

(Note: fast, automated translation, improved version will follow next week)

Freiburg, April 3, 2020

To all students of the Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources

Implementation of the summer semester 2020

Dear students of the Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources,

we hope you are all well and at least not too badly affected by the current corona pandemic!

However, we assume that the SARS-CoV2-related restrictions will have an impact on the further course of the study for many of you and will continue to do so for the time being.

We would like to ensure you that we will do everything that your studies can be carried out as good as possible in the summer semester 2020 under the current restrictions, so that you can continue your studies with as little delay as necessary. For the moment, most teaching modules and events will have to be offered in an online format. At the same time, we also have to adapt the course content and the examination formats and examination times of some modules to ensure that they can be offered. In some cases, modules or events have to be postponed, as they cannot be offered in online formats. Please make sure to read the latest information about your degree programs, which we will publish in the next few days on the internet.

In this letter, we will try to answer as many questions as possible in relation to your studies. If there is further need for clarification, please email the staff of the Examination Office.

General times for the summer semester:

- Official start of lectures: May 11, 2020, but before that, individual lectures (e.g. the block modules in the master, see below) can be offered
- Official end of lectures: July 31, 2020
- The teaching-free excursion week after Pentecost from 2nd to 5th June 2020 is no longer applicable.
- Some field events (excursions, fieldwork) have to be postponed to late summer (September, October)
- Different regulation for the blocked master modules (MEG, REM, Forest Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Hydrology):
Start: April 20, 2020, End: August 7, 2020
The specified periods of the block events will be retained (including a week's Pentecost break from June 2-5, 2020)

1. Extension of the examination deadlines

If examinations have been postponed due to SARS-CoV 2 restrictions or examinations that have already started cannot be finished and deadlines could not be met, these deadlines will be

appropriately extended ex officio to avoid disadvantages for the students (applies to first exams and repeated exams, orientation tests, intermediate tests, etc.). No separate application has to be made. The regulation to extend the ridge ex officio also applies to the exclusion periods of the examination regulations expiring on September 30, 2020, which are stipulated in the transitional provisions of the framework examination regulations.

2. Extended deadline for deregistering first exams from the winter semester 2019/20

Due to the postponement of the last regular exams from the winter semester 2019/20 to later dates, you will exceptionally be given the opportunity to cancel these exams after March 31, 2020:

If you would like to make use of this, please write an email to pruefungsamt@unr.uni-freiburg.de by Monday in the calendar week before the exam date. Please note that this means a cancellation of the registration and is only possible for initial attempts for which no withdrawal has been approved.

3. Registration for exams and examination deadlines for students in the summer semester 2020

The planning of the summer semester could not be completed due to the changes. This means that the exam dates will only be set in the near future. The online registration for the BSc / Poly-BSc students can be activated on May 1st, 2020 and for the MSc / MEd students on April 20th, 2020. Basically, the examination dates set by the subject examination committees are to be observed by the students.

In spite of all this, the general regulations for withdrawing from exams still apply - that is, in justified cases, a withdrawal can be requested from the examination board. Such justified cases could, of course, also be significant restrictions due to the pandemic situation or if, prior to the announcement of the change in the lecture times of the summer semester 2020, appropriate dispositions have been made that conflict with the lecture times / examination dates.

If it is currently not possible for you to take part in replacement dates for failed exams due to a stay abroad and the associated exit and entry restrictions or non-existent travel options, then you have the option of submitting an application to withdraw from the exam Technical Examination Committee (§23(2) BScO / §28(2) MScO).

4. Prevented completion of studies in the winter semester 2019/20

a) If you were not able to complete your studies in the winter semester 2019/20 due to the restrictions, you must still be enrolled in the summer semester 2020 in order to finish your studies.

b) If you have completed all the achievements of your degree program within one month after the start of the lecture and have also exmatriculated during this period, you can request a refund of the payments made by you. Part of your contribution would be refunded to you.

In this case, international students can apply for reimbursement of their tuition fee. You can also apply for a refund of the second course fee.

On the part of the faculty, the faculty tries to take these deadlines into account when scheduling the failed exams.

5. Vacation semester due to the effects of the corona pandemic

If you are abroad and cannot enter or leave due to the restrictions caused by the corona pandemic, or if the course of study cannot or only partially be resumed in your degree program, you can take a vacation semester for an important reason. For the summer semester 2020, the informal reference

of the student to the effects of the corona pandemic is recognized as an important reason for a vacation semester due to the effects of the corona pandemic. During the vacation semester due to the effects of the corona pandemic, you have the opportunity to take part in online courses and take exams.

In times of vacation semester due to the effects of the corona pandemic, international students do not have to pay a tuition fee; the tuition fee for a second degree also does not apply.

6. Advance courses that are planned for a later semester

Since, due to the restrictions, not all courses in the summer semester can be held regularly, courses from the winter semester 2020/21 may be brought forward to the summer semester 2020. Please note the current information and the new module plans for your degree programs, which will be published in the next few days.

7. Prerequisites for admission to courses, examinations accompanying studies and for admission to thesis

If, due to the restrictions, you lack the admission requirements for admission to an examination or a thesis, you can be admitted on the condition that you can prove the requirements before the examination date / submission date.

The same applies to the attendance of courses, provided that admission requirements have been set for this.

8. Thesis

Final thesis may only be assigned in the way that the current regulations (state ordinance) allow at the time of assignment. It should not be hoped that the pandemic situation will improve in the course of the work and options for "deterioration" must be defined at the beginning.

The final theses are assigned by the respective examination board. By assigning the subject, the examiner ensures that further restrictions (including further "deteriorations") in connection with the corona pandemic can be dealt with. A corresponding note is added to the application forms.

Accordingly, please only use the current forms.

We hope to have clarified many of your questions and wish you a good start to the summer semester despite the difficult times!

Please stay healthy and best regards

Heiner Schanz, Dean

Annika Mattissek, Dean of Studies

Markus Weiler, Dean of Studies

Silke de Boer, Head of Examination Office

Michael Pregernig, Chairman of the Examination Board for BSc programs

Uwe-Eduard Schmidt, chair of the examination board for MSc courses

Tim Freytag, Chair of the Geography Teaching Examination Board