

Courses in English Course Description

Department	13 General and Interdisciplinary Studies
Course title	Going international: Studying and working abroad (IKK)
Course number	
Hours per week (SWS)	2
Number of ECTS credits	2
Course objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - getting to know and reflecting on scientific literature - learning from students with other (inter)national experience - taking different perspectives - getting actively involved in international groups - doing mini research projects in the international realm
Prerequisites	None
Recommended reading	<p>Holliday, Adrian/Hyde, Martin/Kullman, John (2021): Intercultural Communication. An advanced Resource Book for Students. New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Kim, Ann H./Buckner, Elisabeth/Montsion, Jean Michel (eds.)(2024): International Students from Asia in Canadian Universities. Institutional Challenges at the Intersection of Internationalization, Inclusion, and Racialization. London, New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Pineda, Jesús/Kercher, Jan/Falk, Susanne/Thies, Theresa/Yildirim, Hüseyin Hilmi/Zimmermann, Julia (2022): Internationale Studierende in Deutschland zum Studienerfolg begleiten: Ergebnisse und Handlungsempfehlungen aus dem SeSaBa-Projekt. DAAD, Bonn.</p> <p>Rings, Guido/Rasinger, Sebastian M. (2023): The Cambridge Introduction to Intercultural Communication. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft e.V. (2023): Zwischen Willkommen und Wirklichkeit. Befragung internationaler MINT-Studierender: Wie die Integration in Gesellschaft und Arbeitsmarkt besser gelingt. https://www.stifterverband.org/medien/zwischen-willkommen-und-wirklichkeit</p> <p>Thies, Theresa/Falk, Susanne (2023): International Students in Higher Education: Extracurricular Activities and Social Interactions as Predictors of University Belonging. In: Research in Higher Education 64, 1143-1164.</p> <p>Wilczewski, Michał/Alon, Ilan (2023): Language and communication in international students' adaptation: a bibliometric and content analysis review. In: Higher Education 85, 1235–1256.</p>
Teaching methods	Presentations by the lecturer and students, group work, mini-research projects, case studies
Assessment methods	
Language of instruction	English
Name of lecturer	Prof. Dr. Peter Jandok
Email	peter.jandok@hm.edu
Link	

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Course content

International students in German universities as well as German students preparing for a semester or and internship abroad face similar challenges: preparing for a different university system, getting settled in to a new living and working environment, finding new friends and places to earn some money or improve language skills.

The class "Going international: Studying and working abroad" attempts to improve students' intercultural communication skills and develop an international mindset. International and German students will benefit from the other side's perspectives and experiences.

We will look at different stages of an international experience, starting with the topic of preparation: What are the benefits of learning the language of the host country, discovering a new culture and getting on with an unknown bureaucracy?

Later we will look at special features of lingua-franca-interaction, "culture shock" and the so-called "Erasmus-bubble". We will dive deeper into this phenomenon by answering the question "Why is it so easy to stay amongst international or home-country fellows instead of making friends with host country students?"

After having integrated slowly into the host country students may be confronted with racism and pressure for good marks. Also finding a part-time or permanent job may be on the agenda at this stage. Scientific literature can help us to cope with these challenges.

Finally we will touch topics such as student's drop-out, getting on with life after coming back home or finding a job in an international team.

Remarks

This course will be taught in English. Students with a B2/C1 English language competence are able to follow the course.

International students and German students who prepare for an exchange semester/year abroad are the target group of this class.