

Dear university members,

the last week of lectures is underway, and an exceptional semester is ending, which we will certainly not forget so soon. Thanks to all of you for the great willingness to accept the weird ways, which the Corona crisis forced on us. We learned new things, overcome fears, and despite everything, made a big step on our way into the digital world. Some of it worked better than expected, others are no real substitute for academic life as we know and appreciate it. And yet: Who would have thought before that we would be able to keep in touch with Skype & Zoom and make the online teaching as good as possible? Who would have thought that we would be able to conduct digital entrance tests? Fortunately, the fear that the number of applicants will decrease has not materialized. In contrary: Our university is highly valued, as shown by the many qualified videos of the applicants that have reached us in the past two weeks.

The lecture period should not come to an end without information on how things will go on after the summer break. These are the regulations for the attendance phase starting from mid-August and for the coming winter semester. And we hope to have found an acceptable balance between the many legitimate interests.

Return to normal opening hours from August 17th

From August 17th we return to normal opening times. The university building will then be open for lessons and practice on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. However, registration for teaching and practice is still necessary. Please contact Ines Sachs. This is the only way we can reliably maintain the requested documentation of contacts.

Lecture times for the coming winter semester

Official lecture period in the winter semester: 05.10.2020 - 29.1.2021

All individual lessons take place from: 05.10.2020 - 29.1.2021

All group lessons, seminars and lectures start on November 2nd, 2020 and end at the same time on January 29th, 2021. This particularly affects the courses in music theory, musicology and music education. The lecturers concerned nevertheless receive a teaching assignment for 15 semester weeks and can fully settle their teaching assignment.

Christmas break: 19.12.2020 - 03.01.2021

Entrance exams at the Institute for Music: 01.02.2021 - 05.02.2021

Teaching regulations for the coming winter semester

In the winter semester, all individual lessons should be possible again in the main subjects as well as in the minor subjects in the hmt. The break times for airing and cleaning the rooms between classes are reduced to 15 minutes. We also return to the original 45-minute class format. In order to be able to take all teachers into account, weekly changes between classroom and distance learning are necessary. This means that there will be A and B weeks in which half of the teachers can teach in the hmt building. Please also use the off-peak times for teaching and practicing: Our university is not only open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and the off-peak hours were also not fully utilized in the last weeks of the summer semester.

Teaching in alternative rooms

For weekly ensemble lessons with more than two to three people (such as chamber music or choral conducting) for which there are currently no adequate rooms available, the university endeavors to find creative alternative solutions inear to the university building (e.g. in churches).

Scientific and theoretical teaching formats online

In order to be able to use the rooms in the hmt as effectively as possible for artistic teaching, scientific and theoretical teaching formats should mainly take place digitally in the coming winter semester (with a maximum of three attendance dates per course). This does not apply to courses for first semester students.

Ensemble and orchestra projects

After the ensemble and orchestral projects had to be completely cancelled this semester, there is an urgent need for the winter semester. In order to implement such project work phases again and to be able to guarantee the greatest possible security for all involved, the teachers in charge and the students should agree on the following:

- Multi-phase projects are put together on one main work phase.
- All participants undergo a test both four days and one day before the start of the project and agree to avoid social contacts during the project phase.
- In the case of long-term projects, all participants undergo further tests every two days.

Teaching at the Institut für Schauspiel

The Institute for Drama will go its own way. It returns completely to classroom teaching and the usual acting lessons based on regular mandatory tests by students and teachers.

Classroom teaching remains voluntary

As long as the university management cannot guarantee complete security, direct classroom teaching remains voluntary even in the winter semester and can be substituted by online-lessons. Teaching in private rooms is not permitted!

Meetings of university committees

The meetings of the university committees should continue in the form of videoconferences in order to minimize the risk of infection.

Raising the examination fee for independent lecturers (Lehrbeauftragte)

One of the last decisions of the summer semester is to increase the examination fee for independent lecturers to a new hourly rate of 25 euros. This is a long overdue step. Many thanks at this point to the large circle of lecturers for their long-term commitment to our university.

Starting with concerts again: hmt on air

With "hmt on air" our university will start a new series of concerts from the Katharinensaal at the end of August, with which we want to be clearly audible and visible again in Rostock. The events take place every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. without a break and should not last longer than 60 minutes. The concerts are streamed live and can be followed directly on our university's website, so that not only the (unfortunately still reduced) audience in the hall has something of it. Marc Letzig is responsible for coordinating this series of concerts. Please send suggestions and program ideas directly to Ines.Sachs@hmt-rostock.de.

Stay healthy and take good care of yourself until we meet again in August or September.
Kind regards

Oliver Wamers