Dear students, what an exciting semester! Conversion to digital teaching and restrictions in everyday life - together we have mastered this challenge. We are now looking forward to sending you the next RUBiss newsletter! The newsletter looks back on the past semester, informs you about activities and offers from the International Office, about other university institutions and gives you tips on how to organise your lecture-free time in August and September. The team at RUBiss - RUB international student services wishes you a pleasant lecture-free period!

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OFFERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The International Office of Ruhr-Universität Bochum offers a range of different services - from this semester on, a lot of things will also be digital. For example, the RUBiss team assists refugees with their entry into study, supports and advises exchange and regular students and organises a colourful programme of events for international students. Here is an overview!

MOODLE COURSE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

In order to be able to support you optimally during your studies and not only at the beginning, RUBiss has set up a Moodle course for you! It contains information on the following topics:
• Announcements/News
• Faculties
• Contact and exchange with Campus Guides
• Leisure activities and tips
• Visa and stay
• Funding
• Language courses
• And much more!

Here’s the way to the Moodle course.

ORIENTATION EVENTS – live And digital!

In order to make it easier for new international students to start studying at Ruhr-Universität, RUBiss organises orientation days at the beginning of each semester - whether live or digital, we will support you in getting started at RUB! During these days we offer you useful information about the university and your studies, help with registration at the city and visa extension. You will have the opportunity to get to know your campus guides who will be at your side during the orientation days and throughout the semester. The participation is free of charge.

The next orientation events are expected to take place in mid-October 2020.

More information on the orientation events can be found here.
Every semester, the RUBiss event team creates a varied semester programme. You will find a wide range of different events, workshops and excursions. Both international and German students are invited to all events and you have the opportunity to make many new contacts. In the summer semester, the semester programme was held online for the first time. Interesting workshops on the topic of application, an intercultural training and learning strategies in home study were on the program.

**We are already looking forward to preparing a diverse program for the winter semester for you!**

▶ [Further information on the semester programme can be found here.](#)

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**PREPATORY COURSES FOR STUDENTS WITH A REFUGEE BACKGROUND**

The Ruhr-Universität Bochum aims to support refugees who are able to study at university and offers special free preparatory courses that combine a German language course with a preparatory course in the form of lectures and workshops.

The next application phase for the International Office’s Integra programme for the winter semester 2020/21 will start in August 2020.

▶ [Further information can be found here.](#)
SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

For the winter semester 2020/21, the International Office is again offering scholarships from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Four scholarships will be awarded, which are aimed at different target groups:

1. Corona special grant
   - Addressed to all international students with at least 60CP in the Bachelor’s or from the 2nd Master’s semester
   - Monthly grant: 400€ for 6 months

2. Study entry scholarship
   - Is aimed at students with an escape background in the 1st semester of university, primarily graduates of the Integra programme
   - Monthly grant: 400€ for 6 months

3. Study grant
   - Is aimed at students with an escape background from the 2nd semester onwards
   - Monthly grant: 400€ for 12 months

4. Graduation grant
   - Is aimed at all international students in their final semester who are graduating
   - Monthly grant: 400€ for 6 months

The application deadline for all scholarships is 13 September 2020, please visit our homepage to find out about the exact requirements and the application procedure. We are looking forward to your application!

DAAD PRIZE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The award of the German Academic Exchange Service is presented once a year during the DAAD scholarship holders’ meeting and is awarded with 1000€. The DAAD prize is offered to international students who have distinguished themselves through outstanding achievements at the RUB and social commitment during their studies. On the picture you can see the prize winner Georg Stin, who was happy to receive the prize money in November 2019. His professor nominated him for his outstanding commitment to the project "unVergessen".

Important: The call for entries is aimed at RUB professors who can propose suitable students. An independent application is not possible.

Further information on the DAAD prize here.
INTERNSHIPS AND VOLONTARY WORK

Campus Guides

The International Office is looking for volunteer "Campus Guides" for the winter semester 2020/21. As a Campus Guide you will accompany international students during the orientation phase as they take their first steps at the RUB. Due to contact restrictions, the guidance will probably be digital. You will support them in their first steps towards studying, but also in settling in Bochum - e.g. by helping them with the formalities for the start of their studies, with orientation at the Ruhr-University and with questions regarding studying and living in Bochum. As a Campus Guide you can broaden your intercultural competence, get to know new cultures and improve your foreign language skills. At the end you will receive a certificate. You can also become a Campus Guide as an international student!

Further information on becoming a Campus Guide here.

Internship
(5 CP for the 'Optionalbereich')

Internship for the supervision of international students

As an intern you will support international exchange and regular students in their entry into their studies and will be the contact person for students throughout the semester. You will also help organise the RUBiss cultural and leisure programme (excursions, cultural evenings etc.) and take on individual tasks in the International Office. The focus is on organising and running the weekly language café in the Max Kade Hall or online via Discord (every Monday evening during the lecture period).

An application (cover letter and curriculum vitae) must be submitted by 5 August 2020 by e-mail to rubiss@rub.de possible. Further information on the internship can be found here.
OFFERS AT RUB

There are many institutions at Ruhr-Universität that offer services and events for students - this semester also online. Below you will find a selection for the lecture-free period.

WRITING CENTRE

Who doesn't know that? The semester break has hardly begun when the first homework is due again. The RUB Writing Centre is therefore offering the first online writing week from 10 to 14 August 2020 for students, doctoral students and academics. The writing week is an occasion to meet others online to write, to support each other, to give feedback, to celebrate progress or simply to chat. You can also use the worksheets, tips and advice from the writing centre team.

A workshop here:

Writing group (in German language)
Dates in July: 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd from 14:00 to 16:00, a continuation is possible
Registration to: ulrike.lange@rub.de

In addition, the writing centre offers an online student writing advice service.

More workshops and information can be found here.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The University Library continues to offer the scan service, loan and pick-up service for all RUB members during the semester breaks. With your RUB access data you also have the possibility to use a variety of electronic information sources from home.

You are not yet familiar with the Citavi literature administration program and need an introduction? Live online courses on how to use Citavi will be offered on the following dates

Tuesday 21.07.2020 10:15 - 11:45
Wednesday 22.07.2020 10:00 - 14:00

More information on the library’s services here.
UNIVERSITY SPORTS

The RUB Sports Department organises a small but excellent course programme for an eventful summer. The "Re-Start 1.0" course programme, which will initially run for 4 weeks, with fitness offers, ball sports and much more can now be viewed online.

In addition, the university's own fitness centre "Unifit" is available in the centre of Bochum - a 1,100 m² large, modern fitness studio for individual training.

Here you can find the whole course offer.

All offers must be booked online in advance. Registration has already started on 02 July 2020 - so make sure you secure your desired places quickly! The University Sports Department will let you know as early as possible how the "Re-Start 2.0" course offer will continue from August.

More questions? Contact the university sports department via telephone or e-mail.

STUDY-BUDDY-PROGRAMME

New at RUB?

The Study Buddy Programme places international first-year students at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum with local students as peer tutors.

As Study-Buddies, local students (mentors) help international students (mentees) to find their way around in the foreign environment and both sides have the opportunity to get to know the other culture.

The application is online: Register here.

Further information here.

PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING

The psychological study counselling offers support for all personal concerns and problems that hinder or endanger the success of the studies. Even in the current situation, the Psychological Study Counselling Service is still available by telephone and, if desired, by video counselling for your concerns.

Consultation hours: Monday to Friday 10-11 a.m. on 0234 32 23860 and 0234 32 23861

Individual counselling and coaching: registration at psychberatung@rub.de

More information about the offers can be found here.
OTHER OFFERS OUTSIDE OF RUB

Get to know Bochum and Germany better! In Bochum and the surrounding area there are many interesting events and projects you can participate in. Here you will find a small selection for the lecture-free period. Have fun!

BOTANICAL GARDEN OF RUB

The Botanical Garden has been an important part of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum since 1966 and is home to a fascinating variety of plants from all over the world. With an area of 13 hectares and over 10,000 different plant species, it is one of the largest botanical gardens in Germany. If you would like to take a botanical world tour or are simply looking for peace and quiet in the countryside, the Botanical Garden is an exotic oasis that is worth a visit at any time of year.

Access is only possible through the entrance "Betriebshof" (N-Südstr.). Please note the temporary opening hours:
- Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 16:00
- Sunday closed
- Entrance free

More information and opening hours here.

EXPERIMENT: HOST FAMILY STAYS FOR STUDENTS

Are you interested in spending part of your semester break with a German host family and getting to know another city in Germany? If so, you can get to know Germany with the help of the association Experiment e. V. you can register for an exchange within Germany.

If you
- come from abroad and are enrolled at a German university,
- are interested in Germany and German customs and habits,
- want to get to know the Germans in their “natural environment”,
- want to practice and improve your German language skills,

then please register for the "Experiment" at least 4 weeks before the desired stay. There is only a limited number of places available.

Costs: 40€ participation fee, board and lodging is paid by the host family. The costs for travel to and from the event are covered by Experiment e. V.

More detailed information here.
BOCHUM CITY TOUR WITH AUDIOGUIDE

Still no plans for the weekend? How about a city walk through Bochum? With the Audio City Tour you can explore Bochum on your own. The audio guide (available in German and English) takes you through Bochum city centre and explains which sights, historical buildings and insider tips there are.

You can choose between a short tour (1 hour) and a long tour (2 hours). The audio guide works on all current smartphones. For your orientation the route is marked on a map. Download the audio guide and the city map for free and off you go!

You can download the audioguide and the map here.

INDUSTRY COMPLEX ZECHE ZOLLVEREIN

The Zollverein colliery and coking plant in Essen was once the largest and most efficient coal mine in the world and the largest central coking plant in Europe. In 2001 the Zollverein was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List and since then it has officially been one of the most important cultural assets in the world. As the centre of the "Route of Industrial Heritage" it is considered a magnet for 1.5 million visitors from Germany and abroad to the Ruhr metropolis every year!

More information for your visit here.

OLD TOWN OF HATTINGEN

In the south of the Ruhr area is the pretty old town of Hattingen. With its almost 150 medieval houses and picturesque sights, Hattingen is very popular as a tourist destination. In between you can take a break in one of the many restaurants or small cafes. Don’t forget to visit the historic ironing house in the middle of the old town, which is a landmark of the city.

With the tram line 308 to "Bahnhofstraße, Hattingen" or with the bus line SB37 to "Hattingen Mitte S-Bahnhof" you can reach the old town in only about 30 minutes.

Interested? Click here.
REVIEW ON THE SUMMER SEMESTER 2020

We are pleased about your numerous participation in our courses from the summer semester 2020! Find out more about some of the highlights from the past semester.

EVALUATION OF THE SEMESTER PROGRAMME

We would like to offer you a varied programme in the coming semesters and continuously improve our services. Therefore we would like to ask you to take a moment to fill out our evaluation form online. You would greatly support our work and we are looking forward to your suggestions, criticisms and ideas. The survey is anonymous.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ DAY 13.05.2020

In the summer semester 2020 the second International Students' Day took place - this time online, of course!

On 13 May 2020, you and your international fellow students had the opportunity to get to know various offers of the RUB especially for international students. You could take part in introductions to the University Library, attend information events on stays abroad or seek advice from the psychological counselling service.

RUBiss provided information about the digital semester and gave you survival tips according to the motto "How to survive the online semester".

The day was rounded off with a cosy get-together via Zoom, in which international students and campus guides took part.

We would like to thank you once again for your participation and hope to see you again next semester at one of our events!
„Das Praktikum beim International Office hat mir trotz der schwierigen Umstände dieses Semester sehr gut gefallen. Ich habe viele interessante Menschen kennengelernt und wir haben uns über bedeutsame Themen ausgetauscht. Vor allem bemerkte ich, wie viele Hürden die internationalen Studierenden vor und während ihres Studiums zu überwinden haben. Sie sind eine große Bereicherung für unsere Universität und wir sollten stets versuchen uns um sie zu kümmern und ihnen den Start in diesen neuen Lebensabschnitt zu erleichtern. :)


„Das Praktikum im International Office hat mir sehr gut gefallen und meinen persönlichen Horizont erweitert. Meine hauptsächliche Tätigkeit, die Arbeit im Sprachcafé und dem Sprachcafé Integra, hat mir nicht nur die Chance geboten viele tolle Menschen kennenzulernen, sondern auch einen Einblick in ihre Kulturen zu gewinnen und sich über kritische Themen auszutauschen. Die enge Zusammenarbeit mit dem ganzen Team war ausschlaggebend für die Verwirklichung der verschiedenen Online-Versionen der Angebote und hat mir gezeigt, dass gerade jetzt der soziale Kontakt sehr wichtig ist, die Arbeit wirklich geschätzt wird und jeder seinen Platz im Team hat. Dankeschön!“
In the Language Practice Meet-Up, participants have the opportunity to improve their language skills and at the same time meet other international and German students. In various language chats they can speak, practice, discover and, above all, have fun speaking new languages in a relaxed atmosphere.

In the summer semester 2020 the Language Practice Meet-Up took place online via Discord. There, the helpers and participants could meet in different language chats, play games together online or simply have a relaxed conversation. A complete success as we think!

The RUBiss team would like to thank all participants, language guides and supporters for a successful Language Practice Meet-Up in the summer semester 2020! The Language Practice Meet-Up is now saying goodbye to the semester break.

The helpers of the Language Practice Meet-Up introduced themselves and their home country or mother tongue with the help of small collages. In this way the participants were able to get to know the Language Guides better.

Visit our Facebook page!
RUBiss - RUB international student services is your contact at the International Office of Ruhr-Universität Bochum and offers you support in social, cultural and university matters as well as in administrative and legal questions. In addition, we organise a varied and colourful programme of events every semester to accompany you in your student life.

Consultation and support

Do you have questions about visa and stay, study, leisure activities or financing? In most cases we can help you quickly and unbureaucratically! Visit our Skype consultation hour, write us an e-mail or give us a call!

There are currently no office hours on campus.

Consultation for degree seeking or exchange students

Monday and Thursday: 14:00 - 16:00  
Tuesday and Friday: 10:30 - 12:30  
E-Mail: rubiss@rub.de, Skype: rubiss.international (degree seeking students) und rubiss.studentservice (exchange students)

Information and registration for RUBiss events

At the moment there is no consultation hour. Please write an e-mail.

E-Mail: rubiss@rub.de

Information and consultation on housing

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 - 12:00

E-Mail: accommodation@uv.rub.de, Skype: rubiss.accommodation

Advice for prospective students / people interested in studying with a refugee background

Tuesday: 10:30 - 12:30  
Thursday: 14:00 - 16:00

E-Mail: welcome@rub.de, Skype: rubiss.welcome
RUBiss on Facebook and Instagram

Like the RUBiss Facebook page and stay up to date! Regularly you will receive current 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 student services on Facebook!

Photos of our activities and the events of the semester program can be found on our Instagram profile. Share your photos of our events with the #rubiss.

Follow us on Instagram!

You want to receive the newsletter regularly? Register here!