

EuMIGS Handbook

European Master in Migration Studies (EuMIGS)

Double Degree Programme

Winter term 2025/2026 Status as of 18.07.2025



Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Relations (IMIS)

Osnabrück University

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EuMIGS



**DOUBLE DEGREE MASTER
IN MIGRATION STUDIES**

www.eumigs.eu

Study migration abroad

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1. Welcome

Dear EuMIGS-students,

We are more than happy to welcome you to your second year as part of the EuMIGS programme to the Institute of Migrations Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) and our master programme 'International Migration and Intercultural Relations' (IMIB).

This manual shall facilitate the start of your studies and help you find your way in your new (academic) home Osnabrück.

The 'IMIB' is the oldest MA programme at a German university specialized in migration studies. The MA IMIB engages with migration and its social consequences through a combination of disciplinary perspectives including sociology, history, geography, political science, law, educational science, psychology, linguistics, and religious studies. Students are trained in critical approaches to and comparative analyses of migration-related phenomena. They learn about theoretical concepts, methodological tools and the conduct of empirical research.

The first cohort started in 2004. Since then, every year about 30 students are selected from a pool of highly qualified and motivated applicants. In addition, since 2018, we have been welcoming EuMIGS students from our European partner universities into the second year of the IMIB master programme.

The EuMIGS year at IMIS specializes in Migration Regimes in Practice. Participants study migration, migration-related diversity and processes of inclusion/exclusion as contested issues. As objects of regulation they are produced, defined, structured and observed by various actors, institutions, discourses, and practices – including migration research itself.

We are very much looking forward to working with you and getting to know you and your professional and personal experiences.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact us. You will find all relevant contact details in this guide.

We wish you a great start and a wonderful time in Osnabrück!

All the best,

the Osnabrück EuMIGS coordination team

2. The Institute of Migration Research

The IMIB MA program is an integral part of the academic activities of the Institute of Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Osnabrück University (UOS).

Society has always been faced with and will continue to be challenged by migration issues. In the past, the world was shaped by mobility over centuries: countless examples point to the significant impact of labour and colonial migration, nomadism, educational and vocational movement, slavery and human trafficking, flight, forced displacement, and deportation on labour market development, political systems, cultural identities, as well as religious orientations. And, no doubt, migration will remain a pivotal concern of societal and political interest as current debates prove: discussed issues range from the outcomes of the continuous (and regionally extremely disparate) growth of the world population, the aging societies in the rich 'North,' building new border fences and dismantling others, climate change, socio-political challenges of migration, the fate of refugees and migrants in transit, protracted refugee migrations, to the race for talent and skilled labour for increasingly complex and internationally highly networked 'knowledge societies'.

From the early 1990s onwards, the IMIS at Osnabrück University has explored spatial mobility and intercultural experience from both historical and contemporary angles. Through research, publications, public events, and academic consultation IMIS seeks to strengthen existing and encourage further interdisciplinary research networks and to contribute to the dialogue between science and professional practice. Thanks to its long-standing research expertise and unique interdisciplinary broadness, IMIS has become a nationally and internationally renowned research institute. IMIS is a founding member of the German Centre for Integration and Migration (DeZIM) and a member of the International Migration Research Network (IMISCOE).

Board of Directors of the Institute
Prof. Dr. Helen Schwenken (Director)
Prof. Dr. Andreas Pott
Apl. Prof. Dr. Jochen Oltmer
Prof. Dr. Christoph Rass
Johanna Ullmann
Jutta Tiemeyer

Institut für Migrationsforschung
und Interkulturelle Studien

IMIS

Institute for Migration Research
and Intercultural Studies

Address:
Universität Osnabrück
Seminarstraße 19 a/b
49069 Osnabrück
imis@uni-osnabrueck.de
www.imis.uni-osnabrueck.de
Tel. +49 541 969 4384

3. Contacts MA IMIB and EuMIGS

Dr. Sophie Hinger & Ahmet Celikten

EuMIGS Coordination

All academic questions related to EuMIGS, Recognition of internships and field trips

Office: 02/307

sohinger@uni-osnabrueck.de

acelikten@uni-osnabrueck.de

Petra Lehmeyer

Administrative Office EuMIGS Curriculum, exchange semesters

Office: 03/116

Phone: +49 541 969 4749

eumigs@uni-osnabrueck.de

Prof. Dr. Helen Schwenken

IMIS Director, Head of the IMIB examination committee (Prüfungsausschuss)
and of the IMIB study program

Office: 03/118

Phone: +49 541 969-4748

hschwenken@uos.de

Ricarda Hedwig

Administrative and Examination Office IMIB

Course assessment, certificates, transcript of records

Office: 19/310

Phone: +49 541 969 4734

pa-imib@uni-osnabrueck.de

For current office hours of the contact persons for the MA IMIB please check:
https://www.imis.uni-osnabrueck.de/studium_promotion/master_imib/ansprechpersonen.html

4. Your Arrival in Germany

Registration

Students need to register with the Foreigners' Office (*Ausländerbehörde*) within one week after their arrival in Germany. As part of the welcome week, the International Office at UOS organizes a session to prepare the formalities for the appointment with the Foreigners' Office.

For the registration you will need:

<u><i>EU-citizens:</i></u> copies of your passport or identity card enrolment certificate (<i>Immatrikulationsbescheinigung</i>) copy of health insurance policy	<u><i>Non-EU-citizens:</i></u> copies of your passport copy of admission letter enrolment certificate (<i>Immatrikulationsbescheinigung</i>) copy of health insurance policy scholarship certificate (if applicable) copy of visa (if applicable) one passport-sized biometric photo confirmation of sufficient funds (form)
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Non-EU citizens have to go to the Foreigners' Office (*Ausländerbehörde*). Please take note that you need an appointment. As part of the welcome week, the International Office organizes a registration day for all new students. In case that you cannot attend this date, please arrange an appointment for the registration through the website of the Foreigners' Office. The contact person is attributed on the basis of the first letter of your last name:

<https://service.osnabrueck.de/dienstleistungen/-/egov-bis-detail/dienstleistung/336752/show>

Address: Natruper-Tor-Wall 5 (Stadthaus 2), 49076 Osnabrück,

EU citizens contact the Registration Office (*Bürgeramt*).

Address: Natruper-Tor-Wall 5 (Stadthaus 2), 49076 Osnabrück buergeramt@osnabrueck.de

<https://www.osnabrueck.de/verwaltung/terminvergabe>

Office hours: Mon, Tue 08.00-16.00, Thu 08.00-17.30, Wed, Fri 08.00-12.00

Residence permit

After registration with the Foreigners' Office, non-EU students will receive a residence permit, which gives them the right to reside and study in Germany for two years at the most. The residence permit is issued as a credit card-sized card with a supplementary sheet. Your fingerprints, photo and personal details will be saved on a chip inside the card. When the permit needs to be extended, the Foreigners' Office will check if the purpose of residence in Germany is still valid. A change of degree program, for example, changes your purpose of residence. Extensions are usually made for up to two years.

After having finished your studies, you can apply for a residence permit in order to search for a job. This residence permit will be valid for one and a half year (18 months) at the most. Please make sure to update yourself about potential changes in the regulations.

5. Academic Requirements, Courses and Grades

Students participating in the EuMIGS Double Degree programme and spending the second year at UOS will need to earn 60 credits through their studies at UOS (for a better overview see study plan below).

At IMIS you are expected to take in your first semester (your third MA semester)

2 courses from Module 5 Migration Regimes (each 4 ECTS)

1 course from Module 6 Empirical Research Project and Electives (4 ECTS)

1 elective from Modules 1 to 6 (possible courses in English are listed below) (4 ECTS)

In two of the courses (one module 5 course and one module 6 course) you are expected to write a module thesis (each 4 ECTS)

Furthermore, you are expected to take part in 1 one-day field trip (1 ECTS).

During your second semester at IMIS (your fourth semester), you will write your Master's thesis (28 ECTS) and take part in the Research/ Thesis Colloquium (2 ECTS). You will require a paper [record sheet for the colloquium](#) which you will find on here on our [website](#).

Moreover, as part of the second year all students must complete a four-week internship (5 ECTS). In view of the time line, it is recommended to complete the internship before taking up studies in Osnabrück (see **Internship** below).

In addition to the compulsory courses listed above, EuMIGS students may voluntarily choose further seminars from the local MA IMIB programme depending on language abilities, individual interest and course offers. If you take additional courses, you can have it recorded on your transcript as 'voluntary additional achievement' (*Freiwillige Zusatzleistung*).

Please check the current IMIB course programme that changes slightly from year to year.

Internship

As part of the IMIB degree programme, a compulsory internship of four weeks (full-time) is required (5 credits); a longer internship period is approved by the examination board. The internship is to comprise at least 160 working hours (which could also be spread over eight weeks with 20 working hours). For recognition within the IMIB degree programme, a confirmation from the internship provider is required stating details of internship provider, duration (precise number of hours) and content of the internship. In addition, the internship is required to relate to issues of migration and intercultural studies. If you are not sure whether the conditions are met in your case, please contact Sophie Hinger (sophie.hinger@uni-osnabrueck.de) **before starting your internship**.

EuMIGS incoming students are recommended to complete their internship before coming to Osnabrück. Unfortunately, the University of Osnabrück cannot sign internship contracts, but we can provide you with an official letter stating that the internship is an obligatory part of IMIB studies.

Excursion

The aim of the excursion is for you to learn how to apply the knowledge you have acquired during your studies to the institution or location you are visiting and to formulate your own questions on the subject matter. You should also familiarise yourself with practical problems in dealing with migration and/or interculturality and reflect on them critically. There are three possible formats:

(a) The IMIB degree programme **offers field trips**. Excursions are either part of the regular teaching program (or sometimes announced at short notice) and are **initiated and accompanied by lecturers**. In some cases, IMIB students can take part in excursions from the Geography or History programs. Spots for excursions are sometimes limited. Students may be involved in the planning and preparatory discussions and design of the field trip. After the excursion, please complete the record sheet (you will find the [record sheets for excursion credits](#) on our [website](#) (without signature) and **hand it to the person leading the field trip for signature**. You will receive 1 ECTS credit (examination regulations from WS 2022).

(b) You are welcome to submit **ideas for excursions** that are accompanied by lecturers to Sophie Hinger, Ahmet Celikten (the EuMIGS coordinators), the study advisor (fachstudienberatung-imib@uni-osnabrueck.de) and/or the head of the degree programme (Helen Schwenken) at any time. Possible destination for a field trip could be, for example, authorities, NGOs and self-organisations of migrants, political education projects, museums, research institutions, memorial sites, etc. The further procedure is then as described above (a).

Registration for Courses

You register for courses through the platform '[Stud.IP](#)' and by attending the chosen seminars. Stud.IP is Osnabrück University's internet learning platform. Each course has its own section on Stud.IP, through which lecturers communicate announcements and upload documents, such as presentations, texts to be read, and exercise sheets. Online sessions usually take place through BigBlueButton  – a virtual live meeting room, which you can also access through the respective seminar sections on StudIP.

Academic Culture and Requirements

Most of the courses that you will be taking as EuMIGS students are seminars, i.e. involving active participation and group work. In fact, most IMIB courses are seminars, with a size between approx. 10 and 35, in extreme cases up to 50 students. In some courses you will be only together with IMIB students, whereas in other seminars, participants may also be studying other programmes than IMIB.

The course-specific examinations vary from course to course. The lecturer will announce the requirements at the beginning of the respective course. Most courses will have weekly reading assignments, which are mandatory. Mostly, this does not mean to scan over entire books every week, but rather to read chosen sections or single articles carefully and to prepare them in detail (argumentative structure etc.). There is no compulsory attendance at Osnabrück University, nevertheless, you are expected to attend all classes to participate actively, and to let the course convener know in case that you cannot make it to a class.

In order to receive credit points, there are certain course requirements (*Studienleistungen*) you have to fulfill. These can be an essay, a presentation, a poster, or a written exam for example. These are not graded but have to be handed in to the course convener (the format and deadline will be announced by the course conveners).

In addition to this, you will write two module research papers (*Modulhausarbeit*). These should explore a topic that fits to the module's content. Please be sure to discuss your planned topic and research question early enough with one of the lecturers that teaches in

the respective module. A research paper is anticipated to be academically consistent and not in the style of an essay unless particularly communicated. Academic work implies not only a reproduction of facts, but moreover an analytical and problem-oriented examination of your research question. As we need to archive your graded papers, please hand them in as a hard-copy version (some lecturers indeed request in addition a digital version, please inform yourself what is expected).

You are expected to write your own papers, therefore: do not engage in copy and paste with downloaded internet or other material. Plagiarism is not tolerated and will be marked with 'failed' when detected. In serious cases, the board of examiners can ban you from future examinations. Thus, please cite correctly. If there are any questions concerning the formal requirements, please consult manuals, such as the York tutorial¹ and ask your lecturer (s*he will know best what s*he expects). If your doubts are related to your status as an international student, please mention this, because lecturers will then know where your insecurities come from.

There is no particular examination period. Deadlines for papers and course achievements are set individually by the lecturer and are expected to be followed. However, **you need to register for your module thesis in HISinOne (see Chapter 6 below) in the respective term the class it refers to is offered.** Deadlines for research papers are usually towards the end of the semester (end of March or end of September).

Grades

The final grade of the master's degree is calculated based on a grade for the first year of the EuMIGS programme, provided by the university where students finished their first year (home university, 50 per cent), and a grade obtained during the second year at UOS (host university, 50 per cent). The second-year grade consists of three elements: two graded module theses (counting 16/60 each) and a master thesis (28/60).

German grades are numbers (not letters). The following table shows the IMIB-scale for final grades:

Grades	German grade description	English grade description
1.00 – 1.50	sehr gut	excellent
1.60 – 2.50	gut	good
2.60 – 3.50	befriedigend	satisfactory
3.60 – 4.00	ausreichend	sufficient
4.10 – 5.00	nicht ausreichend	fail

Study plan EuMIGS-INCOMINGS, 3rd and 4th term UOS

Term schedule

	Term 3	Term 4
Module 5	12 credits	
Module 6	12 credits	
Module 7	6 credits	
Module 8		30 credits
Total (see below)	30 credits	30 credits

Module 5: Migration Regimes

	Components	credits
	<i>Electives: 2 courses – in different disciplines – are required and 1 module thesis:</i>	
5.1	Migration and Integration Politics (2 WSH)	4
5.2	Migration Regimes and Space (2 WSH)	4
5.3	Migration Regimes and Social Conflict (2 WSH)	4
5.4	Migration Regimes in Past and Present (2 WSH)	4
5.5	Module thesis or other graded academic performance	4
	Subtotal	12

Module 6: Empirical Research Project and Electives

	Components	credits
	<i>Electives: 2 courses are required and 1 module thesis:</i>	
N.N.	1 course in Module 6 (6.2 to 6.11) (2 WSH)	4
6.12	1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator	4
6.13	Module thesis or other graded academic performance related to the chosen course from 6.2 to 6.11	4
	Subtotal	12

Module 7: Applied Migration Studies

	Components	credits
7.2	Internship (4weeks minimum/160h)	5
7.3	Excursion (one-day) (1WSH)	1
	Subtotal	6

Module 8: Master Thesis

	Components	credits
8.1	Research Colloquium	2
8.2	Master thesis (completion within 6 months)	28
	Subtotal	30
Total credits to be earned in the 2nd year at UOS		60

6. HISinOne (Online Examination Administration)

Please note: Your registration period for the examinations begins on **tba** and ends on **tba**. As with the other degree programmes, late registrations are no longer possible after this date!

To register online, click on the 'Quicklink' '>[HISinOne](#)' at the bottom of the university homepage and log in to the university login (top right) with your Stud.IP account. Under Registration/deregistration (own examinations) or (external examinations for voluntary additional services [FZL] that are not part of the IMIB), register for the coursework and examinations you wish to complete this semester.

You can only withdraw from the examinations until 31 March 2026 (you will find more information when you register). Once this deadline has passed, your registration is binding. No further changes are possible after this date. Therefore, please enrol in good time and only for courses that you will actually be taking.

Since many courses can be incorporated into different modules, these are also displayed several times for online registration. Please make sure that you register for the right module! The registration procedure also applies to coursework that you 'only' wish to complete as voluntary additional achievement (Freiwillige Zusatzleistung FZL). Please make sure that you actually register for the additional achievement option!

You will find FAQs for using HISinOne [here](#).

During the Welcome Week there will be an introduction to the HISinOne system. If you have any problems or questions, please contact hisinone@uos.de or the EuMIGS Buddies.

EuMIGS Buddy Programme

Our Buddy Programme will help you find your way around Osnabrück University campus. You will be supported by buddies who will help you with questions on studying and life in Osnabrück. Our buddies are enrolled in the IMIB Master's programme in their third semester. They will get in touch with you before the start of the semester.

7. Courses for incoming EuMIGS students, Winter term 2025/2026

All courses below are taken from our online catalogue [Stud.IP](#), please sign in there.

Lecturer	Dr. Mert Pekşen
Module	Module 5.2: Migration Regimes and Space Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Migration regimes and Space: Borders, No. 2.10606
Time/Location	Wednesdays, 14-16, 02/108
Course start	Wednesday, 29 October 2025

Lecturer	Dr. Mert Pekşen
Module	Module 5.2: Migration Regimes and Space Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Maps, power and migration, No. 1.407
Time/Location	Friday, 17 October 2025, 10-11, online Fridays from 19 December 2025 to 30 January 2026, 10-14, 11/115
Course start	Friday, 17 October 2025

Lecturer	Dr. Maurice Stierl
Module	Module 5.2: Migration Regimes and Space Module 5.3: Migration Regimes and Social Conflicts Module 6.5: Migration, Forced Migration and Regional Development Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	tba, No. 2.05625
Time/Location	Wednesdays, 12-14, 01/114
Course start	Wednesday, 15 October 2025

Lecturer	Judith Altrogge, Phillip Jung
Module	Module 5.3: Migration Regimes and Social Conflict Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Return Migration. Critical perspectives on aspirations, obligations and constraints, No. 1.405
Time/Location	Thursdays, 23 October and 30 October 2025, 14-16, 01/106 from 04 December 2025, 14-18, 01/106
Course start	Thursday, 23 October 2025

Lecturer	Wilma Middendorf
Module	Module 6.4: Intercultural psychology Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator

Course title (No.)	Intercultural Psychology, No. 1.401
Time/Location	Tuesdays, 12-14, tba
Course start	Tuesday, 14 October 2025

Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Hajo Holst
Module	Module 6.9: Migration from a Sociological Perspective Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Jour fixe: Lektürekurs, No. 1.220
Time/Location	Mondays, 16-18, 15/133
Course start	Monday, 13 October 2025

Lecturer	Dr. Mert Pekşen
Module	Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	De-centering migration: Approaches from the Global South, No. 1.406
Time/Location	Mondays, 11-13, online until 15 December 2025 Mondays, 11-13, 22/103 from 5 January 2026
Course start	Monday, 13 October 2025

Lecturer	Xin Wang
Module	Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Migration and cities, No. 2.10604
Time/Location	Tuesdays, 14-16, 02/108
Course start	Tuesday, 14 October 2025

Lecturer	Dr. phil. Maéva Clément
Module	Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Conflict Issues in Contemporary Societies: Gendering Peace, No. 1.118
Time/Location	Thursdays, 12-14, 15/421
Course start	Thursday, 16 October 2025

Lecturer	Margarete Dabrowski (International Office)
Module	Module 6.12: 1 course either listed as 6.12 or any relevant course from university course catalogue after consent by EuMIGS coordinator
Course title (No.)	Intercultural Competence
Time/Location	see StudIP, 15/111
Course start	Thursday, 16 October 2025, 18-20

Non-EuMIGS courses in English can be researched in the [course directory](#). If you find a course of interest, contact your co-ordinator whether it may be recognized for the EuMIGS programme.

You are very welcome to contribute your ideas for the degree program and future seminar topics and thus actively participate in shaping your studies at Osnabrück University (for this, contact the student advisor).

8. EuMIGS activities

As a participant of the EuMIGS Double Degree programme, you will participate in all EuMIGS activities. These include:

The kick-off workshop in tba

The winter workshop in tba

The IMISCOE Annual Conference in tba

EuMIGS Lecture Series 2025, online

De-centering migration: Approaches from the Global South, Stud.IP. No. 1.1905 (further information will follow)

9. IMIB Student Council ('Fachschaft')

We are students of the IMIB master degree programme. Our mission is to represent the students' interests, so YOUR interests, towards the institute as well as on a university level. Because of this, we are not only occupied with committees, finances, and organization but also have the possibility to realize events, such as workshops, film series, BBQ, and bar nights for the students.

In order to reach decisions, the student representative committee invites all enrolled IMIB-students (including all EuMIGS students!) to vote for their representatives for a year. Moreover, all IMIB/EuMIGS students are welcome to participate. The work in the committee is voluntary and all members have equal rights.

We are always happy to see new faces, fresh ideas, and in general people who are willing to shape our student life together!

We meet regularly in our committee-room (*Fachschaftsraum*), which is in 03/321 and can also be used to read, have coffee or tea or meet up with a working group. It is always open!

Contact: fachschaft-imib@uni-osnabrueck.de or on Instagram: "IMIB Osnabück"

Consultation hours for students

IMIB students of the 3rd semester offer you an informal option to consult them in case of questions or problems at the beginning. To book an appointment, please get in touch with us via mail: fachschaft-imib@uni-osnabrueck.de. The consultation can be held via Big Blue Button (BBB) or by phone.

Please, keep in mind that we are no trained (psychotherapeutic) advisors, but we will help you find the relevant offices at the Uni Osnabrück.



10. Libraries

For an overview of all libraries please consult:

https://www.ub.uni-osnabrueck.de/die_bibliothek/standorte_adressen.html

Central Library "Alte Münze"

Osnabrück University has one main library (called "Alte Münze"), which hosts several school libraries and institute libraries. These libraries are equipped with more than 1.5 million books, a wide selection of newspapers, journals and magazines, as well as online access to more than

50.000 electronic journals and more than 2.000 online-databases.

IMIS Library is located here as well.

Literature from the reading rooms, textbook collections and open stacks can be borrowed by using the self-service issue machines during opening hours. Reservations, orders from stacks, and inter-library loans are provided at the counters during their service hours.

Address: Alte Münze 16/Kamp, D-49074 Osnabrück phone: +49 541 969-4488; Fax: -4482

Lending: +49 541 969 4316

E-mail: info@ub.uni-osnabrueck.de

Information for central and other departmental libraries:

https://www.ub.uni-osnabrueck.de/service_nutzung/ausleihe/lending_information.html

Library of Law and Economics

Address: Heger-Tor-Wall 14 - Building 21/22 49078 Osnabrück

Tel: +49 541 969 6209; Fax: -6186

Lending: +49 541 969 6100

E-mail: infojw@ub.uni-osnabrueck.de

11. Services

Student card - “Campuscard”

In order to receive your personalized Campuscard, you must upload a passport-type photo to <https://myrz.uos.de/>, where you will also find information about photo specifications and how to upload it. You will be sent an e-mail telling you that your card is ready for collection at the Student Service Centre Info Point (Neuer Graben 27). It can be charged with money for paying at different university institutions such as the Alte Münze (Library) and the Mensa. Please bring proof of your identity or authorization in order to collect the card. The first issue of the card is free of charge.

The Campuscard can be used as follows:

1. Student ID card
2. Semester ticket
3. Library card
4. For paying at libraries and canteens
5. For printing and copying
6. For operating library lockers

Studierendenwerk (Student Services)

The *Studierendenwerk* (Student Services) offers full assistance concerning your studies. They provide wide-ranging services, such as supporting you in economic, social and cultural issues to ensure that you can focus on your studies in the best possible way.

Address: Ritterstraße 10, 49074 Osnabrück

Tel.: +49 541 33107-26, -28, -29, -30

<https://www.studentenwerk-osnabrueck.de/en/home.html>

University canteens and cafés

The canteens (called “Mensa”) and cafés offer inexpensive dishes for students. There is usually a choice of two main courses (one of which is normally vegetarian) and a stew, as

well as a salad bar. Meals cost between € 1.50 and € 2.50. Breakfast and snacks are obtainable from the cafés of the Studierendenwerk Osnabrück.

The opening hours as well as weekly menus are available online:
<https://www.studentenwerk-osnabrueck.de/en/food/>

Psychosocial Counselling Centre

Studying abroad is an exciting adventure and a major life transition. For many of you, this is the first time away from home. While you are looking forward to all the opportunities that come with living in a foreign country, you may also feel apprehensive of the many things that are unfamiliar to you.

Here are some of the problems that students have talked about with counsellors: experiencing cultural clash, feeling homesick, feeling sad or alone, worrying about disappointing your parents, problems with your parents, difficulties with a friend or your boy-/girlfriend, self-doubt or anxiety, psychosomatic problems, being afraid of an oral or written exam, problems related to studying, writer's block.

Address: Sedanstraße 1, 49076 Osnabrück

Phone: +49 541 969 2580

E-mail: psb@studentenwerk-osnabrueck.de

<https://www.studentenwerk-osnabrueck.de/en/counseling/psychological-counseling.html>

Equal Opportunities Office (Gleichstellungsbüro)

The Equal Opportunities Office provides specific offers and advice along diversity, studying with children, mentoring programs or sexualized harassment.

For more information: <https://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/en/university/service-facilities/zentrale-verwaltung/the-equal-opportunity-office/>

Language Centre

The Language Centre (*Sprachenzentrum*) offers several language courses during the semester. You can attend free German language courses, both general and subject-related courses. You can also attend courses on academic research and writing in Germany (in German and English). Moreover, the Language Centre offers a wide range of foreign language courses on different levels. For speaking and writing workshops (*Sprechwerkstatt und Schreibwerkstatt*) see:

<https://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/universitaet/organisation/sprachenzentrum/schreibwerkstatt/>

Address: Neuer Graben 7/9

Phone: +49 541 969 4886; Fax: -14886

E-mail: sprachenzentrum@uni-osnabrueck.de www.uni-osnabrueck.de/sprachenzentrum

Please check the website early due to deadlines for registration and language determination tests to find the appropriate level.

Sports

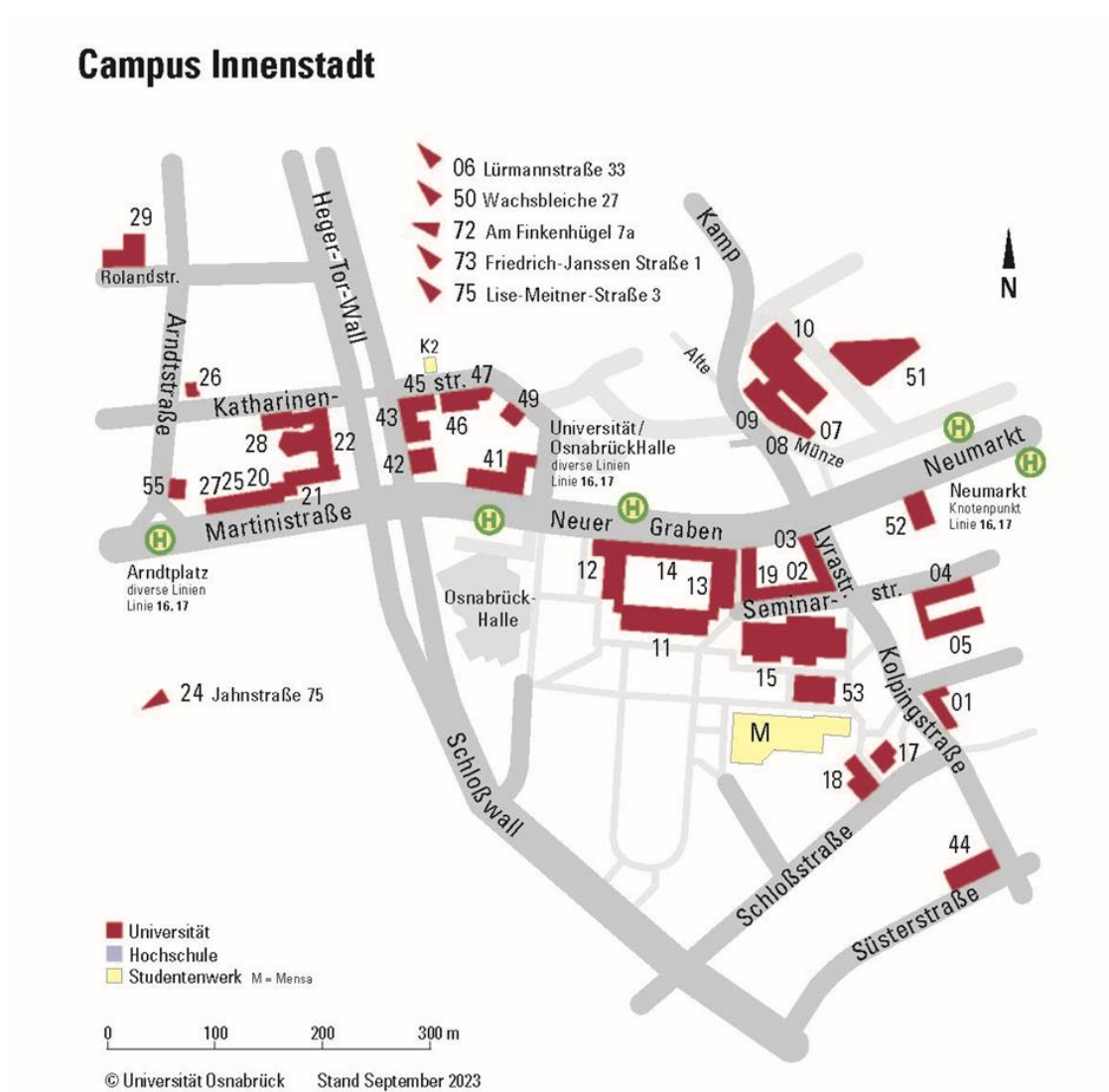
Every semester the University's Centre for Sports (*Zentrum für Hochschulsport der Universität*) promotes an extensive program of competitive and recreational sporting activities. The program containing further details can be obtained from:

https://buchung.zfh.uni-osnabrueck.de/angebote/aktueller_zeitraum/index.html

12. Finding your way around Campus

You need to know that the university buildings are numbered, as you can see in the map beneath. Room numbers have the following format: (for example) “03/119” → 03 is the number of the building and 119 the number of the room. The first digit of the room number shows the floor.

Map of the City Centre Campus



13. Glossary: useful vocabulary

AStA

All students enrolled at the university make up the student body, which is a legally responsible body of the university. The purpose of the AStA is to look after the university-related political, specialist, economic, social and cultural interests of the students. The organs of the student body are the student parliament and the General Students Committee (Allgemeiner Studierendenausschuss = AStA). The AStA represents the student body, implements the resolutions of the student parliament and carries out the transactions of the administration of the student body. The AStA has an advisory function in social, study-related and legal issues and is also responsible for the semester ticket.

BAföG

The aim of the BAföG (*Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz*) is to financially support students. It is a combination of an interest-free loan and a non-repayable grant. The amount is dependent upon the financial situation and income of the students and those obliged to pay for them. Further information can be obtained from the Studierendenwerk Osnabrück, Department of Grants.

c.t. or 'Akademisches Viertel' – cum tempore or 'Academic 15 minutes'

This means that academics (also prospective academics) commence a quarter of an hour later than stated, unless otherwise given (see below): e.g. 11 c.t. = 11.15 am; e.g. 11 s.t. = 11.00 am.

Coordination refugees@uos

The University of Osnabrück has set up an office that supports refugees and researchers at risk (information sessions on guest student status and regular study programs, facilitation of specific language courses, mentoring, and tandem, facilitating exchange between other students and the newcomers, cultural events etc.). The office (03/324) is situated in the IMIS and volunteers are always welcome (contact: coord-refugees@uni-osnabrueck.de).

Dekanin or Dekan

The dean represents the school and is elected by the School Council. The Study Dean is responsible for any study-related issues.

Dekanat

Dean's office, office of the Faculty (Fachbereich 1, Seminarstraße 33).

Fachbereich (School)

The university is subdivided into schools, which are responsible for academic research and teaching. The IMIB is located at the School for Cultural and Social Sciences, in particular at the social science department/institute.

Fachschaft (Student Representative Committee)

The organized representation of students' interests at the departmental level; all students at the respective school are members of the departmental student organization. The members of the departmental student organization elect the departmental student council

(*Fachschaftsrat*) once a year, which looks after the specialist interests of the departmental student organization.

***Gasthörerinnen/Gasthörer* - Occasional students**

Non-enrolled persons, including refugees, can be accepted to certain classes as occasional students without having to prove their eligibility to access to higher education.

***Hochschulrahmengesetz* - Higher Education Framework Act**

The Higher Education Framework Act (HRG) contains the stipulations for university legislation in the federal states (*Bundesländer*). It defines the responsibilities and the legal position of the institutions of higher education, and also regulates the structure and organization, e.g. of the central and departmental bodies and the rights and obligations of university members (staff and students). Regularly student generations protest against 'HRG reforms'.

***Institut* (Institute)**

The smallest academic organizational unit within a school in the field of research and teaching is an institute. Institutes can either be mono-disciplinary (such as the Institute of Geography) or interdisciplinary (such as the IMIS) where academics from a number of schools cooperate.

Kolloquium

Elsewhere this might be called a 'seminar'. There are two types: (a) Students present research designs or chapter drafts of their BA, MA, or PhD theses. Usually organized by a professor or an institute. There is a *Forschungskolloquium* for IMIB students. Mostly students start attending when they plan their MA theses, but are welcome also much earlier. It takes place once a month on Wednesdays 10am-1pm. (b) Researchers or invited speakers present their on-going research.

***Kommilitonin/Kommilitone* – (Fellow student)**

The term is still used as a form of address amongst fellow students.

N.N.

Abbreviation for: nomen nominandum. This means that the name of the person giving a class is not yet known.

***Promotion* (PhD)**

If research is your thing and having finished your MA degree with an excellent MA thesis, you might think about doing a PhD. If interested, talk early enough with professors your plans and queries. There are several ways to do a PhD in Germany: in a PhD/graduate school program (there are currently two at IMIS, but no new PhD students are accepted, but just ask lecturers), as an individual PhD student funded by a foundation or yourself, or through a job in a research project or as lecturer. Compared to other academic systems, the admission and supervision works a bit different as it is the first supervisor who 'accepts' you as a PhD student (within PhD programs it again works differently and you react upon a Call for Applications). A PhD officially takes three years, but in the social sciences often longer. It consists of a written thesis (dissertation) and an oral defence.

Prüfungsordnung (Examination regulations)

The examination regulations form the legal basis for the sitting of examinations; they regulate the composition of the examination board and the taking of the examination. For this reason, the examination regulations stipulate which requirements need to be fulfilled before being able to enrol for the examination (scope of study, type and number of proofs of academic achievement), the form of examination (essay, written or oral examination), the extent to which the individual subjects are to be examined and how the examination results are to be graded; they also regulate how the enrolment to the examination can be revoked, and how the examination can be suspended or retaken. The examination regulations for university examinations (Bachelor, Master, PhD) are drawn up by the respective institution of higher education and are approved by the responsible state ministry. Information on examination regulations can be found online.

For individual questions or issues please contact the examination office (*Prüfungsamt*) or the examination board (*Prüfungsausschuss*).

Rückmeldung (Re-registration)

If a student is registered on a degree program at Osnabrück University and would like to continue studying in the following semester, s*he must re-register for the following semester within a defined period of time by paying the fees to the university. The necessary information is enclosed with the student card for the current semester.

Semesterwochenstunden or: SWS

The amount of time spent in class in one week (during the semester). For example: a regular seminar that takes place once a week from 2-4 pm has two SWS (this is calculated in full hours, even if the course lasts only 90 minutes). Adding the credit hours of all the courses a student takes gives the number of credit hours for that particular semester. If the examination and study regulations stipulate a total of credit hours that have to be proven, you divide the total by the minimum number of semesters for the program to obtain the number of credit hours per semester. This is an average amount, i.e. you can take more or fewer credit hours, depending on your respective timetable.

Seminar

A seminar is a class for a smaller number of participants (circa 8-35), in which academic problems are portrayed and elaborated in detail. The seminars are usually subdivided into Bachelor or Master seminars. Students are expected to actively participate in seminars. Proof of academic achievement is usually given after successful completion of a presentation or essay.

Stipendium (Scholarship)

A scholarship is a financial contribution given to students by a number of institutions. It is usually coupled to certain requirements and is granted in accordance with financial or performance-related factors.

Studienordnung (Study regulations)

Based on the demands stipulated by the examination regulations, the study regulations regulate the course of a degree program or a subject within a certain degree program. The study aim, contents, and scope are defined in the study regulations. They contain all requirements pertaining to the structure and organization of the program. Information is

provided regarding, e.g. admission requirements (e.g. placements), additional qualifications (e.g. linguistic proficiency), which courses are obligatory in which study phase and which are optional. Information is also given regarding the admission requirements for attending courses. Study regulations usually contain curricula, which can help students in their individual planning. You can find them online:

www.uni-osnabrueck.de/studium/im_studium/pruefungen.html#c8016

Tutorium (Tutorial)

A working group related to a lecture or seminar in which the contents of the classes are prepared or worked over. Tutorials are held by tutors (generally advanced students).

Vorlesung (Lecture)

In a lecture the subject is conveyed to the students by the lecturer in the form of a presentation. Students are usually only required to listen and make notes, but can also ask questions. The contents of the lecture must then be worked over at home by the students (or in a special tutorial).

Vorlesungsverzeichnis (Course Catalogue)

The course catalogue contains all of the classes offered by the university in that respective semester. It also contains a list and the addresses of all lecturers and organizations (institutes, examination offices, etc.) at the university. The course catalogue for the current semester is available online.

14. The City of Osnabrück: Where to go

Bars and Clubs

Balou: A popular meeting point for students just around the corner of the IMIS. While the interior is a good mixture of a kindergarten and a ski hut, it can be great to sit outside with a beer watching the hard-working students run by. Football matches are also often shown.

Confusion: A popular place for gays in Osnabrück with a changing program including karaoke, games, and theme nights.

Countdown: Great place for shy singles and other lonely souls: the Countdown Bar has telephones set up on the tables, so you can get in contact with your neighbours or other people in the bar.

Grand Hotel: A hip bar with indie-music and regular happenings. On the weekends, you can watch Bundesliga and the Tatort (a German MUST-SEE criminal series on Sunday nights).

Grüner Jäger: Whether in summer or winter, there is always beer-garden-atmosphere at this place. For athletes, there is tabletop soccer (*Kicker*) and a semi-acceptable pool table. Also good to just watch soccer!

Heimlich Bar: Hidden right at the shore of the Hase river, Heimlich Bar offers a small and stylish place for a cocktail night.

Kleine Freiheit: Great on Thursday nights when 'Kleiner Freitag' opens its gates for students and Indie-music. From time to time, there are also Funk- and Electro-Parties. During the summer, the Freiheit also offers you a decent open-air-beach to hang out.

Neo Club: Those who are up for R'n'B, Hip hop, Dancehall and Reggaeton are just right at this place. People say, they would decide whether to let you in or not according to your outfit, but it's most probably simply the mood of the doorman. Good to know: they take photos of you at the entrance in order to identify your card to buy drinks with.

The Red Shamrock: the only Irish Pub in town; good place for an Irish Whisky, a Guinness and a Cider.

SubstAnZ: It is the autonomous centre in Osnabrück, where concerts, bar nights and parties take place regularly. For example, the No-Lager group (they meet to organize support for refugees in the case of deportation) meets here every Thursday night.

Tiefenrausch: It is more of a lounge than a bar since there is always dusky light to dive in together with a very familiar atmosphere. At nights, there are always professionals at the turntables who serve music with the broad range of drinks and endless talks. Not to forget: the Tiefenrausch is empirically the last bar to close its doors in Osnabrück. So, a great place for night owls!

Trash: Feels just like its name. On the first sight, it hits you with a mixture of grandma's living room, a hint of 70's chic and a good amount of trash material. But then, only shortly after, the place's comfortable atmosphere reveals that you don't ever want to miss out on again.

Unikeller: The Unikeller is another classic of Osnabrück's bar-scene. Behind the walls of the university's castle, you can spend a great evening eating and drinking together with friends and mostly other students. During the summer, the terrace in front of it opens and invites you to its idyllic surrounding. There are many different events taking place every week, such as two dates for live-music a month. And of course, beer.

Cafes, places to eat & other useful info

Barösta: The barösta is present with no less than two locations in Redlinger Straße. The street itself is known for its small shops and great places to go for a coffee or food. In barösta you can taste their self-roasted coffee - of course fairtrade and bio - and the homemade cake.

Café International: Organized by Exil, the Café International is a meeting point for locals, refugees and migrants. Everyone is welcome – regardless of their social or cultural background or any residence permit! It offers a nice possibility to get to know new and old inhabitants of the city, to chat, or to simply be around people. It takes place every two weeks, Thursdays 4-6pm. To participate, it is necessary to register (cafe@exilverein.de).

Café Mandela: A beautifully set up place, organized by the Diakonisches Werk Osnabrück for intercultural come-together and advisory in the Rosenplatzquartier. There are social workers

who are open for all different kinds of questions and support. Besides that, everyone who wants to spend a nice afternoon with friends and coffee, tea and more is welcome!

Herr von Butterkeks: The cookie to the coffee is never missing. During the summer you can enjoy your cup and a piece of cake in a particular great atmosphere on the terrace in the Stüvestraße. They value fairtrade and organic products.

Lagerhalle: The Lagerhalle is THE social-cultural centre in Osnabrück. They organize all different kinds of events, from concerts, theatre plays, and films to parties and lectures. It is host of the 'Unabhängige Filmfest Osnabrück' (independent film festival) with international and alternative films on political and social topics as well as to 'Morgenland Festival Osnabrück' which takes place during the summer.

PollyEster's: This place is a great mixture of a lounge, cocktail-bar, and cafe! And during the summer, also to be enjoyed outside. There is Burger Monday, breakfast, and good cocktails.

Movie Theatres: Cinema Arthouse and Hasetorkino: These two not only show blockbusters, but also less known but yet particularly good movies. For jazz-lovers, there is the Blue Note bar as part of the Cinema Arthouse building, with live-gigs and different other events. For a cold beer or wine, you can also visit the Kinocafé 8 ½, as part of the Hasetorkino. They also have a beautiful terrace right at the Hase shore during the summer!

Rampendahl: A place of home-style cooking with its own brewery and long tradition. Here you can sit comfortably over three floors and get a slice of bread and lard to go with your home-brewed beer.

Rosenhof: The Rosenhof is a former cinema from the 50's and location for different events such as cabaret, comedy, lectures, parties, and concerts.

Schlecks: This place is only open during the warmer part of the year, but then many students cannot live without it. You can have a great portion of ice-cream JUST as you want: together with many, many things to choose from, the people at Schlecks create a sweet sensation.

Theatre Osnabrück: All students below the age of 30 can get tickets for half the price and – if there are tickets left over – can get in for free two days before the show. You can look at the programme online or get more information on Thursdays at the entrance of the Mensa.

Zauber von OS: Up for a burger at Zauber? For some students a MUST. Just around the corner from the main train station, the cafe and bar offer a great place to hang out or to let the night begin.

Initiatives and Organizations

Caritas and Diakonie (deaconry): Diakonie and Caritas are church institutions that support people throughout Germany. In Osnabrück, too, they offer different kinds of support to refugees and people with migration experience. Caritas, for example, offers help with homework and job applications, while Diakonie runs the meeting place Café Mandela.

Coordination refugees @uos: see glossary

Exil Verein: The Exil – Refugee Centre Osnabrück e.V. is a registered non-profit association based in Osnabrück that supports refugees and people with a migration history in many wide-ranging ways to enable them to live a decent and dignified life free from fear. They offer advice on different topics, German courses and a variety of projects bringing refugees and other people from Osnabrück together.

No Lager: No Lager is a local anti-racist group. It aims to draw attention to the unjust migration regime and organises various activities, e.g. public protests.

Refugee Law Clinic: The Refugee Law Clinic Osnabrück is a group of students and research assistants who offer free legal advice to refugees. Students of all disciplines can participate; the course always starts in the winter semester. The RLC cooperates with other initiatives in Osnabrück and is always happy to welcome new people.

Seebrücke Osnabrück: Seebrücke Osnabrück wants to make Osnabrück a safe harbour. Although the city council adopted the Seebrücke's appeal back in 2018, little has happened in this regard so far. It therefore continues to call for the legalisation of sea rescue of refugees and increased reception of rescued persons.

Zugvögel – Grenzen überwinden e.V.: The association considers itself a political organisation that addresses postcolonial power imbalances. The Zugvögel try to sensitise people to racism and inequalities and support people who want to do a South-North voluntary service.