



PLEASE CHECK THE GCB HOMEPAGE FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES! (www.gcb.unibe.ch)

COVID-19 update from the GCB

<u>Update 31.03.22</u>: The Federal Council has ended the special situation under the COVID-19 regulation as of April 1st, 2022. This means that the last measures on the national level will also be lifted: the obligation for infected persons to self-isolate as well as the mask obligation in public transport. However, as the number of positive cases is still high and the course of the pandemic is uncertain due to the lifting of the protective measures, the government council of the canton of Bern has decided to continue the obligation to wear masks in hospitals as well as in old people's and nursing homes in the health sector until the end of April 2022.

For the University of Bern, the return to the normal situation means that the University's COVID crisis management team will cease its operations.

All thesis defenses and all mid-term evaluations may be conducted either in a hybrid virtual / physical presence format or with all participants physically present. Doctoral candidates are responsible for verifying in advance (and on the event date) the guidelines of the specific institute where exams will be held.

Proceedings will remain as specified in the GCB promotion regulations.

- 1. Apéros are allowed. Doctoral candidates are responsible for verifying in advance (and on the event date) the guidelines of the specific institute where the Apéro will be held.
- Anyone experiencing symptoms of influenza (fever, cough, breathing difficulties) must stay at home, as well as contact your doctor by telephone. Please follow the <u>instructions of the Canton of Bern</u> (in German) or <u>https://www.bag.admin.ch</u>.

The GCB wishes you all good health and would like to express our disappointment that its soon-to-be graduates must graduate under these circumstances, during uncertain times. Thank you for understanding.

Please note: The GCB team can all be reached via MS Teams (chat & video), Zoom and email, as well as in the office (with limited, staggered physical presence).

With best regards, The GCB Administration team