

English translation of the New Student Day on 19 October

Okay, welcome, welcome at the TU Berlin. This is the winter semester 20/21. I'm very happy we can meet here virtually. We have planned an exciting day for you. You have an advantage over me, because you are probably at home comfortably drinking coffee. We are very happy you are here today. It's a little different for us, we are in front of the camera today. Last year it was a little different, because people went crazy, we danced day and night, it's usually our first semester day at the TU Berlin. This year it's a little different. We will see what we planned for you today. From 10 to 12 we will share this time and give you all the relevant information. Then we have My University, My Possibilities with lots of guests we invited. International business is going here, founding a business, Fridays for Future, lots of different possibilities. And then information on how you can take advantage of this university. And at the end you can ask questions. It will be our Q&A session. I will welcome everybody who is in the chat right now. We have everybody here that was available so you can ask all your questions. So the robot already took over. That's the robot here. His name is Bernie. He is going to play a small part. Nadine, I'm so happy you are here.

(change of speaker): I'm so happy to be here. My job is going to be - you are going to have a great show here, and I am going to walk you through this university, I'm going to go to the cafeteria, I'm going to go to one of the rooms and just show you the campus life here. I am going to try hard to make you feel like you are here in person.

(change of speaker): Is it sort of like Jungle Camp?

(change of speaker): It's not like jungle camp, it's going to be a lot more informative and relaxed here.

(change of speaker): So that's what Nadine is going to do, eyes and ears behind the screen.

(change of speaker): I'm also on social media everywhere. So I'm probably going to be able to check this or that if you ask me. I'm going to get started with my tour right away. I'm excited. See you later.

(change of speaker): I don't have Instagram, so don't worry about that. Nadine is going to be out and about for us. What's even more important than me welcoming you is the real welcome, that means Christian Thomsen, the president of the TU Berlin is going to welcome you personally in his message.

I studied language and communication and I can remember how exciting it was when I visited this place for the first time. Now it's my honor to talk about the first semester. Welcome Mr. Thomsen. It's very important to all of the students. What does it mean for those who are just starting and what kind of experience would you like to share with us?

(change of speaker): We have thousands of people and starting events with them. It's very important to know where everything is, where you need to sign up, where the library is etc. Because of Corona it's all different, but it's just as important. So it's important to listen in the next few hours so you can see what you can do. Unfortunately there will not be contact with your fellow students.

What's your first semester going to be like? What we want to make possible is that every new student can have one event at the University. That would be great to really get to know other people and everybody will be able to join an event. If you do it from home, we already have a lot of experience from the last semester. There are other important aspects, some events where you have to be there in a lab or as a trainee. There will be smaller groups, shorter times etc. Just listen as much

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as possible, stay on top of everything, make contact as much as possible, and of course if you visit places, don't just stick to yourself. Starting your studies is really a social event.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much Mr. Thomsen. I'm handing over the stage to you.

(change of speaker): I can recommend you contacting other people, please visit the University whenever possible. You will see now our advice for you, the study really is the beginning of a new phase in your life. We will be as supportive as possible. Stay on top of things and all the best to you.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much Prof. Thomsen for this nice and warm welcome. We are going to try our hardest to make this semester work for you. We have to discuss a couple of things to make this semester work. Looking at the situation we are going to be home quite a lot, but still we will be successful studying at home. There is one thing we have to discuss ahead of time, because I know that some people still have some difficulties signing up etc.

(no audio)

If you are still wondering about your application, we are trying very hard. Nothing is going to get lost, we are not going to forget about you. So we are all very busy, but everything is going to work out. Things are happening. We do get these questions sometimes. The deadline passed, now everything is over etc. it only means that you have to have been active by then. Everything else is up to us. Your job is done, now it's up to us. Those of you who paid and arranged everything can just lean back and relax. We will get in touch with you. We are not going to say no. So just relax. So people who actually are not signed up completely can still study. So everything is really just like that. So starting from today, this afternoon or this evening we will send out emails to everybody who sent out an application. If you receive this email we are going to make more information available on how to get a preliminary account. How you can sign up for tutorials, online classes etc.. You can start studying just like any other student. That's what's most important. You can definitely do that. So we have introductory events, not a problem at all. So over the next few weeks I heard there are a lot of plans. We had a lot of phone calls. You can still call us now, after that you will have to send emails. At the end of November classes already started, but it's not a problem, by the end of November we will be done with everything. We will still be available via email. You just use the contact form on our website and use it. It may take a couple of days to reply, because we are receiving lots of emails, but you can contact us. So I hope people are no longer worried now. So end of November is our deadline. So we are working very hard to get everyone signed up. Of course you have a semester ticket. The question is: I don't have a student pass, but I would actually like to make it to university. Those of you who are already signed up and uploaded their photo, you can get a preliminary pass to just get a bus ticket. We do have meetings set up three times a week where you can get your pass for one month.

(change of speaker): I think we discussed all the important questions for now. Of course we are colleagues, I'm not a journalist.

(change of speaker): You can ask me all you want.

(change of speaker): You have a very busy job. How do you manage to still look so attractive?

(change of speaker): I have watched you for years.

(change of speaker): Perfect answer.

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(change of speaker): I hope everybody will have a great start to the semester.

(change of speaker): I hope all the main questions were answered. I know it's difficult to wait for news and information. At other universities it's very similar to be honest. This semester means we have to stick it out. Now updates we already had, but we have to talk about studying viewing Corona. We have to implement some new things. Now you can see our step system. We are in step two, you can find more information on our website. You can see step two means that libraries are limited, PC is limited etc.. We are hoping to open as much as possible so you can use university as a place of study. However, please check our website, you can find information that is sent out to students. Newsletters from our crisis team. You can also see what we are doing with on-site classes. And then something is happening. You can find information on our website. You are kind of lucky, because you are the winter semester. Because in the summertime we were able to test some regulations. For example if you don't pass a test it doesn't have the same consequence as it would have normally. Just take your time and read through everything. So you have a free trial if you want to call it that. On top of that, if we now imagine all bureaucracy behind this and you want to have everything in line and go to the campus center. The campus center is very important, it's sort of our place where all bureaucracy is taking place. Nadine, I think you should be at the campus center right now speaking to somebody.

(change of speaker): We are at the library. Economics and management. I'm here with the head of the library. Maybe you can just tell me, there are so many libraries here, what do you know about the library?

(change of speaker): We are at the library of economics and management, there is also the university library and one for the specific expertise, what is important to know, we have one library system, you have a study pass, you can use all the different libraries and we are using the same systems, but of course there are main focuses.

(change of speaker) Nadine? Nadine? This is super difficult, it is difficult to find good people, Nadine, we send you to the campus center, the library is happening later, so let's go ahead and try it again, how fast can you be at the campus center?

(change of speaker) Yes, I am here at the campus center, here with the secretary for bachelor students, why is it a such important place?

(change of speaker) Well, usually it is a place where we have contact persons for applicants and those who start out their studies, international office, student management, etc. right now we can't offer that because of Corona, but we are ready, we have also a digital campus center of the future for our students, the procedures had been switched, so we will be well prepped for this new winter semester 20/21.

The port is known where you uploaded the documents, now there not gonna be new features, you can apply for the student pass and other things, the website is very helpful, there are also tips and tricks, on the web site there is also study organization, where you find topics A to Z, there are tutorials on what you can do in order to achieve different things or apply for different things, e.g. semester tickets, etc. everything can happen digitally.

(change of speaker) What is the advice? If you are working with it, how can you have a good organization?

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(change of speaker) Try to get responsibilities, get a lot of information as you need, talk to the students, also on the website you can find the opening hours how and when you can reach us.

(change of speaker) What were the questions that were asked often?

(change of speaker) Well, students try to apply for the student pass as quickly as possible. Then we don't need personal contact anymore.

(change of speaker) that is great, do you have tips and tricks?

(change of speaker) take responsibility for your own matters, we are here to help you for individual cases if you can't figure things out.

(change of speaker) Bye.

(change of speaker) Thank you Nadine, she is very quick on her feet. Let's take a look at where we are right now. Right now, we are at the Lichthof, that is at the TU Berlin, I am next to a statue without head, reminds me of my first semesters, but we are in the middle of the city. That is Straße-des-17.Juni normally there are more people around. That is a beautiful campus that you can find online, on the YouTube channel of TU Berlin, you can get an overview of everything, check it out online. Also other parts represented, the engineering building, also other parts of the TU. Also chemistry is located there, outside of Germany we have partners as well, that is a Partner from Egypt, I have to fly there with my boss then to work along. And that is something I can recommend for the master studies, I thought it was the first semester day, why showing the pictures of holidays, maybe there are also beach photos upcoming.

Who are we? We have 400 teachers and professors, about 8000 people that work here, make sure that the study is possible, you might know that it is a good idea to look at it, you have a lot of directions, there are faculties that you can find here. The school of education and also the institute in Egypt. Who are we, how are we? That is important for a technical university, we are modest but also excellent, with other universities in Berlin we have the excellence expertise, we work together, we have clusters that we are working with, you can see it here, that is the area, you will be in close contact to that. We are open for the world and open-minded in general. Many nations are represented here, about - the strongest group is from China and Turkey, but also Gibraltar, if you are bored, try if you can find somebody from Gibraltar if you have the time to ask around. So, another topic.

What moves us? that is important to know, what is the information, what do you want? Here you can see the focus of the research, from digital transformation to material design and manufacturing, I have a weird english accent, I am not familiar with what that means, you can see the strategic fields we want to reach until 2025, we spent time and invested a lot of money in order to have digitalization in teaching, and you might profit from that. Also we are looking towards the future, we talk to people from Fridays for Future and engage in the process, you can see the things of the last year, and today at 2 o'clock Fridays for Future will be here and talk to you. And other than that, we are moved by an important topic, to live the reality and what measures are out there, there are a lot of institutions you can adress here, for discrimination and all the questions you have. Here you have a link and you can find anything behind that link if you are looking for those topics. Where are we? We pass the topics to show what is important right now. Advantages and disadvantages, you are looking at the screen, maybe your parents as well, so - you can lay back, you could talk to your

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parents but nothing going on in Berlin, but everybody knows what is going on as well, they will see that as well. If you are tired, now we have - I have no idea what people enter into the chat, I have to go to the bathroom, there are also a lot of different topics that are important. So you want to get started, it might not be as fast as you like. I animated that for my colleague, now an important thing about starting your study, this day is a central welcoming to you! But you can find here all your specialized research fields as introduced to you, all the subjects and faculties you can find here and the introductory meetings as well. There are few fields of study that have not put their information online, but that will happen soon. That will be an amazing program, maybe that takes a bit more time, don't worry, every study course has that. It always depends what you are studying, but if there is an introductory meeting, etc. that is different, here for chemistry and also there is an electronic learning platform, there is a course for that, there is information online that might be relevant for you, since there is a temporary access for everyone, that should not be the problem. Now, first semester introduction for everybody studying to become a teacher, subject specific introductory information will be found there. Now introduction is done, the second point is applying for exams, that does not sound sexy right now talking about exams already, but that is an important topic. I am glad to introduce Jana Weber to you, in charge of exam applications, thanks for being here.

(change of speaker) it's important when you want to have a certificate. And you want to have a certificate, right? First of all I would like to welcome all of you in the name of all of my employees as well who are working day and night at home in their home office, working for you even if you can't see us. We try to stay healthy. We are available to you in our home office. Where can you find information? First take a look at the information on our website under studies and exams. You can see it here, that's where you find the exams, Studien and Prüfungen. important and timely information, some information about the attempts you have when writing exams, and information about the hybrid semester. I always think about cars when I hear hybrid, but things move on. there you find up to date and relevant information also for your courses. what do you have to do when you want to write an exam. You have to sign up and tell us who you are first of all. there is a form you can find online with more information, you find that there is a common law about exams that's for all courses. Some basics you could take a look at. and then you find information for your subject matter. It's important that you know what you are studying, which faculty you are enrolled in. The declaration about initiation of studying, then you look at the legal information towards your courses. it's a lot of paper you have to read through. It's boring, but it's also important. so read through the regulations at least once. Then you know what to do. You have to apply for exams before entering them. You have to say where you are and you have to know where to apply. there are five exam teams in charge of different faculties. so here you can choose your field of study, that's the email address, and the colleagues will get back to you. you find all the forms required on our homepage for download to fill out. First semesters won't know that but maybe some students are here who have been studying for longer periods we had full house, that's no longer true. Now all forms are digitally available. So choose what you need. If you are sick take sick leave and communicate to our people, use your email. You can reach us 24 seven, but we do not work 24 hours seven days. So that means we are available for you and we work very much, but sometimes it takes longer for us to reply. It doesn't work every time, but we try to get back to you as soon as possible. Reach out to us with all your questions.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much Jana. everything is different in times of Corona, that you try to answer as quickly as possible.

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(change of speaker): We receive about 200 emails a day, so it takes sometime. We have to look at the contents, we might call you back to make sure everything is correct. Make sure your personal data is correct. start to be active in your field of study. As I said there is a free attempt now because of Corona. so nothing can go wrong. So try to have a successful student life. Is there a question? No, nevermind. All right, take care.

(change of speaker): What I can tell you is I have not talked to one single person who was not friendly at the exam office. There are lots of friendly people working there. so what does studying imply. There are a few pictures for you. This is a picture you will rarely see. In the Audimax. my do people not wear shoes here and why are they constantly drinking. So you have an idea what it looks like in a classroom. Small groups as well where you can keep your distance, and these two women are in landscape architecture, but not everywhere it's possible like this. this is also in the labs, and also practical instructions will take place there. Here you see field research, outside excursions. This is also part of study. here you see the cafeteria, that's where people meet. There is also a lot of social interaction, information exchange between students and professors. Also the cafeteria is important for studying. I'm looking forward to seeing how this is going to be in the next weeks and months. So now we have seen some introductory events anywhere where there is enough room to keep your distance. And also encounters in between events. however all the festivals and parties. This morning I was asked about socializing, how it is going to happen. Socializing in a digital way, maybe a digital games night. Or some kind of Discord channel meeting, I'm too old to know what that means. Some meetings unfortunately can't happen right now. But we can make up for that. you can study at the library or relax at the library. It's an important place. In the beginning I showed you one of the lecture rooms. And the lecture rooms are important places. Nadine, are you there now?

(change of speaker): Can you hear and see me? In the live chat people are saying that I am super fast, and I really am. I just went from the campus center all the way to a lecture room.

(change of speaker): So we have the most competent person doing all that for us. You are super fast. Where are you?

(change of speaker): In the lecture hall in the old building. You can tell by the huge windows. It's charming here. it's interesting to know with respect to hygiene rules because of Corona, everything is marked as you can see. Where you are allowed to sit. So keeping your distance is really important. On top of that it's really nice to be here. I always like to sit in the second row. That makes you pay more attention.

(change of speaker): I was the type of person who loved to sit in the back so I could get out quickly. I liked to leave five minutes before the end of the lecture just because I could.

(change of speaker): I think some of you have never seen a lecture hall before, so I will take a tour. It's almost like at school of course. The professors clean the board for you. Even though nobody's here I still feel good here.

(change of speaker): I was wondering can you still feel the fear of all the students?

(change of speaker): It's still nice to be here, no fear. lots of light. The lecture hall is very positive. I really like it.

(change of speaker): So I understand you really love to study.

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(change of speaker): I'm just positive and relaxed. I got my Masters degree here. And when you get your bachelor you might be more nervous. But everything is going to be great, you are going to love it. I promise you. And now I'm going to stop speaking, otherwise I will turn red.

(change of speaker): Maybe you can just write your name on one of those little chairs or stick your chewing gum under the chair.

(change of speaker): No, I won't do that. That wouldn't be nice.

(change of speaker): Okay Nadine, thank you very much.

(change of speaker): I will run to the next place.

(change of speaker): See you in a few minutes. Thank you very much, that was very nice to visit the lecture hall, it is a bit spooky, but that is the place where you will spend good times, that everything is clean and no chewing gums under the chairs, etc. Another topic, that is IT services and applications for students, I am going to go through this quickly, you will hear that from all of your supervisors, I just want to see what we have, one thing that it is important, that there are accounts for those who are not registered fully yet, you need that for your access. IF you have problems with that, there are questions there CECM, there is a hotline, and they have a ticketing system via e-mail. That is what we had in the beginning, when you say, you want to get started, you will be able to get a preliminary account before, so, also we heard about Isis, the e-learning platform, there are introductory events, also homework will be there, you can also chat there, that is something that you will use quite a lot over the next few semesters. It is very straight forward, there must be Moses as well, that is what it looks like, this, Moses, there you sign up for tutorials, that is a lame joke, nobody laughs, I am just going to keep doing this, don't you get this, Moses seperated the water, that is my own humor, okay. Moses is there for tutorials, to see the tests and sign up, and there is also an index for all the different lectures, all the information with regard to events, classes, rooms, all that is available there, that is a platform you will use for sure. Also there is also the cloud, that is a charming situation, that is a cloud service, but it is very big, you can work on things together, exchange information very safe, because we host ourselves. Last but not least, there is also something important, I am sorry for people who are working with this, this is an old tool, but important. The modules where you have to sign up you have to go there, I don't have to do it, but you should take your time read through the 43 pages, and there are also people who will answer your questions if things go wrong. There are also others that are important as well, but however, you will learn more from your supervisors, okay, next topic. Mentoring at TU Berlin is more important, having mentors is important, because everything that is new to you that is something other people already went through, people make themselves available to be your mentors, there are different offers for students, that is e.g. mentoring from the faculty number 4, that is mathematics, there is a class via Isis, and there is also mentoring there. on the website I saw, that this group setup, that you can get an update for events, signups, etc. that is something I highly recommend, so do take a look. So there is also mentoring for different topics, e.g. female students, first time academics, there is an initiative Arbeiterkind, they have their office, there are different institutions behind there, and they help you navigating your way. Okay, so the overview regarding the mentoring is available on the page you see here. Getting started, talking about this, we have a couple of things that are important. That is the institution where I am from, general student counseling, we had a lot of colleagues here and the last months we have created the counseling homepage, so we have different formats for you, so that way you can see everything live sometimes also recorded, but it is available digitally.

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(no connection)

Okay. everything is recorded but available digitally.

So, everything is recorded but is available digitally.

So it is mentoring, tutorials, etc. all this available on the website, of course there is the link right here, please use it, I think it is very good and very well done, if I may say so myself, but it is the truth. The library, we are talking about what part is important, when it comes to the campus tour, the library is also important, also libraries are important, because that is where you get your information and where you study. That is the picture of our central library, but there are also smaller libraries, they are all over the campus, and you can use them as well. There is a charming team, that is the central library, those are the most important people, that is something I would like to tell you, these are the most important people of the university, that are definitely the secretaries and the people from the library. So you can talk to them, use the phone or the media channels. Right now, at the library you have some limitations, but you can still book work stations in different locations, depending on which level the stress level, not stress level, you know what I am talking about, the pandemic. So it is important to go to the website of the library, to make sure what is available right now, where can you go, etc. in terms of the pandemic. So the books you can get them on site, you don't have to worry at all, and most things are also available as e-books, that is something that is going to be more important than in the past. There are also info days for the library, you can see October the 19th, and running until the 7th of November, so different things are offered, so you can get a feeling, there is also the link in here, you will be re-directed to the page. That is the information from the library, if we now say library is important, I am hoping that Nadine managed to run there, she is at the university for economics and information, she was there earlier today, hopefully they can have the communication from this morning. Are you there?

(change of speaker) Yes, I am here with the head of the library, maybe you can tell me, what do we need to know, where are we right now?

(change of speaker) Yes, we are at the library economics and information faculty 7, there are different expertise, and there is still one library system, you can actually use your student pass and use all the libraries, the system is always the same, but we all have different areas to focus.

(change of speaker) I really love it, I have been studying for many years, and I didn't know that library had been here, it is huge, what literature do you have here?

(change of speaker) Economics and information, it is many things, it is sustainability, management, and many more.

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(change of speaker) if you don't want to study here and get literature, what other offers are there?

(change of speaker) we have electronic resources that are important, depending where you are, if you are home or in a different country, you can use the electronic resources, e-books, e-journals, etc. you can rent everything, and in our library we have people here that give informations about economics, and also you can rent things, and also the work stations are only available if you make reservations, that is for every library at the TU Berlin, I hope we will be able to open on Saturdays in the future.

(change of speaker) that is good, then you can be here from Monday to Saturday.

(change of speaker) that is good. Are there any other questions?

(change of speaker) You can go to our website, contact us, we are here for you and happy to help.

(change of speaker) thank you, what is your favorite room?

(change of speaker) The relaxation room, there are big sacks to sit on, right now we can't offer it, because the room is too small, but the students love it to take their naps.

(change of speaker) That is good to know, thank you very much.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much, Nadine. She's worn out her shoes now from running. We talked about studying, and now we want to talk about the most important partners to approach. I want to indicate to you what design we did in order to simulate a study room at home. I don't know if you can see Britney Spears with the Boa, you were not born yet, but there was a time we were studying here. But I would say this was an authentic simulation. how you want to design your workspace at home, maybe you want to talk to the psychologists about how not to mix and how to mix things. So back to conversation partners. I talked a lot to my personal counseling group, but general counseling is one of the best to approach when you have any problems. We have come to attend counseling for you. It's the perfect first place to talk to. we don't know all the details, but we know who is in charge, who you should approach. So use our services about information apart from counseling for how to do things at home. Take a look at it, there is lots of information on there. You find other relevant topics as well if it is a series of lectures, at talk to our experts, if you want to know all about counseling, you come to us. just another picture. Lots of other people who are working there. More competent than I am. You can see the entire team in the home office and working for you on-site. You can reach us via email. Email is important right now. And counseling will be available on Zoom. Wednesdays and Thursdays. You can talk to us via Zoom. It has worked quite well. If you have more questions about the offers look at studienberatung.tu-berlin. some other details, the specialist counseling knows everything about your courses and timetables. How you have to put things together. What if you don't have an account. You can find specialized study counselors here. You find it all under counseling, all the specialized information you need. Different offers right now, often an Isis course. we are available here. Also the faculty for IT and technologies. There are special forms to ask questions. you can find FAQs as well. who is responsible for what happens in the first days and weeks, people you can talk to about specific topics like chemistry or special design. There is an Institute for your information about your faculty. There is also information available on Zoom where you can talk to people about specific questions regarding your course. You can find the entire offer of faculties and courses on Studienfachberatung. it's the second most important counseling site. The third one is study with disabilities. If you are sitting in front of the screen, it could be, 11%

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do have some difficulties, you might have some condition. so there are lots of things that can impair your studies. And not all of them are visible. Some of them are listed here, it could be that there are limitations for you relevant to prolonging your study. if you have to take some medication, if you have more sick days, if you have an issue there, then you have the right in order for your disadvantage to be compensated, it's a right you have. sometimes you have the right for integration aid, it really depends on your type of disability, if you get more time, if you have different exams, so it's all about equal opportunities. so that we all start on the same level. you have to contact the exam board. If you need technical help, if you need a personal assistant, if you need an interpreter, sign language interpreter for example, then you can talk to the Studierendenwerk in charge of that. then there is the library service you can talk to. You can talk to colleagues there, you get support from them. and if you say maybe that is an issue for me, I have disadvantages, you can get counseling from the colleagues at this site for people with Chronicle diseases and disabilities. you can contact them via telephone, video chat etc. you can contact them and they will help you with your issues. so those are the three important approaches for counseling we have already talked about. Now we are passing on to the fourth. You can see it again on screen. Those were the three we talked about. now the fourth counseling site, that is psychological counseling. I don't know if this happens to you sometimes, when you started to study, a kind of tiredness drives you to sleep. If such things happen to you, it might be important to talk to psychological counseling.

(change of speaker): good morning I'd like to say, but it's not morning anymore.

(change of speaker): you are one of the colleagues from psychological counseling, you can tell us what you do.

(change of speaker): All right. Welcome from psychological counseling here. I would like to present this with my colleagues, but they are both sick at the moment. But I'm here with you. We are psychotherapists, we are in fact psychotherapists in training. what are the topics you can present to us? Problems with your study or in your environment. Exam anxiety, lack of concentration etc.. Looking at the video, I want to start something, but I can't get to start it properly. And I start cleaning my room. Those are typical. Lots of pressure and stress particularly when it's online. We look at the psyche. That's the subject matter we are dealing with all the time. Motivational problems in particular when it's online. If you find out you cannot go to the lecture, you are sad, you feel isolated and can no longer cope with the situation and don't want to live any longer. Lots of problems, panic attacks, afraid of going anywhere University or public spaces. Not being able to sleep well. Often people drink or take other drugs. You find you can't manage on your own and have excessive consumption. Or you have traumatic experiences in your past, being raped or having fled from another country.

Next slide, looking on the environment, if you take care of your families, if you have a cancer case or living with other people, or you are feeling lonely, or you are new in Germany and don't know how to get to know other people, we do not offer psychotherapy but can help you find people that are able to do that. We find that often that people need psychological aid, we have over 50 requests per month, at the moment it takes two weeks, sometimes it takes longer, but we don't leave people alone with their problems.

(no audio)

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those were just topics, it is not specific to Corona, but definitely increased.

(change of speaker) really?

(change of speaker) Yes, we have requests about, I can't motivate myself, can't organize myself, there is just the social factor, you can't go to the university and hang around.

(change of speaker) so you have something to offer?

(change of speaker) yes, we do that in the middle of December, how we start and how we contact with people, also talking about Discord.

(change of speaker) I don't know what that is.

(change of speaker) maybe we are too old, but I don't, that is for chatting, we will have an event, there will be sessions and also breakout rooms where you can chat, etc.

(change of speaker) alright, those are the things you are offering right now, but now all of us -

So, now all of us

OK, and if we now think about, I am super motivated, I really want to get started in this semester, I want to do that digitally, that is exhausting.

(change of speaker) Yes.

(change of speaker) why?

(change of speaker) we see the Top part of the body, the brain has to imagine what the person looks like, etc. that is exhausting for the brain, and also there are three things, modules instead of 5, we see that, almost nobody manages what they were setting out to do.

(change of speaker) that is what we hear a lot, there is recommendation how long you should take for that studies, etc. reality is different.

(change of speaker) yes, correct. We also do English counselling, everything is available in English as well. Is there anything else we forget?

(change of speaker) No, when in doubt just ask us.

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(change of speaker) everybody knows where to go, and we can meet you, if it is the 5 of you, you are passionate and we are happy for you being around. Thanks for being here.

(change of speaker) Yes, hopefully we meet later: bye.

(change of speaker) That is the psychological council, we have also a family office, many other places, that I have mentioned, mainly it is just to get started with those Top 5, number 5 would be the study work, that is from our location, from TU, instead that is something that is not from us, what you pay each semester, a certain amount is going to the Studierendenwerke, and they give it to day care, and also a lot of different things for jobs, trainings, etc. things like that. BAFöG online, that is something important for people who want to apply for that. The portal is good, you can personally go through this. BAFöG, if you think that you can get it, you should apply for it, half of it is free, it is a gift. I do understand that money for free is not bad, so apply for it. Also social counseling, if it is income money or over all money, how to finance my study at all, what sources can be used, who can help? There is also social councils for students as well at the Studierendenwerk. The other important thing is living in Berlin, there is not a lot positive to say, but check the Wohnheim portal, check out which places are still available, but however on Top of that there are more alternatives, if the apartment from the Studierendenwerk does not work out. Jobs, that is also important, there you can also see some jobs there, and as I recommend, the things are changing, check are the website and please also look at the different things, financial support, etc. all of that is available there, psychological counseling, that is also offered by the Studierendenwerk and also very important. I talked about the topic in the beginning, the cafeteria, that is important, you will spend a lot of time there, very often it looks like that. If you look at the food, I am not sure if it differs from place to place, but those are things you have to look into, you have to put the big salad leaves at the bottom, to make the bowl seem bigger, everything soft and fluffy is on bottom, and on Top of that Tomatoes, to put it down, and hide the mozzarella balls, I don't know why I am telling you that. So I don't know why I am here, there are also cooking videos, if you are missing the food, there is the cafeteria cook studio, you will be able to see cooking instructions, I just saw that and it sounds delicious, there are also important places.

So Nadine is at the cafeteria checking out what is happening there.

OK, over to Nadine.

(change of speaker) Yes, we are here at the cafeteria, I am here with Jana from the Studierendenwerk in Berlin, that is an important place, I ate a lot of potatoes here, that is a special time, how can students be here?

(change of speaker) We had to stop the cafeteria in March, now we have online order system, students can pre-order the food and get it here. You can use the Mensa card, that is the cafeteria card, and you also can eat here.

(change of speaker) where do you pick up the food?

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(change of speaker) we have two, one is here at the Hahnbergstraße in the big Foyer and also in the cafeteria in Marx-Straße, where there is the Foyer and the coffee bar, that is the place where you can pick it up.

(change of speaker) Is it also for those in the home office getting affordable lunch?

(change of speaker) that is for all students, for those at home and those that are very hard working.

(change of speaker) that is great, could you also bring your Tupperware, now that hygiene is also a big topic?

(change of speaker) right now it is a specific packaging, it is bio plastic, degradable, the solution bringing your own Tupperware, we are thinking about it, but with the hygiene regulations that is not possible right now.

(change of speaker) it is the same everywhere, everybody is struggling with that. What other things do the Studierendenwerk offer?

(change of speaker) we have a long list of students waiting. But however at hahnbergstraße there is this answer center for all our students. You have to make an appointment. right now we have phone and email counseling but also in person. The best thing to do is go to our website, fill out the online form and then we are going to contact you.

(change of speaker): About support, what can you tell us.

(change of speaker): Studierendenwerk is responsible for financial support and BAFöG. our forms are intelligent, you fill them out and send it and everything is already uploaded and can happen quite quickly. Counseling about financial support, we do that as well on the phone and via email and we give you some tips about complex cases as well. There are other options to finance your studies in any other way. So if international students are not eligible to receive BAFöG, there are loans and scholarships, and beginning in November there is going to be held for studies.

(change of speaker): Is there one address for all the financing?

(change of speaker): Yes there is one we are offering, there is everything under one button. There is also a big button for culture. Also support available in person. so if you don't know anybody yet in Berlin you should sign up for this cultural event, because it's all about meeting people.

(change of speaker): It's best to sign up now, because there is only limited access.

(change of speaker): Okay so we already have lots of information from you. Thank you. Click and collect food sounds amazing.

(change of speaker): The bowls are sensational, I recommend them, I eat them every day. Right now it's mainly vegetarian because it's more sustainable.

(change of speaker): Great. Talking about food, we are going to take a lunch break and then there is going to be more interesting stuff for you. See you later. Bye.

All right, welcome to the second part, I can only talk about some questions from the text, later on we will answer more questions. At 2:30 we will answer all remaining questions. One important issue I

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want to talk about. In the chat I was described as Boomer. That was hard for me. My mother was a boomer. How old do you think I am?! Boomer, seriously. But we want to talk about studying here, how it can be properly adjusted and designed as you like it. So it's a profile of our university that you can cocreate your studying. We have a workspace available from students for other students, there are a lot of projects you can take a look at. It's very charming, since 1985 this exists. There are a few universities offering this. There is for example a project called save the bees. another one is digital inclusion, mobility, there is a link where you can take a look at all of these workshops. You can see how you can become engaged with teaching as well. You can also start your own project there or join an existing project. As in many other universities there are lots of clubs at our university. If you take a look on the home page you will find all types of clubs, topics, initiatives, how you can find other people, how to get to know other people and also how to practically apply what you learned in theory. The higher purpose, typical the specialist initiatives, they are very active talking about making available older exams in order for you to have all the information, and if it does not work, there is troubleshooting available. Another student initiative was our student cafés where you can – back in my time I worked in one of those cafés, I designed the music, you could talk to other people, the coffee was horrible but the atmosphere was amazing. It's great to offer these spaces to other students as a part of the engagement. this is from 2019, and also the chemistry department is still engaged in that. Another example for parties and game evening. Another example is engineers without Borders. So different student associations you can join and where you can try out different things. This is another example for a club that will be offered in the winter for bicycles, existing since last year. it's a typical example for how the TU Berlin has done over the last year. It's about sustainability, climate activism, and I'm really happy to introduce some of my guests from the initiative Fridays for Future coming on right now. I'm very glad that you are here. We have to make sure that we keep our distance, that the microphones work. I'm handing the floor to you. If you just shortly introduce yourself that would be wonderful.

(change of speaker): Well, welcome from our side as well. We are happy that you found the digital way to university and we would like you to become part of our initiative as well. Studying is important, but it's also important to look at the future of our planet. Last week a new study came out that states that within the next five years we have to reduce drastically the CO2 emissions in order to keep the Paris agreement. Studying is what you want to gain your masters degree. Climate change does not wait for that. So you also should not wait too long to take part at the initiative Fridays for Future. We want to urge politics to take drastic measures in order to reach the goals. We support them by participating in demonstrations, we distributed flyers and organized flashmob at the cafeteria. Now that university is closed we are organizing online demonstrations as well in social media. We also organize in this initiative larger demonstrations. You can see a group of climate activists who have been biking from Cologne to Berlin. Fridays for Future at TU Berlin does not only mean demonstrations, but also working at University.

(change of speaker): It's strange for us to greet you in this manner. We see the next slide already from 2019. We had a lot more energy going, because we had a full assembly for our students and made an announcement which we were able to negotiate in the past. So we are very happy that university is cooperating with us. It's a huge university and it usually takes a lot of time to get initiatives going. But it's wonderful, now we have online meetings and we hope we can soon return to life meetings. Because it's a lot of fun to work with different groups, to cooperate and help to remodel the University in a sustainable manner. Here is an example, there was a lecture series, from 4 to 6 PM, where scientists talked about how to change university processes, how to change teaching

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at University, how to become climate-neutral as a campus. This is a great project and we hope to welcome you to this project. Here you can see the program regarding the lecture series. Here we also present our initiative again for example at the federal ministry for the environment. And we try to get scientific discourse and societal discourse which is difficult to achieve our goals, because sustainability is a huge issue. We try to get it across and to pull our resources and not just work alone in becoming a team. This way we can be successful.

(change of speaker): If you are interested we would be happy to welcome you on Monday to one of the lecture series, it starts at 4 o'clock. You are invited every Wednesday, each Wednesday from 6 PM. We are trying to do life meetings, and we would also like you to participate in demonstrations. In November at 6 PM we have an on boarding event. So meet us on Friday, November 13. More information you can find in social media. Scan your QR code and you can ask more questions, we are happy to welcome you. Please ask your questions.

(change of speaker): We have a few more minutes. You are Paul?

(change of speaker): Yes.

(change of speaker): I'm interested in knowing how did you become active in the initiative?

(change of speaker): I'm studying technical environmental protection, but it was clear to me that Fridays for Future started two years ago, it's an important issue and will remain so for the next years. That's why we have become active here at University.

(change of speaker): I'm an economic engineer, it's a large group of students here, we learned about university process, if you want to practice, you find other people who are interested in the same topics. And after Corona crisis the climate crisis will continue, and it's an important and vital issue. It also affects society.

(change of speaker): Does University support you, do you have to fight for it?

(change of speaker): I think it's an important issue, it's a good initiative, but you still need help.

(change of speaker): I think we have a positive relationship to our presidium. When it comes to important issues at University. But we need more discussion and more activists in order to implement change, we need to implement changes in economics in particular. Because we are in a huge crisis and we need your support for this, but online it is very difficult to meet and we are trying to do an on-boarding process, trying out different media until the presence lectures start again. Is there anything else? There was a demonstration on Fridays for Future and it was agreed to the Paris Climate Agreement, because it is difficult to implement, so we need patience and people that stand behind the project and support it and continue to press the issue. Does that work to study from time perspective? When you work all the time at Fridays for Future - you do have free time when you are a student, there are people who invest a lot of time there, and others that participate on and off and no matter what you want to do, enter your own ideas, if you have a project that you want to bring forward, then please approach it. That is a lot of fun to do that, also other groups as well. Networking is good, and in the initiative it is a good place to be, also part of the university to look at societal issues, you will have a lot of time in conferences online, but that is also good to have contacts with, also with professors and other people at the university, you can learn a lot of things from other students as well, everybody has their hobbies, and - it is a wonderful option that you are presenting

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to join Fridays for Future, we are happy to welcome you, 13th of November at the on-boarding. Thank you very much, you too, all the best. IF we are successful, we all do better. Thank you very much.

Okay, alright, I think we can continue, there is a following round, and I do know what it is, however, I don't want to show off, it is easier to understand, if I told you, then Boomer, no way to wear it off. So the initiatives at TU Berlin, if we talk about doing things as a student of course there is a big body behind that and that body is definitely there to make it visible, what do students do, that is where our money is going, I am so happy, that I can go to the room back there, I started reading Bravo from 2001, Marky Mark is in, here are people from AStA, I hand over to you.

(change of speaker) Hi, welcome, us at AStA would also like to welcome you.

(change of speaker) I am Miriam Förderer for universal politics.

(change of speaker) what is AStA? It is a general student body and is in charge of what students are doing, so we represent your interests, how do we do that? AStA is elected by the students parliament, and that is elected by all of you, in this student parliament, there are different groups that come together, the two of us are also there, I am also active in the Linke Liste, I am part of the critical sustaine Berlin, AStA is from students for students, it is financed independently, that is why we are independent and achieve different things and use the money to make it available to you. AStA have people who are employed, others are elected, but we are also a political group, we have university topics, but also political topics, if you are interested, AStA is one of the doors that is always open to you.

(change of speaker) How is it set up? We are the part for different parts and bodies, they are elected and it is all on voluntary basis, we talked about educational politics, also cultural, society, also sustainability and environment, we work there on a voluntary basis, we were elected, we create invents for you and that is how you can get involved and learn what the independent bodies are doing, you also can get in contact with people who are involved, we also have other bodies, the international bodies and others, if you feel like you belong there, there is a safe space and you can get in touch. We have the service collected lead by student employees, if you want to be part of it, you can be part of the office, you can also go to the library and get books about it, the financial body, you will get financial support, or students event, you can plan events, also technology for that, also a bike, last but not least we also have a ticket office, that is maybe interesting for you, e.g. when you are in financial difficulties, you can get a semester ticket, or if you are on vacation, you can stop the semester ticket for a month, we also have counseling.

(change of speaker) As I said, counseling is the most important part, we are independent from the university, so we are always on your side, we are working there for you and the counseling is available all over Berlin, also at other universities of Berlin, you don't necessarily have to be at the TU, we also have university counseling, that is about exam rights, e.g. they could go to court if we think if something is improper and unfair, it is also about financing, financing your studies, e.g. if you aren't eligible for BAFöG, you could also apply for Hartz IV, we also have something available for international students, we also have the option that you can talk to the lawyer about your problems and get some legal advice.

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(change of speaker) Now, this semester, that is a specific and strange situation, we can speak from experience, we structured, and the counseling is available via phone or e-mail, also please check out our homepage, you will find everything on the homepage, also news about Berlin, etc. we also talk about specific regulation and all the latest development, so you will find all the information you need. It is also - last semester we talked with the TU and the senate not only having disadvantages, the thing that everything is hybrid now, that is important that there is something where you feel being treated unfair, let us know, we can work it out with you.

(change of speaker) So, we also wanted to tell you some updated information, starting from 2nd to 8th of November, there is the AStA election, the information can be found here, this is going to be online, there will also be on location events about hygiene, demos and how to politics and BAFÖG, a feminist talk is planned, there will be more projects in the future as well. At Asta we had to re-structure some things, usually we used to be on the campus, try to explain to you who we are and give you merchandise, every year we have a little bag, as Miriam can show you, also a calendar, last year it was gentrification, this year we are going with the topic black lives matter. That is not the case that you can just walk into AStA and get the calendar, we adapted, so we thought it is cool to have an online thing for that, we will send it to you. If you only have online semesters, you have the feeling you are part of the TU and the body. And we also have the first semester bag from the TU, we included the pens with the AStA homepage.

(change of speaker) Would you like to say something about the link?

(change of speaker) It is not working right now, we will add the right link, that is something we forgot.

(change of speaker) if you have the pen and happy about it, you have the home page there, at least when it is refreshed, you can get it there for free.

(change of speaker) so you started semester and heard a lot of things, aStA sounds great and then you forget about it, and then it is December and you didn't get the bag, so follow us, and you will be notified automatically. We also have the updates of COVID-19 and also about financial things, you can go to counseling and contact counselors there. You see the TK-building where AStA is located. and hopefully we can meet there in person soon. You can always get the top current on our website if you are interested in that.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much for inviting us today. We wanted to say that we are hoping that you are so able to take things in.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much for that. Please don't leave yet. Can I get this bag. That is my status symbol. Thank you for all the information about this important institution at University. Can you remember where you actually really made things change?

(change of speaker): As we already said, Corona, we had a lot of support on that. We definitely fought for that, for tests. We have a lot of initiatives planned and we tried to coordinate that. For those of you at other Berlin universities you may have noticed that an agreement was adapted, it was part of our overall body. We try to support them and at our meetings we try to support everybody. We definitely work hard on that.

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(change of speaker): I mean it's a building as well where there is a room you can use. It's an infrastructure provided for initiatives. There lots of people do great work. It's important we have this political institution that is legitimate, because students elect us. We support them every semester.

(change of speaker): I mentioned a lot of top buddies. You are evidently one of them. You have the benefit of being an internal body because you can make things work better then from the outside. Can you think of a topic where that was the case?

(change of speaker): A very classic example would be counseling at University. We can go to court against the University which you can't do. With professors for example, you failed for the third time and it was not justified in your opinion. And we can try to help you.

(change of speaker): Okay, so I think we are working with you quite well and we like working with you. We have some different perspectives but at the end of the day we work good together. One last question, you do so much work there, do you also study?

(change of speaker): Of course we are studying at TU Berlin ourselves. It's actually important to be politically active at the place where you spend the majority of your time. So we have the same perspective as other students.

(change of speaker): Let's say I just graduated from school, I was never a very critical person, can I still be part of you or do I need some references?

(change of speaker): Anybody can join. The idea is to really have different topics, we want to meet people where they are. If you feel like you want to get involved you can get involved with us. I also come from a different initiative at University. It works that way. We are also able to coordinate people. But if you say my faculty is too small, I really am more interested in accommodation politics then go for it. That's very interesting for us as well.

(change of speaker): So all the information is available online. Is there any Discord channel you are using?

(change of speaker): No. I had a tutorial about it. Because my brother is using it all the time. But we are not. We are not big fans of zoom and we made a lot of noise about the TU Berlin using it.

(change of speaker): Okay, important institution. So we have all the information we needed. So now we know what you are doing. Thanks to the two of you and have a successful semester. All right, AStA. let's continue. The next part we will talk about starting a career. We talked about the beginning of your study, but then when it comes to developing a perspective and starting a career, starting to work, there is an institution here to help you and inform you, it's our career service. And I'm happy that they are represented here today and can tell us about their service. The floor is yours.

(change of speaker): What's my message to you. My message is, at the career service we have a motto. Starting your career during study time and hearing the time that you are a student. So for a first semester student this question might not be so relevant yet, because you are just finding your feet. You go through various stages while working. This is where career service can help you. And to find a personal definition when starting your career. It's about the personality, about the task at hand and about the institution where that person works. I think there should be a good balance between those three aspects. This is where career service offers support. I have brought with me the

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guidelines. We have a comprehensive offer of all different types of support in intense and less intense versions, I'd like to present to you. As first semester various questions you have. Do you have a place to live, does my timetable work out, do I know nice and friendly students. And what to do with money. Do I find a good job at University, at good places, but also at the career service, in an online job exchange. About internships, training and everything available. You find lots of positions throughout various branches of industry, various scientific posts, internal jobs, at the career service we also find X to jobs at companies for you. It's also about startups, scientific institutions, small and medium-sized, but also large companies. If you find the right job, and it's a question of how to properly apply for the job. So you might have already done that, or you have to learn how to apply for a job. That's where we also help you. You learn soft skills, application, contents of all types. There are information campaigns. And there is one particular evening that I recommend to you to go to. Job digital, it's a career fair here on Wednesday and Thursday. There is a large variety of startups, companies and scientific institutions with their personal recruiters that could give you information on what questions you should ask, what's important to look at when filing your application. What does the company offer and what is the culture inside the company. What's the difference between a small and large company. What is possible. And you also have a huge variety of presentations and information you can access. There are a few events coming in the winter semester now. you will have networking from home office. We have a successful initiative application from the home office, and also other specific information about the work place, even things in difficult times as we have at the moment, how you can get started with your career. About the registration. If you got used to studying, then it might be a good idea to look at the module prepare.

It's an interdisciplinary teaching offer preparing for the job, it's like a miniature lab before starting your career, where he can talk to real companies in order to work on a specific task and have a test run of what working is like. Working with different disciplines, because that's one of the important points you will do when working. This is a relaunch phase which is not offered this semester, so you should keep it in mind for the future. And take up such a module later on. Many of you also think about going abroad during a semester, you can do that while you are studying, but you can also have an apprenticeship abroad, we offer two different programs, that is Erasmus Plus, a program for all appointments in Europe and Promise for all worldwide. Depending on the country you have various credits that we can give you so you can finance that. And we help you with money, but there is another program I would like you to take a look at. Some people on the screen are waiting on the screen for the Deutschlandstipendium, the process is taking longer, but never the less it is an excellent program, you can see because of last year, starting here, the Lichthof, on the one hand it is for at least 1 year a thousand months, some is for private owners or alumni, so beside that money, the value is the network that you gain through that, so that you have the first career contacts that might help. In winter semester it was launched and in summer it is independent from BAFöG and others, what are other criteria? You have to be in university, need to have two more semester in your studying time, have good study results and also your engagement apart, so if you work for a Friday for Future organization then that is also taken into account and also familiar and biographic challenges you have, e.g. a chronic disease or taking care of a child, you are the first one of the family that is studying, that is all taken into account. There is also individual training, alumni mentoring, that is where you have individual support from successful alumni from university, with these, you can Partner for mentor and ask your individual questions regarding starting your career. How you combine work and life, all these questions can be discussed with your alumni. And talking about answering questions, also our vocational coaching as question processes are not simple to

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answer alone, often it is better you have somebody to talk too, so that is why we have a vocational coaching in a safe space and find answers and resolve all the problems. New from this year for all those coming here with an international background and history of refugee a program called mint to work, that is about how under very difficult situation do I start my career here in Germany. Because there might be challenges you are not aware of, here we have a comprehensive program with experts that help you applying to have a job in Germany, also individual counseling option and also that your application can be checked in both German and English. This is the information, how can you find us? Usually on the main campus, but at the Moment we are online on zoom hour, we are available with all of our know-how to your questions on zoom, all the weekly and daily dosage of career through Facebook and Instagram or comprehensive information on our website. And if you begin your study successfully, you will also master the start of your career, so this is the happy message that I can send you from the career center.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much. Those are wonderful final remarks, I have no further questions. You went 3 minutes over, that is fine, thank you very much Bettina. You heard that we do not only have the best career service, but also the best exam board, so we are simply the best and we are very modest about it. Before starting the next topic, we talked about career and startup now the point of view will be very capable, because there are a lot of ideas that came out. Here you can see our founders initiative 2016 where we had excellent results, in order to get the idea of the startup idea here, so I would like to give a warm welcome to Julian and Robert, you will start talking about CFE, is that fine? Robert is here, I will hand the floor to you.

(change of speaker) Welcome, my name is Robert, I am from the center of IT in Berlin, we are founders, and I just want to keep it brief, I have somebody with me, I want to tell you why it is interesting now already during the studies and I am keeping that brief. That is where we startup, I am responsible for student entrepreneurship, it consists of two parts, research, faculty 7, looking at all the events but also founding services, with coaching, processes, access to financial support and investors. We also have a workshop called startup school, that is for founders, innovation techniques, that is also open to students, if you are interested, turn up to our websites, vendor plans is also interesting, that is held in English, you can find more on the website. We have the business model canvas, that is a business model plan, a game where students from different disciplines can take part and can walk through the steps, which is important in the beginning. Also as a master degree, that is sustainability and innovation, that is in English, you will get the degree in 2 years, also can go abroad, hopefully that is going to happen again soon, keep an eye on that. In the winter semester a lot is happening, starting on November 2nd, if you want to sign up for that you can go to ISIS. Events in the winter semester, November 9th, we have the next startup Monday, that is a network with students, there is one team answering question, you can also network there, hopefully we can do that soon. In this time, we have the team robotics, with robotics for the industry with the drawing robot, on December 3rd, we will have the annual information day for founders at the TU Berlin, usually offline, this year online, we do have great speakers for you, trainers as well and of course, important is Johanna Breidenbach, she is going to be there, the founder of betterplace.org, a technology founder and author, she will be introducing herself, also having different webinars, also for innovation 4 design thinking, and of course, go to Isis sign up and there will be more information available soon. That is the creation place, that is a space for founders to work, and right now they are allowed to work there, but no externals, there is a big event room, etc. and if you are interested in that and also want to know how to be part of the community, please get in contact with me. OK, and then we have counseling for founders, it is already happening in the beginning of the study or during, if you want to

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be a founder, send an email to me, we can sit together and make your project into reality. We have a founder competition for the first time and we are going to do it next year again, it is our university, your idea, looking for innovative ideas making the limitations during Corona easier. We are also on Facebook, Linked in, we have a website with a lot of information about current and existing founders, you can find information about the projects, when we are active, etc. you can also contact me or my colleagues as well, using the contact form and we are excited getting in touch with us, and I am going to hand over to Julian Müller here today, he studied economics at the TU Berlin, he walked through the different formats, except the competition, I am happy he is here, he is now an actual founder, finished studies and an innovator.

(change of speaker) thank you, I went to that training, that was important to know who to contact, etc. I just brought in this pitch in order to get the Berlin startup scholarship, I wanted to show you the idea, the idea, where we are actually now and how we got the scholarship. Our name is Die Lage, we are a search engine finding real estate, you also can define different parameter, the Problem is - that is the Flinck family, they just had a baby, and they are looking for an apartment, spending a lot of time with their child, don't have day care, usually they have to check out the portals and have to check the apartment, and the solution is the location. "Die Lage" is a search engine where you can find an apartment, this is how it works, in the past we had live simulations, but not online, but that is this, we are getting the information, we look which websites have suitable apartments, can see what child care is available, pollution, noise, etc. things like that, also can use Google maps looking if there are a lot of clubs and bars, that is how we managed how we sort of find the best location and we have a fair price prediction, if the price is justified or too much, etc. You are saving a lot of time, that is 50% of the duplicates are done, the portals are coming together, you have a convenient interface and you can see who is offering similar things. Who is going to implement all this. Robert already said it. We have three network partners helping us with everything. With that we are hoping to make it as a start up, we have six months and we hope to make it. So we can only encourage you if you have an idea during your studies, make sure you have an innovative aspect in your idea. You always have someone around with the necessary information. This is just part of the files I have from my pitch.

(change of speaker): That's great, that gives us another three minutes for questions. So you used to be a student here.

(change of speaker): That's true. I also did my Masters degree here. And I went to training where everybody pictures their idea, and over the months you work it out, you also use the business canvas.

(change of speaker): Did you meet new people there?

(change of speaker): In this case it wasn't people I worked with before, it was nice to meet people.

(change of speaker): In this case people haven't even started studying yet. But they can see people like you who studied here and all of a sudden you are a founder.

(change of speaker): My dreams are definitely coming true. I never thought it would work out and then I got the scholarship. You should definitely try, you should believe in yourself. If you have a good pitch you can definitely do it.

(change of speaker): It's always the idea that counts, but it's always about networking. We did have some really good ideas that turned into actual projects. It's good to have individual contact, you

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meet people at a session at University. And this may come back to you later. That makes the difference. There are different scholarships, after your studies you can say I wrote my master thesis, there is something new and interesting in it. Then the financial support doesn't have to be paid back. It's really just the overall idea that new founders are supported for six months so they can pay for their living. It could be more money for external coaching, prototype development etc. There are so many different things we can offer. Ideally it's for one year and then we can let them go. A lot of people follow-up and after three years they are still in the market. We actually give a new capital via our investment, they have their projects with the industry, with the economy. And some said no and came up with big competitors, then you can let go and come up with new possibilities. You never lose anything, because you don't have to pay back anything.

(change of speaker): That sounds very attractive.

(change of speaker): I'm a little biased, but I would say it's definitely the best place to go to.

(change of speaker): I can add to that, I know all the different structures and initiatives and clubs, associations like repair café etc. Everything is very close to real life. In the beginning you have to go through all the basics, but everything is very much real life, and then you can take the next steps with us.

(change of speaker): Good point. And you are always meeting people. In my case for example I met lots of people in data analytics, so also a very good place.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much for sharing your perspective about what you can do towards the end of your study. Thank you. All the best for your future, and I hope to see you again. We started with initiative and now we are going towards career. We already talked about it as well. But a huge aspect, we talked about TU Berlin as a good place, but studying abroad would also be a good idea. So that's what we want to talk about now. I'm looking forward to talking to our colleagues who want to talk about this from our former academic office. I leave the floor to you.

(change of speaker): I am one of the overseas coordinators and I support Erasmus plus students. I'm going to talk about your options to study abroad in Europe or other places. We are in the main building. At the moment we have working hours where you can call us only at the moment. So feel free to call us. Why should you go abroad? There are a few good reasons. You get to know the international dimension. You get to know a partner university, you get to know your subject matter from a different perspective, from a different point of view, you get to know a different university system, you learn a foreign language studying for example in English or in Spanish which is very interesting. You increase your cultural competence. Apart from that it's not just excellent for your time studying, it's also wonderful for your personal development. If you go for one or two semesters or just for summer school, it's a very simple option you go abroad for a longer time, it's very easy and it's a lot of fun. There are several options of going abroad. You can make an exchange in Europe, Erasmus plus, there are also options overseas in South America and Asia, we have corporations with other continents. There is a double exam finance depending on your course. Erasmus is the program for Europe with our partner universities. All of them are visible, you can go to France, England, Spain, Eastern Europe and also Turkey. Then we have partner universities in northern America, USA and Canada, and Asian countries and Australia and New Zealand. There are some advantages if you participate in the exchange program. You can organize everything on your own if you want to. In the exchange programs you have support from us. We help you with the application, we have reports

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from students who have been there, so you get information about the partner university, how was the cost, what was the University like, we help you to find financial support. It's also easier to organize your job that way. Another point, you also get into financing, we will pay for your study expenses there and we have contacts on site that can help you subscribing, in Asian countries, there is accommodation if you don't find a flat in Shanghai on your own or different organized trips. Here you can see what it might look like depending on the country. Another option is to ask for Auslands-BAFöG which might be available to you. Important dates, when you go abroad? It is different from course to course, also how fast you go through your exams, generally after the 3rd semester is it possible, overseas is 4th semester or later. You can choose how long you will stay abroad, abroad 1 year might be good, further you want to go, the more preparation you need. Also a language training you might have to go through, it is a good idea to start early when you go abroad. We have information events all on Zoom, we start with Latin America or Erasmus, we also have specialized information, there is all information about the application, what you have to take into account and also former Erasmus students talk about their experience and show what it is like. Next deadline is end of November for USA and Canada and Asia and some countries in Latin America, January is a deadline for Erasmus, that is for winter semesters 21/22 or sommer semester 2022. I am also sneaking in again, the best part of studying is studying abroad. I have one or two questions for you, I know, most have been studying abroad, you studied abroad?

(change of speaker) I was in France for an apprenticeship and studying there was wonderful.

(change of speaker) I was in Spain for one semester and I can only recommend that, the best decision I could make, broaden my horizon and I can only recommend that. You come here, study this and then you get back, just sitting there drunk on the beach, that is part of it, if you go abroad, you also have to achieve certain amounts of credits, and also you learn a new language, and there is work, extra work that you are doing and that is something that is rewarded. What is personal development, what happens abroad? It is different from person to person, I studied foreign language, I lived for one year in that language exclusively, I made friends that many years later I still have, I am no longer afraid to go abroad to work even, because I have done that already, build up my life, found my flat, etc. I learned a lot about myself, also it is good for the personal development. When I went, before that I was rather shy and after that semester abroad, after I knew what I could achieved that changed and I came back a different person. Now we are standing here, you are welcome on stage. I have no idea what questions I wanted to ask. it is difficult between America and Europe, there is money that you can save, you should keep that in account, there are Partner countries in Asia, USA, Canada, where people say, you were there, that is good for your career. So you talked about a lot of deadlines, it sounds like you follow applications? There are good or bad chances? How does that work?

(change of speaker): We have good applications, you can also find several partners for universities and language plays a role, also initiatives, if you are trying to go abroad by chances, go abroad, if you put in the effort, you can go abroad. It is a good idea to do that, to spend a semester abroad and a good idea to start early with planning. You can never plan to early, preparing to learn a new language, that is a long task, we answer all your questions via email and telephone, so apply.

(change of speaker): Thank you very much, I say goodbye to you, and the international section is the best section we have, thank you very much. Now our time together is coming to an end and I wasn't able to talk all the time, so in the last minutes I want to share a few wise words of counseling with

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you, as you realized, I like to hear myself talk, full of enthusiasm. If you start studying, your CV; it is a good idea to start that now. I hope it is not a straight way from here to your career, more curvy, getting to know people, try out different things, I am convinced here at TU you have a lot of space and innovation where you can develop. The second part is speed. The speed of studying illustrated, we talked about that, trying efficiently as quickly as possible, from our experience it is not what counts and is not necessarily successful, I haven't heard of companies who want the fastest students, etc. if you think you want to do it quickly, use your time when you are here, and because of the pandemic the road is rather bumpy, it might be a different speed, but you can study and you will find your way and try out things. We work together and try out together and things develop as well, so speed is not the essence. Also grades, I showed a few here, looking at fine grades is sometimes important, normally it is not the key. In the first semesters, if you don't have the best grades known from school, use it as feedback, try to find out what is going on, ask older students, mentoring, etc. it is not a good idea to beat yourself up over bad grades. Understanding is also a good strategy, in a digital world there is a lot of things to learn, try to understand things, that is more important for you, because for a successful study it is important that you can apply. That is one of the last, but sometimes you have an accident, things don't work out, that can happen, also in the digital time, make sure that the microphone is switched off or the camera before insulting people, I don't know, maybe that is my Problem, don't lose hope, it is important to try out things. If you realize that things are too stressful for you, we can help you with that. And the last thing is, don't panic, I think we organized everything excellently when we look what happened 4 months ago, when exams were held in these situation, it is a bumpy road ahead, but we will have an extra attempt, so don't worry, keep your head over water and enjoy your time here, that were my last words before we wrap this introduction up, we have great people now, with the licenses of the world. I want to greet the former boss and now Nadine, would you like to join me here on stage.

(change of speaker) Well, I have been running all day today, you moved as much as I did.

(change of speaker) I had a stressful job, I had to speak to the camera.

(change of speaker) I was running all day, I want to say check and I would like to tell you, you did really well. So give a warm round of applause, it was a lot of fun and a lot of people joined us and the live chat was happy.

(change of speaker) I am happy about that, it was entertaining and I want you to have a great start, I hope we gonna do that over the next 4 years as well.

(change of speaker) yes.

(change of speaker) what is going to happen here now?

(change of speaker) the official part is over, but because you asked so many questions, we have a 5 Minute break, and then I will be back with one of my colleagues and we then try to answer most of the questions in the live chat, most was about the instructional events and after that break we will discuss that.

(change of speaker) okay, we will continue and I am now going to leave.

(change of speaker) we leave together, love everybody, thanks for being here and I will be back.

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(change of speaker) all the best to you, have a good start.

Q&A

okay, thank you very much for being back. I'm here with Linda. You were already answering questions in the life can't. Linda just gave me a note with the most common and most interesting questions. We are going to answer those now.

(change of speaker): Yes.

(change of speaker): Let's get started. It says here, important questions. Why does it say being processed? We heard quite a lot about this today. Because of the delay, unfortunately people are not signed up yet. Because of the delay. That doesn't mean you can't get started though. Even if you are not signed up properly you have the possibility to be part of some of the events and everybody affected by that who is not signed up yet, it's possible that it could be until the end of November you are now getting emails from us with preliminary accounts. Then you can also sign up for classes etc. Even though your official status may not be there yet. So don't panic.

(change of speaker): The next important question: What happens with my ticket?

(change of speaker): Well, that's the same group being affected. For those people there is an option to have a preliminary ticket for public transport. So you have a preliminary access, you get an explanation about what you have to do. You print out your ticket and you can use it, people who only are signed up in November also have the option of reimbursement of the costs for October. So what do you do? You hand in tickets, you have to get a partial reimbursement for the student ticket.

(change of speaker): Great. Now we go to the Evergreen questions. How can I sign up for classes and when do I have to do that?

(change of speaker): I'm happy that there is something at least that's normal in this semester. People are starting to do it now. We have some experts who are there to explain everything in detail. Those are the people from the expert counseling. It's their area of expertise. You can contact them in the introductory events of the respective faculties. And of course you're going to find out on the website when this is taking place. You can take part in that and you can also contact them directly, and they are happy to explain how it works in their respective area of expertise.

(change of speaker): How do I find out when this is taking place?

(change of speaker): It's also on our website where this video is on right now. There you also find all the events. On top of that there is something called study start, there is a page from the general counseling, and there you find all the information.

(change of speaker): Next question, who is going to explain Moses, Isis etc.?

(change of speaker): Same answer, the people from your faculties. You can always ask the general counselors first, they can tell you who can help you. They know all the right people, for detailed information we are going to refer you to the respective people. Moses, Isis, tutorials etc. it's all being done by the expert counselors.

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(change of speaker): So we can send you an email and you are going to give us the right contact person?

(change of speaker): That is correct. The fastest way to reach us is if you just use our video chat. We have a video chat up three times a week at different times. And about your schedule you can just ask them or send us an email.

(change of speaker): Next question is where do I find the study plan?

(change of speaker): That's something I already said, you can find that in your study regulation. That sounds very outdated, but it makes sense to read through that info. Because it's the law you study by. If you have to do a traineeship etc., there is also an example of that. Example is very important in this context, of course this is just a suggestion. This is our promise to you, if you study it says here you are going to be finished in three years time, it does not mean you have to stick to that. You just check it out. If you want to finish in three years time, you need to know which classes you need to take and what is being suggested.

(change of speaker): It really helps to look at all of that, which classes you need, what you don't need etc. Next question, how you create a schedule?

(change of speaker) Yes, now you know what modules you need, not the classes itself, but maybe a class, an exercise, a tutorial, it could be 800 in a class, that could be now in a zoom conference, also smaller events and hopefully they are going to be available to every first semester student, that you can meet each other and that makes up your schedule, you do have the module, that means you have one class on Monday on 8 to 12, and then one module on Tuesday from 10 to 12, etc. those are just the details that you can get from your counselors. So you know, talking to other students is very helpful as well.

(change of speaker) Absolutely, and you can hear the people say, the person next to me is doing half of it, that is okay as well, what do I want to achieve, etc. networking makes sense in order to ground yourself.

(change of speaker) absolutely. Another big question, I don't have an apartment yet.

(change of speaker) that is an advantage of Corona, the fact that you don't have to move to Berlin right away, you have the possibility to do a lot online, however, other than that, the colleagues from the Studierendenwerk gave some good hints, that is the best place to go if you need help, they do have apartments, they do have 10.000 apartments, but we are 35.000 students, it is not enough at all, but there are other services, where they talk to people renting apartments, you can go there and get some supports. That is the specific platform, again, it is good to connect with others, does somebody want to start living together, have roommates, etc.

(change of speaker) next question BAFÖG.

(change of speaker) yes, that is the same place, Studierendenwerk, but you have to differentiate it. At Studierendenwerk there is the BAFÖG office, but also counseling for that, you can ask questions there, they support you and you can find a place where you find out, BAFÖG is no possibility for me, but other things, the Studierendenwerk is the place to be, those are the experts for financing.

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(change of speaker) that is the thing I talked about with Jana, she knows where that is, you have to get back and get the information. So how can I connect with other students ?

(change of speaker) The introductory events are great opportunities, other than that, we also try to have face to face events, even though that is very difficult right now, so if you can, please participate, because meeting in person is better and nicer than digitally. And on top of that, on student counseling there is a page, studying at home, we wanted to see what we can do digitally, there is a whole presentation about campus life, where they are talking about how you can connect during Corona. One thing, I was trying to see outside the area, we have other projects where students come together and they come from engineering e.g. and informatics, machine building, and they are creating a race car e.g., they are looking for people.

(change of speaker) that is a cool team, I interviewed them as well.

(change of speaker) yes, you have a lot of opportunities, what you see in the chat, there are a lot of possibilities, you can ask your counselor and see if there is somebody you can join.

(change of speaker) when I had the introduction, I met a group and went through everything with them in my studies, introduction is important to get in contact, but also Facebook groups for the areas of expertise and so on. That is also available.

(change of speaker) yes, of course, we make that available online, everybody who was working behind the scenes here, that is online, also the info from the last years, but the videos are always available online.

(change of speaker) it will remain online. So, that is the final question.

(change of speaker) yes, at least on my list.

(change of speaker) okay, do I have to go to university, can I go online?

(change of speaker) there are different reasons, some say I didn't find an apartment, I couldn't apply for visa, there is going to be the possibility to do a lot digitally. Especially for people who want to meet people, there is the option to have at least one event in person. Currently it is difficult to do certain things, so we have to do that digitally for now. You can do study counseling digitally, that is why you don't have to come to the campus. I mean there are some things that are great, e.g. libraries, you should come here, but you don't have to. We do have great options here. IF you have diseases or disabilities, people say, because of my illness I can't come here, that is fine, and of course we are here for you.

(change of speaker) great, thank you very much Linda, I think we are done with the Q&A and that is the end of our event today, thanks to the colleagues who have been on the live chat answering questions all day long, I already said goodbye, so, yeah, thank you very much and I hope you have a great start, thank you.