

Special Policies and Procedures During the Coronavirus Pandemic

January 1, 2022, to June 30, 2022

Bard College Berlin continues to prioritize the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff. In order to keep all members of the Bard College Berlin community safe and healthy throughout the coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) pandemic, the following policies and procedures are in force. They follow or exceed all health mandates from the Berlin state and German federal governments and are adapted in accordance with changes in regulations, health authority recommendations and local circumstances. Students may suggest changes to these policies through the procedures of the Student Parliament (StuPa). All updates will be posted here: <https://berlin.bard.edu/covid-19/>.

(1) Arrivals and Vaccinations

- All instruction during Spring Semester 2022 will take place in person (“Präsenzlehre”), as long as this is safe and permitted.
- To protect members of the Bard College Berlin community, all students, faculty and staff must be fully vaccinated. **Please note that in accordance with the current medical consensus, to be fully vaccinated means to have received *three* doses of an [EMA-approved vaccine](#).**
- **Students must be fully vaccinated (with an EMA-approved vaccine and including the third or “booster” shot) prior to their arrival at the college for the Spring Semester**, provided that they can receive their remaining doses without incurring unreasonable risks or burdens.
- **Students must provide documentation of their vaccination status [via this form](#) or directly to the Student Life Manager (k.pretscher@berlin.bard.edu) prior to or immediately upon arrival at the college and no later than 6 February 2022.** The documentation will be kept on file and must be updated for the duration of their studies. Students must inform the Student Life Manager of any changes to their vaccination status as soon as possible and submit the necessary documentation. Failure to do so will be considered a violation of the student code of conduct and students will be referred to the conduct process.
- **Students who are not able to be fully vaccinated (including the third or “booster” shot) before their arrival at the college must obtain their remaining vaccination doses in Berlin as soon as possible.** Vaccinations are easily and freely obtainable in Berlin. The Student Life Office will provide the necessary guidance. Students must provide updated information and documentation regarding their vaccination appointments and vaccination status [via this form](#) or directly to the Student Life Manager as soon as possible.
- New students are admitted to Bard College Berlin only on condition that they are fully vaccinated (including the third or “booster” shot) before arrival or, if achieving full vaccination status before arrival would entail incurring unreasonable risks or burdens, on

condition that they agree to receive any remaining doses at the earliest possible time after arrival in Berlin.

- Medical contraindications to the EMA-approved vaccines are very rare. Students who have been advised by a medical professional that they are subject to a contraindication must notify the Student Life Manager before or upon arrival at the college. They will be provided with contact information for a designated physician to whom they must send documentation of the contraindication and with whom they must schedule a 15-to-20-minute online consultation. The medical documentation and consultation are protected by doctor-patient privilege. If the physician determines that the student's case falls within a known contraindication, the student must notify the Student Life Manager. They may then attend courses at their own risk. The college cannot reimburse them for the cost of the continued mandatory testing, should free public testing become unavailable.

(2) Testing and Travel

- According to Berlin state regulations, unless and until students are fully vaccinated, they must provide proof of a negative SARS-CoV2 test result that is no older than 48 hours to attend any course sessions, use any common college facilities or gather with any members of the Bard College Berlin community outside their own household. All members of the faculty and staff are entitled to check proof of negative test result, vaccination or immunity. The German [Corona-Warn App](#) is recommended to facilitate providing such proof.
- Regardless of vaccination status, all members of the college community should get tested at least once per week. Free covid tests (antigen rapid tests) are available in public testing centers in the vicinity of campus (e.g. at [Grabbeallee 59](#)). (Should free testing no longer be available, the college will provide free self-tests or cover the cost of testing for students until (the earliest day on which) they can be vaccinated.)
- In order not to endanger the college community, students must exercise caution when off campus: Enter crowded spaces (especially indoors) only when necessary and wear a mask when doing so. Avoid or leave situations in which you see others behave with a lack of caution.
- Students should refrain from any unnecessary travel, especially international travel, during the semester and the Spring Break. Students should not travel to areas categorized as "Virusvariantengebiete" ("virus variant areas") or "Hochrisikogebiete" ("high risk areas") by the [Robert-Koch-Institut](#) (RKI) or by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Students should not travel to countries for which a Travel Advisory ("Reisewarnung") from the German Foreign Ministry ("[Auswärtiges Amt](#)") is in effect. The college cannot make allowances for any delays in returning from such travel, or provide quarantine arrangements. Students are responsible for the consequences their non-attendance would have on their studies. To ensure a safe return to classes after Spring

Break, all students must submit a rapid test result on Sunday, April 17, 2022 or Monday, April 18, 2022 (before course sessions recommence).

(3) Masks, Room Ventilation and Hygiene

- FFP2 or N95 masks (“Mund-Nase-Bedeckungen,” hereinafter: “masks”) must be worn in all shared indoor spaces in the university. All members of the community must provide their own masks. Please note that this mask mandate applies to course sessions and includes fully vaccinated and immune members of the community.

FFP2 masks must be worn	Masks are not required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● inside all academic, administrative or other shared-use indoor spaces on campus, including the library, computer labs, Factory workshops, W15 café or reading rooms. ● while waiting in line inside in the cafeteria, ● while speaking with faculty or staff in their offices (unless explicitly permitted by faculty or staff), ● during seminar sessions and any college events held indoors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● outdoors (where social distancing can be maintained), ● in your apartment, ● while eating in the cafeteria or in another indoor space (where social distancing can be maintained), ● when alone in a room with other members of your own household group, e.g. in the library, reading rooms or computer labs.

- All shared-use indoor spaces (including offices, teaching facilities, seminar, meeting and common rooms) must be aired out regularly, with all windows and doors fully opened at least once every 45 minutes for at least 5 minutes. (Please dress accordingly.)
- All members of the community must wash their hands regularly.
- Social distancing should be maintained whenever possible. In accordance with Berlin state regulations for universities, social distancing rules are not applicable to classroom sessions.

(4) Contact Tracing, Isolation and Quarantine

- Members of the college community who
 - receive a positive (rapid) test result, or
 - are not yet fully vaccinated and experience symptoms associated with Covid-19, or
 - learn that they may have been exposed to the coronavirus
 must immediately isolate themselves from all other college members and notify the college:

- Students, please email the Student Life Manager (k.pretscher@berlin.bard.edu) and your professors. You may also use the college's 24-hour emergency phone line (+49-1575 7926095).
- Faculty members, please email the Registrar and copy the Dean and the Managing Director.
- Staff members, please email the Managing Director.
- In addition, students who receive a positive (rapid) test result should call the Berlin state [Coronavirus Hotline](#) and follow its professional guidance on follow-up PCR testing and quarantine (+49-30-9028-2828). Student Life staff can assist with arranging care when requested.
- The college is required to keep attendance lists for contact tracing at all college gatherings with individuals from more than one household. This includes all course sessions, college events and cafeteria meals. All attendees must sign in and provide the necessary contact information. Attendance lists for college events and the cafeteria will be kept on file for fourteen days.
- Bard College Berlin expects all community members to download and utilize the [Corona-Warn App](#) (provided that their cellphones have the necessary capacity) to track any potential exposure to individuals who have tested positive. The app has several functions that help protect users and facilitate contact tracing, including automatic contact warning, QR-code check-in for university buildings, spaces and events, a manual contact log and digital proof of vaccination.

(5) Residence Halls

- No visitors from outside the Bard College Berlin community are permitted anywhere inside your residence hall without written permission by Student Life staff.
- For on-campus students, the students with whom you share your apartment are considered your "household" group.
- Masks are not required within your household group.
- Visits to your apartment by up to two members from other households are permissible.
During visits, masks must be worn.
- All student rooms and shared kitchen and living room areas in student apartments must be aired out regularly, with all windows fully open for five to ten minutes.
- Household students are responsible for maintaining hygiene in kitchens and shared living rooms. Dishes must be washed immediately after use. Trash and recycling items must be disposed of in outside containers whenever receptacles are full. **Staff and RAs are entitled to perform unannounced hygiene checks at any time.**
- During quarantine periods, further restrictions will be put in place. These will be announced by the Student Life Office, Registrar's Office or the Managing Director.
- In order to mitigate the spread of coronavirus amongst the community, if a student believes they have contracted the virus or is suspected to have contracted the virus, Student Life staff may direct **all residents** of the apartment to isolate from the rest of the

college community. During this time, students should wear masks and limit contact within the apartment. Due to limits in college housing capacity, students should be aware that if a student tests positive for coronavirus, **they may need to isolate in their room and their flatmates may either need to isolate in their assigned rooms or be moved to a different space at short notice.**

(6) Cafeteria

- Access to the cafeteria is from the rear of the building only. Please line up for entry outside, around the north side of the building (opposite Henry Koerner Hall). Use the north stairs up to the terrace. Please exit the cafeteria through the front door only.
- Attendance will be taken at the cafeteria entrance. Please also use the Corona-Warn-App QR-code function to check into the building.
- Wear a mask and maintain a distance of 1.5 meters as possible while in line inside the building.
- On-campus students must not sit inside the cafeteria to eat. They are required to take their lunch, breakfast and dinner to their residence hall or sit outside.
- Off-campus students may sit in the cafeteria's upper-floor dining rooms to eat lunch, provided social distancing can be maintained. However, they are encouraged to eat lunch outside or in other suitable campus spaces.
- Faculty and staff should eat lunch in their offices or outside, or to use kitchens, terraces or other suitable spaces in the academic or administrative buildings.
- Weather permitting, all community members may sit and eat outside the cafeteria at any time.
- Students must use the take-away containers provided in the cafeteria. (Students who are allowed to eat lunch in the cafeteria's upper-floor dining rooms may use china plates and metal silverware.)

(7) Library

- Users should return books and other library items via the drop-box if they are visiting the library only for this purpose. (Reserve-shelf items should be returned at the front desk.)
- Attendance will be taken and an attendance list will be kept by the Librarian for fourteen days.
- Users must wash or disinfect their hands before browsing library items.
- Gardens should be used for reading and studying whenever weather permits.
- Each library room may be used for studying by up to two people at a time. A third person may enter the room to retrieve or browse items for no longer than ten minutes at a time.
- During longer stays, all users must open the windows for at least ten minutes every hour.

(8) Teaching Formats and Attendance

- Unless announced, all instruction is in-person ("Präsenzlehre"). Regular attendance is essential to the collaborative work of learning in the seminar format and forms part of the

participation grade. The participation rules apply to students who have to attend seminar sessions remotely.

- Attendance must be taken at all seminar meetings. Lists of all (in-person) attendees must be kept by instructors for the duration of the semester.
- If a student has to refrain from in-person seminar attendance because of a possible or suspected infection, instructors will offer alternatives to in-person attendance such as remote participation or asynchronous options.