

DURCHBLICK



the RUBiss Newsletter of the International Office

Dear Students!

We are happy to send you the new issue of the RUBiss Newsletter!
The newsletter for international students at Ruhr-Universität is published twice per semester.

We inform you about current activities and offers of the International Office and other university facilities and give you tips for the winter semester 2017/2018.

The team of RUBiss – RUB international student services wishes you a successful and exciting winter semester!

Find us on Facebook!

Like the RUBiss **Facebook page** and stay up-to-date! Regularly, you will receive new information as well as useful tips from the RUBiss team about studying at Ruhr-Universität, events of the International Office and life in Bochum.

[Like RUBiss – international students services on Facebook!](#)

You can find photos of our activities and events of the semester programme on our **Instagram** profile. Share your photos of our events with the #rubiss.

[Follow us on Instagram!](#)

Would you like to receive the newsletter on a regular basis? Register [here!](#)

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INTERNATIONAL OFFICE SERVICES

In winter semester 2017/2018 many different offers of the International Office await you. We hope that you will have a lot of fun at the activities and events. We are looking forward to seeing you. Your presence at Ruhr-Universität is an enrichment for our international campus!

SEMESTER PROGRAMME

The RUBiss team publishes a semester programme every semester. It lists various events, workshops and excursions that we organized especially for you.

The programme is designed to support you during your studies in Bochum and beyond. Furthermore, you can learn more about the culture and lifestyle in the Ruhr area. It offers opportunities for networking, for mutual exchange and for meeting your fellow students.

You can pick up a printed copy of the semester programme at the International Office or [download it here](#).

Below you will find a selection of the first events from the semester programme.

INTERNATIONAL WELCOME

Ruhr-Universität and the RUBiss team would like to welcome you to Bochum and wish you a successful and happy time at the university. At this official reception you will be welcomed by the university's rectorate and by the International Office.

Moreover, a number of organizations of Ruhr-Universität and other partners present their offers for international students. After the official reception, you will have the chance to meet your fellow students and to socialise over some light refreshment.

Friday, 13 October 2017, 4.00 pm, Veranstaltungszentrum (VZ) Saal 2a/b

[Registration until 12 October 2017 via Eventbrite.](#)

Participation is free of charge!

INTERNATIONAL EVENING

On Ruhr-Universität's international campus, people from all over the world come together. Students from 130 countries enrich Ruhr-Universität and make it a diverse and colourful place for studying and research.

To celebrate this interculturalism, the International Office and AKAFÖ, with support of ESN Bochum, invite you to the International Evening.

Come and meet the world in Bochum! There is a delicious international buffet, music, dance, games and many opportunities for intercultural exchange!

Wednesday, 25 October 2017, 6.00 pm, Mensa Bistro

Price 4,50€ (regular), 3,50 € (with ESNcard)

Advance sale at the International Office and at the BOSKOP registration stand in the coffee bar of the Mensa from 16 to 19 October 2017 from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

SPRACHCAFÉ – LANGUAGE PRACTICE MEET UP

Do you want to practice your language skills while getting in contact with other international and German students? Then come to our Language Practice Meet Up that is organized by RUBiss in cooperation with the AKAFÖ-Kulturbüro BOSKOP and the University Language Centre (ZFA). Several tables will be set up in a relaxed setting where you can talk, practise, and discover a new language and most of all have fun. Improve your language skills, meet other interested students or find a tandem partner!

The **Language Practice Meet Up** will open from **16 October 2017** until the end of the lecture period every Monday from 05.00 pm – 09.00 pm.

Within the frame of “30 years ERASMUS”, an extra Sprachcafé Europe will take place on 20 November 2017. Come and practice your favourite European language.

[Visit the Facebook page of the Sprachcafé!](#)

Participation is free of charge.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduation grants and the DAAD-Price funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for the upcoming winter term are announced. The application deadline ends in both cases on **16 October 2017**.

The **graduation grants** aim at international degree seeking students who plan their final degree this winter and therefore want to fully concentrate on it. The financial support amounts to 4 months with 400€ monthly.

[Here you can find the current announcement](#), for which you can apply for on your own.

The **DAAD-Price** aims at international degree seeking students who demonstrated special commitment in the academic context. Potential awardees of the price of 1000€ may be nominated by their professors only. A direct application by yourself is not possible.

[Here you can find the current announcement](#).

NEWSLETTER ACCOMMODATION

International exchange students of Ruhr-Universität, who live in apartments of the International Office, will find important information and tips about the AKAFÖ residence halls and our guesthouse “Uni-Forum” in our **“RUBiss Accommodation Newsletter”**.

The next RUBiss Accommodation Newsletter will be published at the end of January with information about “moving out”.

For students who do not live in a residence hall, the newsletter also contains useful tips on the broadcast fee (Rundfunkbeitrag) and procedures in emergencies.

[Further information can be found here](#).

PROMOS: SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STAYS ABROAD

PROMOS is a scholarship programme granted by the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Wissenschaft (BMBWF) and launched by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Ruhr-Universität Bochum administers its PROMOS funds on behalf of the DAAD and awards scholarships to students who plan to study, intern or research abroad for up to six months.

The first **application deadline** (of three deadlines in total) for the PROMOS funding year 2018 is **16 October 2017**, 12 pm, namely for stays abroad in summer term 2018 that start between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018.

Another application period – for the promotion of stays starting between 1 April 2018 and 31 December 2018 – is planned for early March 2018.

[Find further information here.](#)

GO ABROAD – INFORMATION SESSIONS

Would you like to spend a semester abroad on Australia's exciting East Coast or in one of Spain's picturesque cities? Whatever your preferences, both of these are options you can consider if you are thinking about going abroad during your studies. If you would like to find out more, you are welcome to attend the following information sessions of the International Office during the winter semester 2017/18:

- **Thursday, 26 October 2017**, 10 am – 12 pm in NA 02/99
- **Wednesday, 22 November 2017**, 12.30 pm – 13.30 pm in the International Lounge, level 01, Mensa building
- **Thursday, 23 November 2017**, 12.30 pm – 13.30 pm in the International Lounge, level 01, Mensa building

[Find further information here.](#)

INTEGRA – INTEGRATION PROGRAMME FOR REFUGEE STUDENTS

Since the beginning of 2016, Ruhr-Universität offers free German courses for refugees. In order to help prospective refugee students to have a successful start in their studies the RUBiss team of the International Office offers the Integra programme which consists of a German language course combined with a propaedeutic programme.

In winter semester 2017/2018, 175 students will start with the Integra-12 programme and 33 will advance to the Integra-24 programme.

This semester an intercultural training will be again part of the propaedeutic programme as well as a computer workshop and several workshops on how to finance your studies. Furthermore, the Integra participants will spend an exciting day trip in Bonn at the “Haus der Geschichte” and visit the Christmas market afterwards.

[Further information on the services for refugees of the International Office can be found here.](#)



30 YEARS ERASMUS

The Erasmus programme of the European Union is turning 30 this year and the International Office of Ruhr-Universität invites you to celebrate this anniversary with us!

In 1987, exactly 30 years ago, the Erasmus programme was launched. Ruhr-Universität Bochum has been participating since the beginning and can now count 270 universities among its Erasmus partners.

In winter semester, we will again present you a wide range of events and activities on Erasmus and Europe.

[Visit the 30 Years Erasmus Websites.](#)

30 YEARS ERASMUS – 30 PORTRAITS

Tell us your Erasmus story! For the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme, the International Office is designing a portrait series and is looking for 30 Erasmus alumni who have gone abroad as students, staff or lecturers, or who have come to Ruhr-Universität through Erasmus.

Did your Erasmus experience have a lasting impact on your life? What are your best memories? **We are looking forward to your stories, which you can submit until 6 November 2017!**

[Send us your experiences easily through our online survey.](#)

Many Erasmus alumni have already taken part in the survey. [Here you can find their stories.](#)

From 06 November 2017 to 15 January 2018, you can also see the portraits as an exhibition in the bistro of the Mensa.

ERASMUS COOKBOOK

Besides the people and the language, an Erasmus stay also allows you to get to know the culinary culture of a country. What country-specific dishes do you remember from your time abroad? For an Erasmus cookbook, we are looking for your most delicious Erasmus dishes!

Send us your recipe, if possible with a suitable picture **till 6 November 2017**, to erasmus@rub.de. [Here you can find the first Erasmus recipes.](#)

"GRENZENLOS" – ERASMUS DAYS AT RUB

Take a look over the campus edge! For the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme, the International Office, together with the partner universities and institutions of Ruhr-Universität, presents exchange possibilities and informs you about studying and internships worldwide.

Students will share their experiences from their host countries and in express languages courses you can test your skills in European languages. In addition, there are lectures on student mobility and Erasmus, as well as a European menu at the Mensa all week.

22 and 23 November 2017, 11.00 am – 3.00 pm coffee bar of the Mensa

Participation is free of charge. Registration is not necessary.

[Further information can be found here.](#)

PANEL DISCUSSION “ARE YOU EUROPE?”

At the end of the anniversary year of “30 years Erasmus” the focus of the panel discussion “Are you Europe?” lies on the identification with Europe. How much do we feel as Europeans? What does this mean in everyday life? Is the national identity still predominant, or do we rather identify with the cities and regions that we live in?

Discuss with students, representatives of Ruhr-Universität and other participants the exciting theme of European identity.

11 December 2017, 6.00 pm, Blue Square (Kortumstraße 90)

Participation is free of charge. Registration is not necessary.

[Further information can be found here.](#)

SERVICES AT RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT

At Ruhr-Universität, many facilities offer services and events for you. Below you will find a selection of offers for winter semester 2017/2018.

UNIVERSITY SPORTS

The **University Sports** organises a diverse programme consisting of approx. 95 different sports. The offers include fitness and ball sports, swimming, diving, climbing, ballet, running clubs, sailing and much more. Moreover, the university-run gym “Unifit” is at your disposal in the centre of Bochum, where you can attend individual training programmes in state-of-the-art facilities on an area covering 1,100 m².

[Here you can find an overview of all sport activities.](#)

You need to **register** for all courses with University Sports Bochum. The registration for winter semester 2017/2018 has already started on **04 October 2017**. First, you need to buy a sports card (18€ for students). The costs for the courses vary from course to course.

You require a German bank account to register online.

[Detailed instructions on how to register.](#)

If you have any questions or do not have a German bank account, you can visit University Sports during the designated office hours.

[Office hours of University Sports.](#)



SCHREIBZENTRUM – WRITING CENTRE

The “Schreibzentrum” (Writing Centre) supports and advises students on how to write all kinds of academic papers. You can either visit one of the workshops or come in for an individual consultation. For students studying engineering, the project “Schreibmaschine” provides specific counseling and workshops to assist students in their scientific writing.

Here is a small selection of mini workshops in winter semester:

How to Get Started: Developing Ideas for Your Writing Project (in English language)

Friday, 24 November 2017, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, SH 1/197

Die erste Hausarbeit (in German language),

Friday, 09 February 2018, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

[More information and further workshops can be found here.](#)

BOSKOP – COURSE AND WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Just in time for the start of the winter semester, AKAFÖ-Kulturbüro BOSKOP presents its course and workshop programme. Over 50 courses for beginners and advanced students are available, for example: culture journalism, drawing, cooking, qi gong, impro theater, pole fitness, k-pop, sign language, capoeira, taiko, bouldering, singing – students can try out all of this, learn, or perfect with the help of their course instructors.

Registration period for the courses and workshops during the winter semester 2017/2018:

11 October 17 till 19 October 2017, working days from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Registration in the Mensa foyer of Ruhr-Universität (coffee bar)

[Here you can find the programme for the winter semester 2017/2018.](#)

GERMAN COURSES AT THE DAF DEPARTMENT

Do you want to improve your German language skills during your studies or exchange in Bochum? A broad range of **German language courses** at different levels are offered at RUB and in Bochum. The department of German as a Foreign Language, otherwise known as DaF, is part of RUB. As the most important language course provider, it offers preparatory courses as well as courses during term time at different levels. **Credit points** can be gained for the DaF courses and special courses also prepare you for your “TestDaF” which is a language proficiency test.

Registration in person is necessary for the courses during term time. The registration dates for the winter semester 2017/2018 are:

- **Wednesday, 11 October 2017, from 10.00 am – 3.00 pm**
- **Thursday, 12 October 2017, from 10.00 am – 3.00 pm**

During these appointments, a (contractually binding) online placement test will be carried out. Location: Universitätsstraße 90 (Campus line U35: Stop “Wasserstraße“)

You have to register in person, even if you have taken courses with DaF during the previous semester. Consultation and placement take about an hour in total. **Lessons begin on Monday, 16 October 2017.**

[Information about the courses during term time.](#)

UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE CENTRE (ZFA)

Would you like to acquire new languages or expand your knowledge in another language? The University Language Centre (ZFA) offers courses in many modern languages, which you can attend in addition to your degree courses. The languages offered range from Arabic, Chinese and French to Turkish. The ZFA also offers technical language courses, e.g. technical and business English, or English for medicine and chemistry.

In addition to the language courses at different levels, there is also a tandem service. In a tandem, two people with different mother tongues work together and help each other to improve their languages skills in their partner's mother tongue.

An overview of all available languages, registration and placement test dates are available at the [ZFA webpages](#).

FURTHER SERVICES

Get to know Bochum and Germany. Here you will find an overview of further offers for international students.

RECEPTION AT TOWN HALL

At the reception at the town hall, Mayor Thomas Eiskirch welcomes the new international students in Bochum every winter semester. At the reception, you will not only have the opportunity to experience the building built in 1931 with its rooms and corridors made of marble and bronze from the inside, but can also get in touch with the Mayor while enjoying small snacks and drinks. The Mayor is looking forward to your visit!

Friday, 24 November 2017, 6.00 pm, Bochum Rathaus

[Please register online via the following website.](#)

Participation is free of charge.

SCHAUSPIELHAUS BOCHUM THEATRE FLATRATE

Bochum's Schauspielhaus is one of the most renowned theatres in Germany and is a highlight in the Ruhr area. With a mixture of classical and experimental theatre, there is something for every taste. RUB students can visit the regular theatre performances at the Schauspielhaus as many times as they like – and for free!

The tickets can be reserved at the box office at the Schauspielhaus up to three days before the performance with the keyword "Theatreflatrate". The collection of reserved tickets is only possible up to 30 minutes before the start of the respective theatre performance and only with a valid student ID at the box office.

[Further information about the theatre flat rate can be found here.](#)

In addition to Schauspielhaus, numerous other theatres such as [PRINZREGENT-THEATHER](#), [ROTTSTR5 Theater](#) and [Theater Total](#) offer an attractive, avant-garde and wide-ranging programme in Bochum.

EXPERIMENT: CHRISTMAS WITH A GERMAN HOST FAMILY

Are you interested in spending the Christmas holidays with a German host family while getting to know a new town in Germany? If so, you may register for an exchange within Germany by the support of the association Experiment e.V.

If you

- are from another country and are enrolled at a German university
- are interested in Germany and German habits
- want to get to know Germans in their “natural environment”
- want to use and improve your German language skills,

you may **apply until 23 October 2017** for this “Experiment”. There is only a limited number of places available.

When and where? From 23 December 2017, for 9 or 14 days, somewhere in Germany

Costs: € 40 participation fee, food and accommodation provided by the German family. The travel expenses to and from the host family are covered by Experimente e.V.

[Further information can be found here.](#)

RETROSPECTIVE

A brief review of our projects from the last semester and the introductory events for winter semester 2017/2018 can be found here.

INTEGRA SEMESTER CLOSING

In summer 2017, 230 refugees successfully participated in the Integra programme of the International Office. The programme offers special preparatory courses for prospective refugee students that combine a German language course with a propaedeutic programme.

After completing the examinations, the participants celebrated the end of the semester together with the volunteer German tutors and other volunteers at a barbecue dinner at the Mensa bistro.

For the first time, a special course for parents was offered for the Integra-12 programme to which the participants could bring their children. Prokids' family service and volunteers took care of the children during the classes. The course took place twice a week in the rooms of the Euroeck.

The RUBiss team is also pleased to report the first success stories of Integra graduates and cordially congratulates the former participants on their successes! Shareef Hallak completed the Integra-24 intensive course at the beginning of 2017 and starts his studies in medicine at Ruhr-Universität this winter semester. Hani Battikha studied mechanical engineering in Syria. He completed the Integra course at the C1 level, now he starts a job as a construction manager in Bochum.

[Here you can find the complete press releases.](#)

ORIENTATION COURSE (O-COURSE) AND ORIENTATION DAYS (O-DAYS)

Just like at the beginning of every semester, RUBiss hosted orientation events for new international and exchange students in winter semester 2017/2018:

The Orientation Course for exchange students took place between **07 and 29 September 2017**. 98 exchange students from various countries took part in the orientation course, which lasted 3 weeks. There were German courses in the mornings to prepare the students for their studies at RUB, and during the afternoons they received support dealing with formalities (registering at the city of Bochum, visa extension etc.). Alongside to the formal programme a lively programme of events during their free time was offered, including a visit of the football club VfL Bochum, a karaoke night, a visit to the German Bergbau-Museum and the Zeiss Planetarium.

[More information about the O-Course.](#)

The Orientation Days took place between **04 and 06 October 2017**, which 385 international students attended. During the O-Days the students got to know Ruhr-Universität and the city of Bochum – e.g. during the campus and city tours and evening events with ESN Bochum. German students – the “Campus Guides” – introduced the newcomers to their subjects, supported them by formalities and provided them with an insight into campus life. The first steps in Germany and Ruhr-Universität have been successfully mastered. Now you can start your studies!

[More information about the O-Days.](#)



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