

Göttingen, 14. April 2020

Dear students of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology,

Today we would like to send you some information regarding the upcoming summer semester for your personal planning. Due to the current Covid-19 situation there will be changes and restrictions regarding teaching. The information is as of April 14, 2020, further changes are possible.

1. Postponement of the start of lectures by one week, starting on 20 April 2020, thus shortening the virtual "lecture period" to 13 weeks.
2. According to the current status, there will be an extensive changeover to contact-free, digital forms of teaching. The lecturers are currently working intensively on creating suitable teaching material. We can assume that the majority of the lectures in the compulsory section will be offered digitally. We are working on holding smaller events that are offered as seminars in the form of virtual classrooms. The implementation of lab courses, field exercises and excursions will be discussed individually. An overview of all compulsory courses will be compiled and published this week on the homepage of our faculty (special corona page).
3. Communication within a particular course is accomplished by registration in Stud.IP, where course files can be downloaded and edited. Stud.IP will be used as an essential channel of communication between lecturers and students.
4. We assume that the earliest possible date for examinations will be after the end of the lecture period in mid/end July. We are currently evaluating whether individual exams can also be taken during the lecture period or submitted as a term paper. However, there will be no conversion of exams into term papers on a large scale.
5. We hope that towards the end of the lecture period in the summer semester there will be a time window in which practical parts can also be carried out. However, at the moment this is completely uncertain. Further details will be communicated directly to the participants via the responsible persons.

6. Elective courses will only be offered to a very limited extent in the upcoming summer semester.
7. Bachelor and master theses can also be assigned as pure literature research. Please discuss with your respective supervisors whether changes in content are possible for experimental works that are compatible with current restrictions in public life.
8. The study advisors Jutta Hohlstamm (German-language programs) and Christian Beuter (international programs) can still be contacted by e-mail. Telephone counselling can be arranged by appointment.
9. Teaching evaluations are cancelled for the summer semester.
10. The question of whether the summer festival can take place as planned seems to be very urgent from the viewpoint of the students of our faculty. Unfortunately, this must be clearly denied from the present perspective.

You can inform yourself about the current developments on the Covid-page of the faculty (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/623972.html>) as well as on the central university page (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/622779.html>).

Please appreciate that we cannot provide the entire range of courses as usual or that perhaps not everything is running as smoothly as planned. For all of us, this is an exceptional situation with many unpredictable uncertainties, which we now have to master together as good as possible.

All the best!

Prof. Dr. Achim Dohrenbusch  
Dean of Studies