

**Von:** [Kanzler](#)  
**An:** ["studierende@lists.uni-due.de"](mailto:studierende@lists.uni-due.de)  
**Betreff:** Coronavirus-Current Information  
**Datum:** Freitag, 28. Februar 2020 17:13:07  
**Dringlichkeit:** Hoch

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Dear students,

As you have probably heard from the media, cases of infection with the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and illness (COVID-19) have now also occurred in North Rhine-Westphalia. A sense of unease is starting to grow among the general public and also the staff and students of our university.

We would like to assure you that we are watching current developments closely and are in constant exchange with the health authorities and other institutions involved. According to these institutions and experts in the relevant field, it is currently not necessary to cancel all events or close facilities in general.

However, we would like to request that you look up recommended actions and protective measures for your own safety. Please find current information and contacts on our website:

<https://www.uni-due.de/de/covid-19.php>

<https://www.uni-due.de/en/covid-19.php>

finden Sie dazu aktuelle Informationen und Kontaktdaten. The most effective measures for your personal protection as well as for the protection of other people from infection are: proper **coughing and sneezing etiquette, keeping a distance** (of about two meters) from people who may be ill as well as proper **hand hygiene**. It has not been proven that wearing face masks significantly reduce the risk of infection. (Please find details below.)

For your own safety, please contact your local health authority if

- you have had contact with a person who have been found to be carrying the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- have been to an area that has been [identified as a risk area by the Robert Koch Institute](#) in the past 14 days

(even if you are not experiencing any symptoms and irrespective of whether you have planned any trips).

Students to whom any of the aspects mentioned above apply:

- Please contact the Registrar's Office if you have any questions regarding examinations, enrolment or admission:

[studierendensekretariat-essen@uni-due.de](mailto:studierendensekretariat-essen@uni-due.de)

**and your examiner.**

- Please address all other questions to the International Office:

[essen-io@uni-due.de](mailto:essen-io@uni-due.de)

UDE has established a task force in order to be able to quickly react to new developments.

Please keep an eye on the information provided on our website.

With our best wishes  
and kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Radtke  
Rector

Jens Andreas Meinen  
Chancellor

**[Details and further information](#)**

## Hand hygiene

In general, hand disinfection is not necessary. Washing your hands thoroughly is sufficient:

**Wet your hands – apply soap all over them for 20–30 seconds (!) – rinse thoroughly – dry carefully**

## Coughing and sneezing etiquette

Sputum and nasal mucus should not spread into your surrounding area when coughing or sneezing:

**Keep a distance to others or turn away–Use a paper handkerchief and dispose of it after use–Wash your hands thoroughly afterwards | Alternatively, cough or sneeze into your elbow pit**

## Face masks

According to the WHO, wearing face masks in situations where this is not recommended may cause a false feeling of safety, resulting in critical hygiene measures such as washing one's hands properly being neglected.

If a person who has fallen ill has to move in public, wearing a face mask can be useful to reduce the risk of infection for other people.

## Local health authorities

The city of Essen has established a hotline. It is available under 0201 123-888 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. from Monday to Friday and on weekends. Members of the public can call this hotline for information about the coronavirus.

The call service of the Duisburg health authority can be reached via the control centre of the fire department under 0203 3080. The city of Duisburg requests that members of the public call the hotline provided by the Federal Ministry of Health, available under 030 346465100 (Mon.–Thu. 8 a.m.–6 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m.–12 noon), for general information.

The state of North Rhine-Westphalia has also established a hotline for the coronavirus under 0211 8554774 (Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–6 p.m.).

## Further information

- [Information on the Coronavirus by UDE](#)
- [Health and safety information by UDE](#)
- [Video on hand hygiene by the Federal Centre for Health Education](#) (German only)
- [Video on hand hygiene by the WHO \(EN\)](#)
- [List of risk areas by the RKI](#) (German only)

Travel information and warnings