January 18, 2022: COVID-19 update from the GHS

The University leadership released an update on January 6, 2022 to the Covid-19 measures. Beginning on January 10, 2022, on site (presence) exams are no longer allowed.

Beginning January 10, 2022 - All thesis defenses and all 1st and 2nd year examinations must be conducted virtually.

Required on all occasions in all University of Bern indoor spaces (e.g., during meetings and on any other occasion). Facemasks must be properly worn. From now on, only hygiene masks/medical face masks are allowed in university premises and at events of the University of Bern. Fabric/Cloth masks provide too little protection and are therefore no longer permitted.

Beginning January 10, 2022 until further notice:

1st and 2nd year examinations and PhD Thesis defenses:
On site is NOT possible according to the university guidelines. PhD students are responsible for making themselves aware of the guidelines leading up to and on the day of the evaluation. According to the university guidelines, it is no longer required to have at least one examiner present.

You may choose to have one examiner present, provided you comply with all university guidelines for on-site presence. A Covid certificate requirement (3G principle = convalescence, vaccinated, negative tested). The certificate requirement applies regardless of the number of participants. Random checks will be made for compliance. If you need to organize an on site thesis defense with all examiners present or more than one examiner present, you should ask the crisis management team for permission. More information here.

Proceedings will remain as specified in the GHS promotion regulations.

- The University offers testing opportunities for a so-called ‘UniBE-certificate’ at three locations. This certificate is valid only for the University
- If you have symptoms of influenza (fever, cough, breathing difficulties) you must stay at home. Furthermore, you must contact your doctor by telephone. Please follow the instructions of the Canton of Bern (in German) or https://www.bag.admin.ch.

Please note: The GHS team is following University of Bern’s and Canton Bern’s advice, working mostly from home office to the extent possible. We can all be reached via MS Teams (chat & video), Zoom and email.

The GHS wishes everyone to stay healthy and would like to express our displeasure that our students must work and research under these circumstances, during these uncertain times. Thank you for your understanding and commitment.

With best regards,
The GHS Administration team