

Studying in Germany

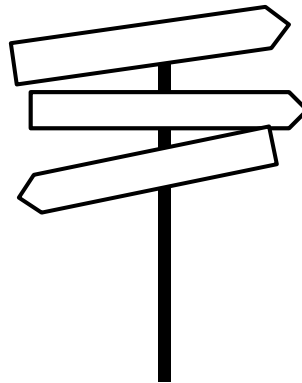
Studying at the University of Bonn



Britta Förster, M. A. | Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service (Zentrale Studienberatung)
Welcome Days at the University of Bonn

WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

1. 'STUDY CULTURE'
2. ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES
3. COUNSELING & SERVICE



'STUDY CULTURE'



Interactive education system

- Active learning attitude expected
- High level of autonomy & self-reliant studying expected



Research skills

- Critical selection, analysis & presentation of information
- Assessment of trustworthiness & relevance of sources (Internet sources in particular)
- Importance of transdisciplinarity



Time management

- Daily / weekly workload not controlled by anyone
- Time management = one key factor for studying successfully



Attendance & active participation

- No *universal* compulsory attendance
- Attendance regulations announced in online course catalogue
“BASIS” → basis.uni-bonn.de



Attendance & active participation

- 'Qualification goal' of a class often believed to be hardly achievable without regular attendance & active participation!
- Aim: **Development of key skills**
 - essential skills for future job
 - requires a high level of (inter)activity



Getting in touch with teachers/ instructors

- Via consultation hours
- Urgent questions can usually be asked after (or during) class

Check out departmental website(s) for contact information!



ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES



“Vorlesung”/ “Plenum” | Lecture

- Presentation of a particular topic
- Larger audience
- Little to no interaction between students and teacher/ instructor
- Autonomous revision of a lecture expected



“Seminar” | Seminar

- Discussion on a specific topic led by teacher/ instructor
- Limited number of participants
- Discussions & active participation expected



“Übung”/ “Tutorium” | Tutorial

- Training skills in preparation for an exam
- Intensive discussion & teamwork
- Practicing subject matters taught in lecture / seminar



s.t. (“sine tempore”) = without time = **at the stated time**

c.t. (“cum tempore”) = with time = **15 minutes later**

Akademisches Viertel = “academic quarter of an hour”

→ Example:

10 s.t. = 10 am

10 c.t. = 10:15 am

→ Check course announcements in
BASIS (online course catalogue)!



- Bachelor & Master degree programs consist of modules
- Usually exam at the end of each module
- Completion of a module:
 - ECTS credit points (usually called **Leistungspunkte** / “LP”)
&
 - Grade

→ **Erasmus/ Global Exchange Program** students may also attend separate courses (instead of complete modules) and gain ECTS credit points & grade

ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES – MODULES (ERASMUS + GLOBAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM STUDENTS)

- Required modules / courses listed on your **learning agreement**
- Sometimes specific requirements or exams
- You may be allowed to take an exam in another form

→ **Please talk to your (Erasmus departmental) coordinator or contact person about specific regulations *beforehand*. 😊**

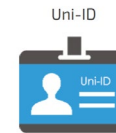
→ You may also approach your teacher/ course instructor in addition.

German grading scale

- $1,0 - 1,5 = \text{“sehr gut”}$
- $1,6 - 2,5 = \text{“gut”}$
- $2,6 - 3,5 = \text{“befriedigend”}$
- $3,6 - 4,0 = \text{“ausreichend”}$
- $5,0 = \text{“nicht ausreichend”}$
→ failed

- List of your courses
 - ECTS credit points
 - Individual grades
- Issued in English by your (Erasmus departmental) coordinator

ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES – UNI-ID



UNI-ID = your personal **Uni Bonn** account

Generated automatically after enrollment
and payment of semester fee

Included in letter with your student ID

→ 1st page, top right corner (next to your postal address)

→ + automatically generated password

Access to all central digital services

→ personal uni email account, BASIS, eCampus, ...

hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/all-services → Uni-ID

Presentation "Digital Services at
the University of Bonn":
uni-bonn.de/welcome-days

ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES – UNI EMAIL ACCOUNT

Your Uni-ID = your personal Uni Bonn email address!

→ Uni-ID@uni-bonn.de

→ To be used as soon as your Uni-ID has been activated: mail.uni-bonn.de

hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/all-services

**The HRZ IT help desk
is happy to help you!**

**+49 (0)228 73 2751
info-hrz@uni-bonn.de**

The screenshot shows the student portal of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn. The top section, titled 'Bitte Rückseite beachten', contains instructions for students regarding the submission of their study documentation. A red circle highlights the 'Uni-ID' field, which is the student's personal email address. Below this, the 'Studien-Dokumentation und Belegformular für das Wintersemester 2019/2020' section is visible, containing a table with student information.

Angestr. Abschluß	Studienfach	Fachsemester
Bachelor of Arts	English Studies	6

The bottom section of the form, titled 'Studierenden-AUSWEIS', contains a table with student information:

Name	Matrikel-Nr.
[Redacted]	[Redacted]

1. *Course registration within registration period*

- With Uni-ID: via BASIS
- Without Uni-ID: Contact instructor via email
- Registration can be withdrawn → Mind the ‘withdrawal period’
- Erasmus students *might* not be able to register for courses via BASIS (depends on department) → Info by coordinator counts!
- Global exchange program students can only register on BASIS for courses belonging to their program

2. *Exam registration*

- Uni-ID required for registration via BASIS
- No automatic or compulsory exam registration
- Registration can be withdrawn → Mind the ‘withdrawal period’ 😊



People who may help you (register):

- Your (Erasmus departmental) coordinator
- Your teacher/ course instructor
- Other contact persons
- BASIS support & FAQ
basis-support.uni-bonn.de



ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES

ONLINE COURSE CATALOGUE – [BASIS.UNI-BONN.DE](https://basis.uni-bonn.de)

Indigenous Religions in North America - Single View

Nr.: **556002301** **Seminar** SoSe 2022 2.0 Hours per week in term

Language: English

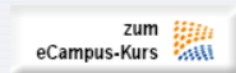
Präsenz/digital: Presence Event

Curricula: kein Abschluss Pool f. Anglistik
Bachelor of Arts English Studies (B.A.)
Bachelor of Arts English Studies (Zwei-Fach-B.A.)
kein Abschluss Pool Institut VI

Lecturer: Dr. Matt Sheedy;

	Day	Time	Room	Lecturer	Max	Remarks	Duration
Dates/Times/Location:  →	Thu.	18 (c.t.) to 20 woch	Hauptgebäude-RPW5 - 1.003 (Übungsraum B)		35		07.04.2022 bis 14.07.2022

application period:



Description:

Indigenous religions are both easy and hard to define. In one sense, they are easy to recognize in the long history of Western representations—for example, in art, comics, and film—that have created particular associations in the popular imagination, such as shamanic rituals, smoking peace pipes, and communicating with the spirit world. When one digs beneath the surface, however, Indigenous religions are hard to define for at least two reasons. First, they have largely been represented on outsiders' terms throughout the long history of settler-colonialism and forced Christianization. In this sense, "Indigenous religions" is a relational concept that must be considered in connect to Christian cultures, including the particular forms of state secularism that are practiced in Canada and the United States. Second, as Suzanne Owen points out, many Indigenous communities reject the term "religion," preferring terms like "spirituality" in order to distance themselves from organized forms of Christianity. What is more, many Indigenous communities view the relationship between culture, "spirituality," and politics differently than is commonly understood in Euro-Western societies, and thus need to be considered on their own terms. This includes Indigenous forms of knowledge, which tend to stress the relationship between humans, animals, and the land over human-centred notions of progress and development. In this class, we will begin by looking at how Indigeneity has been defined by settler-colonial societies and how this has impacted the ways in which Indigenous communities have defined themselves. We will also explore "new age" appropriations of Native America spirituality, Native American forms of Christianity, as well as the growing resurgence in Indigenous forms of knowledge and practice that increasingly challenge Western notions of religion, science, and progress.

Prerequisites:

Course Requirements (Studienleistungen)

- Electronic teaching and learning management system
- Communication tool between teachers and students
- Upload of course material

eCampus | Learning management system of the University of Bonn

ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES – SCIEBO (CAMPUS CLOUD)



Ministry of Culture and Science
of the German State
of North Rhine-Westphalia



FEATURES

DOWNLOAD

HELP

REGISTER

LOGIN

MY SCIEBO

DEUTSCH



Status: Up-to-date information on updates and malfunctions can be found on our social media channels



sciebo
theCampuscloud

Contact

T&C

Project

About

→ hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/for-students

COUNSELING & SERVICE



Reach out!

UNI BONN / STUDYING / CONSULTATION AND SERVICE

GOOD ADVICE

Advising and Service

The University of Bonn offers a wide range of advising opportunities and services for you to use at all stages of university studies. Our advising and service network is here to help you with everything related to academic orientation, application and enrollment, degree progression, academic problems, personal challenges, stays abroad and career counseling. These services are supplemented by various student-run advisory bodies and the services of Studierendenwerk Bonn in the areas of funding, housing and social affairs.



© Michael Ritz von Plessen

Subject-Specific Study Advisory Services

The subject-specific study advisory services provide help with detailed questions concerning program contents and progression, modules and examination regulations, and the opportunities for setting academic priorities during your studies. They are also the persons to contact if you want to discuss the modalities of earning transfer credit for previous coursework and examinations before submitting your application.

[Go to subject-specific study advisory services](#)



© Volker Lennert

Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service

The Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service (ZSB) guides prospective students through the process of gathering information and making decisions, offers advice on choosing a degree program and applying for admission, and helps new students get started at the University. For current students, it serves as a general resource providing guidance and support in periods of academic re-orientation and when students experience doubts about their studies or personal problems.

[Go to Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service](#)



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Student Registry

The Student Registry is responsible for handling applications, admissions and enrollments. It manages leaves of absence, deregistrations, data changes and semester fee payments as well as many other issues in student management.

[Go to Student Registry](#)

International Office

The University of Bonn's International Office is the contact point for all issues revolving around international and intercultural programs and activities: How and when do I plan a stay abroad? What are potential destinations? How do I pay for everything and how do I prepare myself in the best possible way? Comprehensive counseling services are also available for international students to help them structure their studies in Bonn in the best possible way.

[International Office](#)

Advice and support from fellow students

Student councils

The student councils provide information and support from the student's perspective. Student councils are a key point of contact, especially for first-year students, because their activities at the start of studies offer good opportunities to forge initial contacts and familiarize yourself with the University environment. Many student councils offer study scripts, help arrange language exchanges and learning partnerships, and organize subject-related excursions.

[Go to student councils](#)

General Students' Committee (AStA)

Aside from representing students' political interests, the General Students' Committee tasks are counseling and service. Their expertise covers a wide range of topics: a federal financial aid (BAföG), advice for students with children, social and legal consultations, advice for international students, and advice for queer students. It is the place to go to for help and advice on just about any issue.

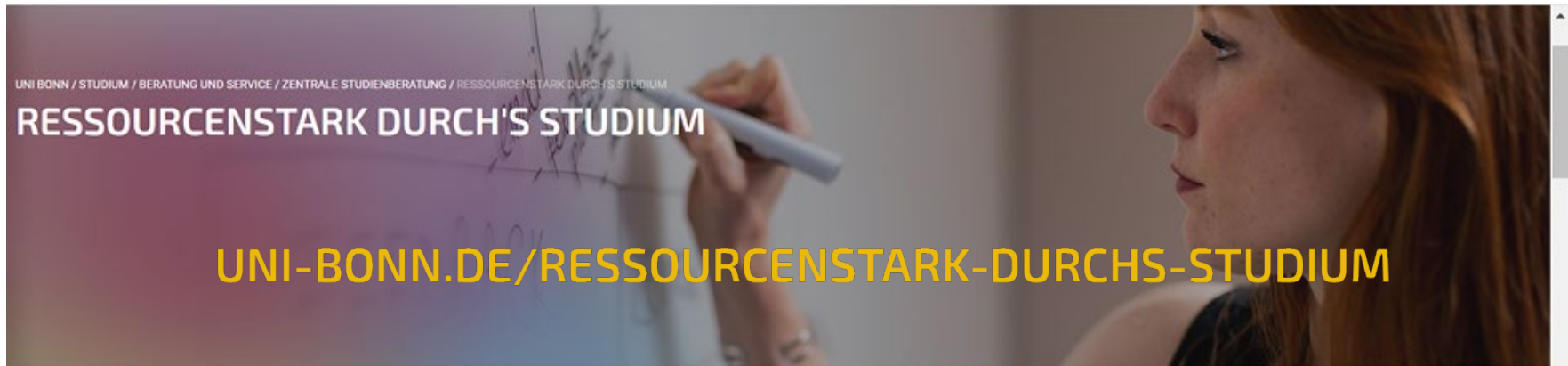
[Go to AStA](#)

Zentrale Studienberatung – “ZSB” (Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service)

- We are happy ...
 - ... to answer your questions
 - ... to help you figure out the right contact person for your concern
 - Workshops & Coaching (in German and English)
- uni-bonn.de/study-advisory-service



WORKSHOPS "RESSOURCENSTARK DURCH'S STUDIUM" (WITH STRONG RESOURCES THROUGH YOUR STUDIES)



RessourcenStark durch's Studium

Die Workshopreihe „RessourcenStark durch's Studium“ soll Sie dabei unterstützen, Ihre Kompetenzen und Fähigkeiten nachhaltig zu entwickeln und Ihre Ressourcen zu stärken – für ein erfolgreiches und gesundheitsorientiertes Studium.

Bei der Zusammenstellung der Workshops und Coachings haben wir uns an den Themen orientiert, die von Studierenden in der Beratung und in Umfragen als besonders wichtig für ihre persönliche Situation und ein erfolgreiches Studium benannt wurden. Die Veranstaltungen finden sowohl während der Vorlesungszeiten als auch in den Semesterferien statt. Alle Veranstaltungen werden von psychologisch bzw. pädagogisch versierten Trainer*innen durchgeführt und sind für Studierende der Universität Bonn selbstverständlich kostenlos.

Programm im Wintersemester 2023/2024

- Workshops help you improve your skills and abilities with lasting effect and strengthen your own resources
- Most workshops and coaching sessions are held in German

UNI BONN / STUDYING / CONSULTATION AND SERVICE / PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL COUNSELING / PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELING

TACKLING PROBLEMS, FINDING WAYS FORWARD.

Psychological Counseling

In personal meetings, you can obtain counseling – including preventive advice – regarding psychological concerns, insecurities or problems that can have a negative impact on your quality of life or academic success. Our counselors will help you develop new perspectives, your own constructive solutions and strategies to tackle challenges. If needed, we can also advise you on finding therapy and/or put you in touch with someone who will be able to help. In addition, you can take advantage of our group sessions, which focus on specific issues and target groups.

Our counselors



Dipl.-Psych. Claudia Kerp, (PP)

pb-zsb@uni-bonn.de



2.217

Quantiusstraße 1
53115 Bonn, Germany



Laura Neufeldt, M.Sc. (PiA)

pb-zsb@uni-bonn.de



2.218

Quantiusstraße 1
53115 Bonn, Germany



Dipl.-Psych. Anne Zilligen (PP)

pb-zsb@uni-bonn.de



2.218

Quantiusstraße 1
53115 Bonn, Germany

Further counseling services and emergency contacts

You can find a selection of the counseling services and institutions available in Bonn in several places, including our **Psychosocial Counseling flyer**.

Psychosocial Counseling flyer (PDF)



Fachstudienberatung (subject-specific study advisors)

- Subject-specific counseling with “Fachstudienberater*innen, “Studiengangsmanager*innen“, ...
- Advice regarding your course of studies, choice of focus areas, ...
- **Help you with your individual class schedule**
- Help you with coordinating more than one subject/ degree program

→ uni-bonn.de/fachstudienberatung



Fachschaften (Departmental student councils)

- Represent student interests of a certain degree program
- Contact & advice for new students
- Connect co-students, provide orientation

→ uni-bonn.de/fachschaften



Peer-to-peer

Allgemeiner Studierendenausschuss – “AStA” (General Students’ Committee)

- International Students Department
- Social services / counseling
- AStA shop
- ... and much more

→ asta-bonn.de



Peer-to-
peer

Career Service

- Focusing on transition from student life to professional life
- Seminars on career orientation and career entry planning (e.g. job application, job interviews, etc.)
- Consultation hours
→ email your CV prior to the appointment
- “Career Service Appointment”
for English-speaking students
→ uni-bonn.de/careercenter



**Career Day
("Karrieretag")
December 6, 2023**

Further counseling and service

- **Further psychological/ psycho-social counseling**
 - Studierendenwerk
 - AStA
- **Studying and family**
 - Familienbüro (Office for Family Services)
 - AStA



Schreibberatung (Writing Consultation)

studierendenwerk-bonn.de/en/counselling-social-affairs/writing-consultation/



STUDIENDENWERK
BONN



DE / EN



MENU 

SCHREIBBERATUNG



Literature divided into

- main library
- departmental libraries



Departmental libraries

- *Specific* literature
- Free of charge
- 'Offline use' and 'online use'



- **Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek (“ULB”)
(Main library | University and State Library)**
- **Abteilungsbibliothek MNL
(MNL branch library)**



How to use the libraries

- Introductory sessions to using the libraries (digital + on-site)
- FAQs for new students

ulb.uni-bonn.de/en/information-for/first-semester-students



YouTube channel:
“ULB Bonn”
→ „Using the USL Bonn“ etc.

GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS + “STUDIENKOMPASS 2023-24” (IN GERMAN)



Get your personal
printed copies at the
“Infobox for studies”!
→ Poppelsdorfer Allee 49

Downloads:

- uni-bonn.de/en/international/campus-international/welcome-days/incoming-guide_en.pdf
- uni-bonn.de/starting-your-studies → “Studienkompass”



We are always here
for your 😊
DE | EN

ANY QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!
HAVE A GREAT TIME IN BONN

