The recording of audio and images is both possible and desired. When doing so, the following must be taken into account:

Lectures can be subject to the legal copyright protection. Audio and image recordings without the consent of the author, i.e. the teacher, already constitute a legally inadmissible reproduction. Copying and/or publishing also violates the copyright law and is only permitted with the consent of the author. Violations of the copyright constitute, among other things, claims for injunctive relief and damages. Open Educational Resources (OER) offer legal security, copyright protection as well as flexible and clearly defined possibilities of use.

Audio recordings of lectures without the consent of the lecturer constitute a criminal offence (§ 201 German Criminal Code StGB), unless it is a public event (e.g. Inaugural lectures, public colloquia, etc.). Lectures are generally not public, which makes audio recording a criminal offence.

The forwarding of recordings without the consent of the person concerned (teachers and students) is generally not permitted under data protection law if the individuals are identifiable in the recording. Legal consequences include potential claims for damages, fines and criminal liability (beyond § 201 StGB).

The recording of lectures as well as the storage and/or publication of such recordings by the lecturer is permitted as long as students cannot be identified by their person, voice, name, or similar. Teachers are expressly requested to make or facilitate the making of such recordings, in which no students are identifiable, for the purpose of making them available to students. However, if it cannot be ruled out that students are identifiable, we advise against the recording of lectures and their use.