

29/11/2021

Guidelines for Holding Classes which Require Special Laboratories or Rooms with Specialist Equipment during the Period of Limited Operations due to the Regulations Set by the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in the Fight against the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic (applies to the University of Rostock, not University Medicine)

valid from 6 December 2021 to 31 March 2022 (for now)

1 Scope of Application

These guidelines apply to courses that can neither be replaced by digital teaching formats nor postponed until normal face-to-face teaching has been reinstated for all students. These courses include, for example, laboratory or research practicals, sports courses in sports science degree courses, but also periods of teaching practice and short excursions.

The protection against infection regulations listed below apply to students at the University of Rostock. Members of teaching staff are also subject to the general regulations defined in the [Hochschul-Corona-Verordnung M-V \(Coronavirus State Ordinance for Universities\) \[de\]](#) and the [regulations for employees](#).

Working in laboratories is subject to further regulations pursuant to the [guidelines for using laboratories \[de\]](#) (including machinery rooms, testing facilities or similar); working in small groups without respecting minimum distances between individuals is also subject to the corresponding [guidelines \[de\]](#) as found on the service portal and, which still apply.

If the courses are being held in rooms that do not belong to the University of Rostock, participants must observe any additional regulations defined by the external partners.

2 Explanation of the Necessity

Reasons must be documented that confirm that the learning and qualification objectives can only be attained by holding the course in laboratories or other rooms with specialist equipment and that it is not possible to change/adapt the kind of course in cases of force majeure pursuant to RPO BaMa and RPO LA §§ 1b.

3 Holding of the Courses

The University of Rostock's hygiene regulations as amended from time to time apply to courses being held in rooms with specialist equipment. The [Guidelines for the Use of Laboratories](#) (including machinery rooms, testing facilities or similar) apply. This also means that it is not possible for the maximum number of persons in the respective area to be exceeded when a course is being held. The head of the subject area and supervisor of the dissertation are responsible for organising and making sure these measures are observed.

4 Hygiene Regulations

As a general rule, students are subject to the general provisions of the *Hochschul-Corona-Verordnung M-V* (Coronavirus State Ordinance for Universities), depending on the respective coronavirus warning level.

If, in general, the legal provisions provide a regulation that requires '2G' (vaccinated or tested) status for participating in courses being taught on site, an exception is to be made for non-immunised students if practical courses are absolutely necessary so that they are not excluded from taking part in the class and successfully

completing the learning and qualification objectives. In such cases, students may attend the courses being taught on site if they are able to provide proof of a negative result from an official test* (*Bürger*test, test provided by employer or similar).

Special hygiene measures must be defined in a hygiene plan that is to be agreed with the Crisis Team for courses in which it is impossible to observe the prescribed distances between students or the obligation to wear a mask that depend on the current warning level. As a general rule, extended testing will be required, i.e. self-tests must be taken not only by non-immunised, but also vaccinated or recovered students.

5 Supervised Self-Tests

It must be ensured that persons, who are unable to provide proof of immunisation or an official test certificate that is no older than 24h (or 48h for PCR tests) – as far as possible – take a test (supervised self-test) prior to the beginning of the course being taught on site.

Until the test results are available, participants must observe as much distance to one another as possible (more than 1.5 m) to avoid risk of infection.

If the test result is negative, a certificate [de] can be issued that corresponds to an employer's test and can be used for attending any other courses being held on site.

6 Responsibility

The organisation of the verification of the necessary prerequisites for taking part in the class and, if applicable, the supervision of the self-tests is the responsibility of the person responsible for the course in coordination with the respective organisational unit (usually institute or faculty).

7 Briefing

All students and members of staff who fulfil work tasks in the laboratories must receive a briefing about these special measures, which they must confirm and acknowledge with their own signature. The members of staff responsible for the laboratories or the head of the facility/department/organisational unit are responsible for briefing the members of staff and making sure that the stipulations are observed.

*[Information on verifying vaccination, recovery or test status \[de\]](#) is available on the DLP.

The current version of the University of Rostock's hygiene regulations continue to apply outside of the laboratories and rooms with specialist equipment.

The guidelines represent a minimum regulatory framework, which can be extended by the head of the respective facility/department/organisational unit depending on the requirements.

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Schareck
Rector

Prof. Dr. Patrick Kaeding
Pro-Rector of Studying, Teaching and Evaluation
(PSL)