



University of Stuttgart
Germany

University of Stuttgart • Keplerstrasse 7 • 70174 Stuttgart • Germany

E-mail to all employees and students

Teaching winter semester 2020/21

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Students,

Due to the corona pandemic situation, it is generally assumed that no normal course of study will be possible in normal in-person attendance in the coming winter semester 2020/21. Based on the assumptions that in winter 2020/21

- there will not yet be a broad-based vaccine available,
- a second pandemic wave must be expected,
- distance and hygiene rules will continue to apply,
- access regulations/documentation requirements must continue to be met,
- travel restrictions will continue to apply,
- various members of the university are partly assigned to risk groups and
- the usability of central facilities appears entirely questionable,

we must prepare ourselves for a largely digital semester (analogous to SoSe 2020) with some individual attendance courses.

After extensive discussions in various committees, the Rectorate of the University of Stuttgart has decided on the **following framework of conditions for teaching in the winter semester:**

- All courses that can be offered digitally are to be planned as digital courses. This applies in particular to lectures.
- Depending on the legal regulations, smaller teaching events (in particular practical courses, exercises, and seminars, etc.) can - where necessary - take place in person, provided that this does not lead to an excessive gathering of people in the buildings.

Rector

contact

Keplerstrasse 7
70174 Stuttgart • Germany
T +49 711 685-82201
F +49 711 685-82113
e-mail:
rector@uni-stuttgart.de
www.uni-stuttgart.de

Vice Rector for Teaching and Continuing Education

contact

Pfaffenwaldring 9
70569 Stuttgart • Germany
T +49 711 685-66055
M +49 711 685-66219
e-mail:
prorektor-lehre@uni-stuttgart.de
www.uni-stuttgart.de

16.07.2020



- In order to give first semester students, especially those in the bachelor's and possibly also master's programs, the opportunity for "socialization" at the university, special face-to-face events in smaller groups should be offered for these students.

The following prioritization is recommended:

1. exercises and internships
2. seminars and small events
3. presentation exercises with a rolling attendance system if necessary
4. lectures with a rolling attendance system if necessary

By use of a rolling attendance system, it is possible to divide the total number of students in a course into smaller groups and then to offer these students in-person courses alternately. Those students who are unable to attend the classroom sessions are to be provided with the course content in digital form (lecture recordings).

- In the case of classroom instruction that is offered in small groups, individual sections should also be offered in digital form in order to enable students who are assigned to risk groups or who are not allowed to enter from abroad to participate.
- For all attendance courses, the documentation requirements as well as hygiene regulations and distance rules valid at that time, which are summarized in the [Hygiene Concept](#) of the University of Stuttgart, must be observed.
- The choice of courses to be offered in in-person form is left to the discretion of the deans of studies. It is advisable to give preference to profile-forming courses ("anchor subjects") for the course of studies.
- Lecture hall capacities are allocated to the faculties/teaching units/courses of study as follows:
 1. The timetable and lecture hall occupancy are based on the fictitious assumption that teaching takes place in the presence of the students (i.e. analogous to the winter semester 2019/20).
 2. Planning of presence teaching in collegial coordination at faculty and degree program level on the basis of the space available to the respective teachers of the same teaching unit in total. Expected date: beginning of September.
 3. Exchange or transfer of rooms within the teaching unit and reporting to the central lecture hall management. Expected date: middle of September.
 4. Central allocation of unused rooms for other needs and purposes.

Intensive coordination between the coordinators of the individual study programs and the central lecture hall management is strongly recommended. The auditorium management and the ITAP team will contact the responsible persons of all faculties with more information shortly.

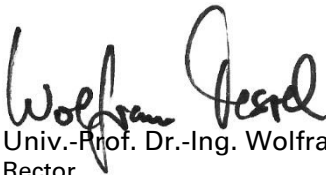


- When planning attendance courses, the prescribed cleaning of desks must be ensured. This means, especially for the large lecture halls, that a 90-minute block must be shortened by at least 15 minutes in order to allow for cleaning as well as the entry and exit of students.
- The in-person attendance phases of the students on the campuses are to be planned in such a way that there are no free periods between the lecture blocks, since the students do not have enough rooms with the appropriate IT infrastructure to be able to study digitally in the meantime. In addition, mixing of groups and mass gatherings on the campuses must be avoided.
- In general, it should be considered that the in-person attendance phases on the campuses create a significant added value for the students. For this reason, continuous courses should be offered with limited time separation.
- The "socialisation" of first semester bachelor and master's students should be supported by special mentoring and/or buddy programs. This can also promote the very important formation of learning groups. Existing programs should be adapted to the specific pandemic situation. Where such programs are not yet in place, they should be set up as soon as possible. The Task Force Digital Teaching is currently developing a concept that takes into account the special features and challenges of a successful introductory phase for first-year students. This concept will be made available to the study programs in the coming weeks to support the planning of the winter semester. It is possible to reward the commitment of the student mentors with three credit points within the framework of the interdisciplinary key qualifications.

Of course, there are still other open questions, including but are not limited to access to the buildings with the lecture halls, PC and learning rooms and the libraries located within, the documentation obligations when present on site, and compliance with hygiene regulations. The Rectorate and Central Administration will seek to resolve these issues as quickly as possible.

Since the summer semester ended relatively well under the given circumstances, we would like to thank you very much for your great commitment and support! We very much hope that we will be able to offer our students a good and successful course of study in the coming winter semester under difficult conditions.

Warm regards,



Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wolfram Ressel
Rector



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hansgeorg Binz
Vice Rector for Teaching and Continuing Education