectures, seminars, events

Studies and teaching, including congresses /conferences, are currently taking place as planned.

In the event of suspicion (see below), students should not attend lectures, seminars or other events for 14 days. Specific suspected or confirmed corona cases must be reported to the degree program coordinator, the company medical service and/or the Rectorate's coordination team.

The Robert Koch Institute has compiled criteria for when the cancellation of (mass) events could be considered and makes recommendations for the process

(https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risiko_Gro_ssveranstaltungen.html).

Specifically, the following measures could be taken to reduce the risk of transmission and larger infection chains:

- Adequate ventilation of the venue
- Active information of the participants about general measures of infection protection such as hand hygiene, keeping a distance or cough and cold hygiene, e.g. via notices or announcements
- Limit or reduce the number of participants
- Exclusion of people with acute respiratory symptoms
- No close interaction between the participants
- Postpone the event or cancel it depending on further developments.

As the situation with the Corona virus is developing dynamically, please always keep yourself up to date if changes are necessary.

Exams

Currently, the study and examination activities are being maintained as usual. This means that the students registered for the exam are entitled to be tested and at the same time are obliged to take exams. If something changes in this situation due to a changed risk assessment, we will inform you promptly.

The regulations of all study and examination regulations for withdrawal from the examination continue to apply. Withdrawals from examinations are approved if the candidate's illness has been proven with a medical certificate or if the relevant evidence has been provided for another important reason.

Fakultätsvorstand:

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■ In connection with the current risk of infection due to the Corona virus, we would particularly like to point out the following specific important reasons for withdrawing from the exam:

- • Residence of the examinee or a close contact person of the examinee within the last 14 days in a high-risk area
- • Contact with persons who have been proven to be infected with the corona virus within the last 14 days
- • Belonging of the examinee to a high-risk group for a severe course of the disease (for example due to chronic respiratory diseases or weakened immune system).

The candidate must immediately apply to the competent authority for sufficient approval to withdraw from the examination for the reasons listed above.

Prevention

In general, it is recommended to observe the following rules to prevent the spread of respiratory diseases.

- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands (and nails) with soap Keep your hands out of your face
- Abstain from shaking people's hands
- Adhere to proper coughing and sneezing etiquette (coughing away from other people, sneezing into a disposable handkerchief or into the crook of your arm, do not sneeze or cough into the palm of your hand)
- Maintain a distance to sick people (approx. 1 to 2 meters)
- Keep everyday objects clean and ventilate rooms frequently
- Strengthen your immune system
- If you have not already done so, get a flu vaccination shot as the similarity of symptoms of coronavirus and influenza infection might lead patients with "common" influenza to be mistakenly placed in an isolated hospital ward. Vaccination can be carried out by the company medical service of the University.

What to do if you feel symptoms of illness or have had contact with the sick?

According to the Robert Koch Institute, there is a reason for a suspected case if affected people:

- have symptoms of a respiratory infection and have been in contact with an already confirmed case of corona virus disease within the last 14 days
- Have symptoms of the disease and have been in a risk area within the last 14 days.

People who suspect they are infected with corona viruses and have symptoms of illness should contact their family doctor by phone first. Do not go to the office or the hospital unannounced!

Stay at home until further clarification and keep contact with other people to a minimum. Inform the course coordinator, the company medical service and/or the coordination team of the rectorate!

Additional information

The most important information, contact persons and recommendations for behavior are available on the university's homepage since February 28, 2020, at any time

<http://www.uni-freiburg.de/universitaet/corona>

The information is continuously updated!

As a preventive measure, a coordination team has been set up to deal with the consequences of the corona virus, in which all competent areas of central administration are involved. If you have any questions that cannot be answered using the information provided, please contact the coordination team at koordinierungsstelle@zv.uni-freiburg.de.

The University of Freiburg advises all university members to get information about the latest developments from the Federal Center for Health Education (BzgA), the Robert Koch Institute and the Federal Foreign Office.

The company medical service of the University of Freiburg offers further information and advice at www.uniklinik-freiburg.de/presse/publikationen/imfokus/2020/aktuelle-informationen-zum-corona-virus.html.

Best wishes and hopefully disease-free times,

Dirk Niethammer
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