

Special Policies and Procedures During the Coronavirus Pandemic

June 21, 2021, to September 30, 2021

In order to keep everyone in the Bard College Berlin community safe and healthy, the following policies and procedures will be in force for the remainder of the ongoing coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) pandemic. Until further notice and unless noted otherwise, they apply to all members of the community, including those who have been fully vaccinated or are otherwise immune to Covid-19.

Community members count as vaccinated in accordance with the criteria given in European and German law. Bard College Berlin expects all community members to obtain an EMA-approved vaccination on the earliest possible occasion and reserves the right to require all community members to do so.

The college will continue to follow or exceed all health mandates from the Berlin state and German federal governments. The college will adapt its policies and procedures in accordance with changes in government regulations and local circumstances. Students may suggest changes to these Special Policies and Procedures through the procedures of the Student Parliament (StuPa). All updates will be posted here: <https://berlin.bard.edu/covid-19/>

(1) Campus Access

- If any member of the college without full vaccination or immunity protection experiences symptoms associated with Covid-19 or learns that they may have been exposed to coronavirus, they must immediately isolate themselves from all college members and notify the college.
 - Students, please email the Head of Student Life (k.pretscher@berlin.bard.edu) and your professors. You may also use the college's 24-hour emergency phone line (+49-1575 7926095).
 - Faculty, please email the Registrar and copy the Dean and Managing Director.
 - Staff, please email the Managing Director.

In addition, students should call the Berlin government [Coronavirus Hotline](#) and follow its professional guidance on quarantine and testing (+49-30-9028-2828). Student Life staff can assist with arranging care and finding testing, as available when requested.

- In order not to endanger our community, students must exercise caution when off campus: Please avoid indoor spaces when possible. Never enter crowded spaces (bars, shops, restaurants etc.). Maintain social distancing outdoors and wear a mask whenever advisable. Immediately leave any situation 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"), "Hochinzidenzgebiete" ("high incidence areas")

or “einfache Risikogebiete” (“ordinary 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 non-attendance would have on their studies.

(2) On Campus: Social Distancing, Personal Protective Equipment and Hygiene Requirements

- Social distancing should be maintained whenever possible. This means that every individual must seek to maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from all other individuals.
- Posted maximum room capacities must not be exceeded.
- All teaching and meeting rooms must be vented regularly, with all windows and doors fully open at least once every 45 minutes for at least 5 minutes. (Please dress accordingly.)
- All members of the community must wash their hands regularly.
- Bard College Berlin expects all community members to download and utilize the [Corona-Warn App](#) to track any potential exposure to individuals who have tested positive, provided that their cellphones have the necessary capacity.
- Medical masks (FFP2 or N95 “Mund-Nase-Bedeckungen”) should be worn whenever possible. All new members of the community are requested to provide their own masks and to wash any reusable masks regularly (ideally daily).

Masks MUST be worn	Masks are not required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whenever social distancing cannot be maintained inside academic, administrative or other shared-use buildings and indoor spaces, • While waiting in line inside in the cafeteria, • While speaking with faculty or staff in their offices, unless otherwise directed by faculty or staff, • During seminars. (Faculty may permit temporary removal by individuals.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoors, • In your on-campus residence, • While eating in the cafeteria or in another indoor space (where social distancing can be maintained), • While studying, practicing, or meeting in a small group in the library, reading room, computer lab, or other campus space, but only if social distancing can be maintained).

(3) Residence Halls

- No visitors from outside Bard College Berlin 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.
- All student rooms and common areas in student apartments must be vented 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 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.

(4) Cafeteria

The cafeteria will be closed until August, 2021. Upon reopening:

- 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.
- Maintain a distance of 1.5 meters while in line outside. Maintain distance as possible and wear a mask while in line inside the building.
- Due to space limitations, on-campus students must not sit inside the cafeteria to eat lunch. On-campus students are required to take their lunch to their residence hall or sit outside. On-campus students are permitted to eat breakfast and dinner inside the cafeteria, provided social distancing can be maintained.
- Off-campus students may sit inside the cafeteria 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.
- All community members may sit and eat outside the cafeteria at any time, provided social distancing can be maintained.
- Students who are allowed to eat inside should use china plates and metal silverware. All other students must use the take-away containers provided in the cafeteria.

(5) Library

The library will be closed until August 2021. Upon reopening:

- Users should return their items in the drop-box if they are visiting the library only for this purpose. (Reserve shelf items should be returned at the front desk.)
- Users must wash or disinfect their hands before browsing library items.
- Gardens should be used for 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 browse items for no longer than ten minutes at a time.
- During longer stays, all users must open the window for at least ten minutes every hour.

(6) Teaching Formats and Attendance

- 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.
- Some students may begin the semester remotely due to travel restrictions.
- All students and instructors without full vaccination or immunity protection must refrain from in-person attendance if they exhibit any symptoms linked to COVID-19 or learn that they may have been exposed to coronavirus. In such cases, they must follow the protocol set out in section (1) of this document. Instructors will offer alternatives to in-person attendance where needed, including remote participation or asynchronous options.