

Hygiene concept for data collection

by the *Experimental Psychology Lab („Arbeitsgruppe Allgemeine Psychologie“, Prof. Dr. Bröder)* and the *Chair of Psychological Methods („Arbeitsgruppe Psychologische Methodenlehre und Diagnostik“, Prof. Dr. Meiser)*

Updated: 13.09.2022

Collecting human scientific data in experimental laboratories is an important foundation of scientific research, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the possibilities to do so are limited. With the return to in-person teaching since the spring semester 2022, we want to ensure the safety and health of participants in our laboratory studies. For this purpose we created a hygiene concept for our laboratories. It is based on the current development of new cases and can, therefore, be adjusted in case this development changes.

1. Scope of application

- a. This hygiene concept applies to all laboratories of the work group “Experimental Psychology” (Professur für Allgemeine Psychologie, Prof. Dr. Arndt Bröder) and the work group “Psychological Methodology and Diagnostics” (Professur für Psychologische Methodenlehre und Diagnostik, Prof. Dr. Thorsten Meiser). The following rooms of the work group “Experimental Psychology” are included: L13, 17, room 501 (Kate-Gordon-Labor); L13, 17, room 511 (Jürgen-Bredenkamp-Labor); L13, 17, rooms 117 and 118 (Hans-Irtel-Labor); Schloss, room EO 184; as well as the following rooms of the work group “Psychological Methodology and Diagnostics”: L13, 15, room 514 (Computer laboratory 1); L13, 15, room 513 (Computer laboratory 2).
- b. This Hygiene Concept is obligatory for everyone using the laboratories for data collection. An updated version of this concept can be found on the work groups’ homepage and at the administrative office during their regular opening hours.

2. Basic Information

- a. Excluded from participating in lab studies are:
 - People who are currently ill or show symptoms of a cold (e.g. fever, respiratory symptoms).
 - People who are currently tested positive for COVID-19 and/or are in state-mandated isolation or quarantine.

- b. Before laboratory appointments are scheduled, potential participants need to be informed in writing that they cannot participate if they belong to one of the groups mentioned under 2a.

3. Before appointments

- a. There are no restrictions with regard to the number of participants that are permitted in each lab.
- b. Working materials (especially ball pens) and desks (keyboard, mouse, table, radio bell) must be sanitized before use (for each new participant). This should be done while the instructor is alone in the laboratory in order to avoid unnecessary encounters with participants.
- c. The instructor is responsible for adequate air circulation. Windows are to be tilted or opened completely for at least 5 minutes per hour. If the noise level and the outside temperatures allow it, the lab should be aired during the appointment. If the noise or the outside temperature is intolerable, the instructor can forego airing during appointments.
- d. A break of minimum 15 minutes needs to be scheduled between the appointments, so that unnecessary contact between participants can be avoided. These breaks must be used for airing and sanitizing the desks.

4. During the appointments

- a. All participants need to be informed about the adequate behaviour before the study begins. Participants are asked to wear a medical surgical or FFP2 mask when leaving their desk in the case of an unplanned or early stop of the study. In case of an early stop of the study, participants are required to notify the instructor in order to take the appropriate hygienic measures after a study.
- b. During interactions between participants and instructors, both are recommended to wear a medical face mask (surgical or FFP2) if the minimum distance ($\geq 2,0$ m) cannot be kept. Participants shall be offered a medical mask, if they did not bring their own (available in laboratories). Participants are also recommended to wear a medical face mask, if the minimum distance ($\geq 2,0$ m) between participants cannot be kept at all times.
- c. Disinfectant dispensers for disinfecting their hands must be provided for participants (available in the laboratories). Participants are asked to sanitize their hands when entering the laboratory.
- d. Participants are offered disposable gloves, if they want to use them (also available in the laboratories).

5. After the appointments

- a. Working material and desks need to be sanitized thoroughly after the study.
- b. The laboratory needs to be aired thoroughly for at least 15 minutes after the study.