



3-LEVEL, COLOUR-CODED SYSTEM (STUFENPLAN)

(English translation provided for informational purposes.)

If the English and German versions allow different interpretations, the German version should be followed)

(Differences between this and the previous version are marked in red.)

This 3-level, colour-coded system serves to simplify communication about the infection situation. It provides an overview of the arrangements made by the Krisenstab (crisis management team) and the Presidential Board. These regulations (such as "General Health and Hygiene Rules", "Guidelines for Events", etc.) will continue to be prepared with the involvement of the appropriate bodies – crisis management team, Virtual Working Group on Student and Academic Services, Personalrat (staff council), AStA (general student council) – and, where necessary, brought together in the formal decision-making process.

These University regulations continue to be based on assessments about the incidence of infection, the regulations of the state and the measures from the regional health authorities. In the "Empfehlung zur Gestaltung des Wintersemesters 2020/21 des nds. MWK und der Landeshochschulkonferenz" (22.10.2020), (recommendation for organisation of the winter semester 2020/21 from Lower Saxony's Ministry for Science and Culture, and its association of higher education establishments LHK)), the autonomy granted to universities leaves it up to them to find solutions appropriate to the situation. In their assessment of the relevant risk, the leadership of the crisis management team, takes various factors into account, such as: the local and regional incidence values; the development of the number and rate of infections at the University; developments at state and national level; as well as the assessments from the City and the Göttingen Gesundheitsamt (public health department). In view of the frequently changing values, an automatic stepped assessment based solely on a certain incidence value would not be sensible.

The Presidential Board has delegated the task of determining the appropriate level to the crisis management team. It requires a careful analysis of the above-mentioned factors. The crisis management team will, as far as the occurrence of infection permits, announce any potential change of a level in advance and communicate the reasons for its decision. The up-to-date level will be published on the coronavirus information page of the University (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/631891.html>). The 3-level system will be reviewed every 14 days and on a weekly basis should the need arise.

The University of Göttingen's continuing aim is to run the semester to best serve the interests of students, teaching and research, while at the same time protecting both students and staff from infection. This will be done in a potentially changing environment of onsite and online services.

The 3-level system was approved by the Presidential Board on 25 November 2020.

Compliance with the General Health and Hygiene Regulations (AHA-L); other current regulations, general conditions and guidelines of the University as well as the agreed responsibilities of faculties and institutions or the crisis management team apply here.			
	Level 1 (yellow): stable, low infection rate	Level 2 (orange): increased infection rate	Level 3 (red): high infection rate
Obligation to wear a face mask	All people (including visitors) in all buildings of the University are obliged to wear face masks until they reach their place of work, seat, etc. whatever route they choose to reach their destination, whether via stairs, lifts, toilets, photocopy rooms, etc. In lecture halls and seminar rooms, the obligation to wear a face mask applies until sitting in the seat, but continues to apply even when sitting if the minimum distance of 1.5m between people cannot be ensured. In lecture halls and seminar rooms, it is in any case recommended to wear a face mask.	As level 1, except that face masks are also required when seated in seminar rooms, lecture halls, meeting rooms, etc. A face mask should be worn outdoors on campus and wherever the minimum distance cannot be maintained.	As level 2, with the proviso that there may be additional constraints set by regulations and laws set by the City or the state.
Research	Onsite presence allowed	Limited presence, smaller groups possibly working in parallel, no physical contact.	Presence for research purposes—only permitted for projects that are at risk of significant damage if interrupted or terminated (eg risk to research results, loss of data, high financial costs); form smaller groups, possibly with extra back-up. Whilst following the up-to-date and appropriate regulations for working from home, the research activities and thus the on-site presence should be reduced accordingly.

Laboratory work (research)	Onsite presence allowed	Limited presence, smaller groups possibly „back-up“ groups	Presence for research purposes – only permitted for projects that are at risk of significant damage if interrupted or terminated (eg risk to research results, loss of data, high financial costs); form smaller groups, possibly with extra back-up. Whilst following the up-to-date and appropriate regulations for working from home, the research activities and thus the on-site presence should be reduced accordingly.
Technical personnel in research	Onsite presence allowed	Limited presence, smaller groups possibly „back-up“ groups	Presence for research purposes – only permitted for projects that are at risk of significant damage if interrupted or terminated (eg risk to research results, loss of data, high financial costs); form smaller groups, possibly with extra back-up. Whilst following the up-to-date and appropriate regulations for working from home, the research activities and thus the on-site presence should be reduced accordingly.
Business trips*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business trips possible within Germany - International business trips possible, subject to approval via central “Reisekosten” team 	As level 1, limited to essential business trips that cannot be postponed (decided by faculties/institutions)	No business trips (exception: maintenance and care of animals; essential maintenance for experiments only with specific approval from the HR Department)
Central Administration	Onsite presence	Limited onsite presence	Limited onsite presence
Working from home/in the office	in consultation with supervisors, working from home can be a further measure to support infection control	As level 1, use of multiple-occupancy offices, only allowed in exceptional cases	As level 2, with possible expansion of working from home as decided by the PM according to the up-to-date situation regarding infections and regulations

Accepting guests*	Possible	Limited to those that cannot be postponed and are absolutely necessary (decision by faculties/institutions)	Not allowed
Teaching	Limited classroom teaching possible	Classroom teaching if the learning objectives cannot be achieved by other means	No classroom teaching
Excursions	Possible to a limited extent	Limited to essential excursions**, (decision by deans' offices)	No excursions (exceptions via the crisis management team)
Laboratory internships (and comparable internships)	Possible to a limited extent	Possible to a limited extent	Not allowed onsite (exceptions via the crisis management team)
Other internships	Possible to a limited extent	Limited to essential internships** (decisions by deans' offices). External internships must follow the rules of the host institution.	No internships for which the University is responsible (exceptions via the crisis management team); External internships must follow the rules of the host institution.
Examinations	Possible to a limited extent	Possible to a limited extent	Normally not in person (exceptions via the crisis management team)
Library	Open	Open	Online, book collection/borrowing possible
University Sports	Sport in person and online	Sport online	Sport online
Events/ Conferences/ Workshops	Allowed in accordance with the appropriate regional regulations and the respective general health and hygiene rules.	As level 1; Events in person only when absolutely necessary following approval by the crisis management team.	Suspended
Committee meetings	Possible in person	Possible in person	Normally not in person (exceptions via the crisis management team)
Theatre in OP	Allowed in person	Not allowed in person	Not allowed in person
Music	Allowed	Only music teaching	Not allowed in person

* taking into account the conditions for coming to Lower Saxony.

**Criteria include: mandatory or optional offer made, group sizes, health and hygiene measures in place