

## Video-Text Becker > Studieren mit Handicap > Ersti-Welcome

Hello first-semester students!

I am delighted that you have chosen to study at the University of Bonn. You are starting a new, interesting phase of your life that will expose you to many new experiences and challenges.

Particularly at the beginning of your studies, many questions arise concerning orientation on campus, organizing your studies, your study schedule and the specific requirements in the degree program you have chosen. You will receive important information and tips during a variety of introductory events and especially from your subject-specific study advisory service.

If, in addition to these general questions, you also have specific needs—for example because you have a long-term health impairment or disability due to a chronic illness or mental health issues and you are wondering how to manage your studies and health at the same time or what support and accommodations are available to you—then I am the right person to contact.

My name is Marion Becker. I am the Representative for Students with Disabilities or Chronic Illnesses at the University of Bonn and I would be happy to help you with any questions concerning studying with disabilities.

That is because chronic illnesses or mental health issues—for example diabetes, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, depression, autism spectrum disorders, specific learning difficulties, such as dyslexia and dyscalculia, and other long-term impairments—are forms of disability and affect people's studies just as much as physical and sensory impairments, but in a different way. It is often difficult for teachers, counselors and fellow students to recognize this or appreciate its consequences.

- For you too, perhaps?
- Are you uncertain whether you belong to this group and whether you are even entitled to assistance or accessibility accommodations?
- And is this why you have so far shied away from seeking advice about your situation?

Then I would like to encourage you to address the issue and contact me without obligation. As is well known, asking costs nothing, but almost always helps. 😊

You also don't have to worry about negative consequences or data privacy, as my counseling is confidential and solution-oriented and is provided to help you independently determine the course of your studies with, or more precisely, in spite of a disability.

Simply send an email to [studierenmithandicap@uni-bonn.de](mailto:studierenmithandicap@uni-bonn.de) and I will get back to you as soon as possible. If you prefer to discuss your concerns over the phone, please include your phone number and when you can be contacted in your email. I will then call and coordinate everything with you.

If you need more information or more time to think about studying with disabilities, please take a look at my web page at [www.studierenmithandicap.uni-bonn.de](http://www.studierenmithandicap.uni-bonn.de). Current information, services, additional contacts and helpful links are provided there.

I hope I have been able to interest you in my services, which are, of course, not just for first-semester students. I look forward to hearing from you and wish you much fun and success in your studies.

Thank you, and perhaps I will see you soon!