

Welcome Instructions for Incoming Erasmus-Students

On behalf of the Department of Political Science, I would like to welcome you and to give you some information and instructions. First of all, let me mention, however, that your decision to spend a (Erasmus) semester at our Department is a good choice. The Department of Political Science belongs to the top addresses of Political Science Departments at German Universities, and Bremen is a friendly and vibrant city with attractive cultural offerings and a lively student scene. Our green campus is a little bit outside but very well connected to the heart of the city. With the tram or a bike it takes about 15 to 20 minutes to travel from the city center to the university campus.

The faculty of the Department of Political Science is more or less concentrated in the House of Social Sciences (Unicom). There you will find two Research Institutes that are associated with the Department: The <u>SOCIUM</u> (Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy) and the Institute of Intercultural and International Studies (<u>InIIS</u>). All faculty members belong to one of these Research Institutes. The map of the University will help you to find the faculty members of the Department in the respective buildings.

Our department offers two BA- and three MA study programs. For your Learning Agreement you can choose courses from the BA- and from the MA programs according to your level of studies. The core of your Learning Agreement should cover courses in Political Science and from other within the social sciences, but you can also take a few courses from other disciplines (if they allow you to take their courses). I have to sign your Learning Agreement four weeks after the start of the semester, latest. You will find several courses taught in English in our BA program Political Science. The MA program International Relations and Social Theory is a purely English program but due to a joint venture with the private Jacobs University in Bremen it runs on a different semester schedule and some courses may limit access for incoming MA students. On our website for incoming international student (https://www.uni-bremen.de/ipw/international/incoming-students/) you will find links to the university's course catalog. Particularly the Modules 10 to 14 in our BA-Program Political Science are appropriate courses (also in English) for Erasmus students. Usually, you can obtain 3 or 6 credit points in each of these courses depending on the kind of exam that you choose to pass at the end of the semester. The lecturers will give you advice at the beginning of the semester which kind of examination is required to obtain either 3 or 6 credits. Furthermore, our University offers a Global Education Program for incoming students.

I would also like to recommend to you to participate in the orientation program for incoming students which is organized by our International Office and starts two or three weeks before the semester. Furthermore, I would strongly recommend to take part in my special office hour for Incoming Erasmus-Students in Political Science (date is not determined yet) at our Institute (www.socium.uni-bremen.de) which is located off campus (you should check the map on the website of our Institute). There I will explain the structure of our course program and talk about exams, credits and other important questions.

Finally, some notes regarding the Transcript of Records that I will issue at the end of your Erasmus stay here in Bremen. You should be aware that at the end of the semester you have to pre-fill the Transcript form in Mobility Online, export the form as a Word document, and email it to me. Based on the information in this

form I will generate your transcript of records. You have to make sure that I receive all "Scheine" (ECTS forms) for the courses in which you passed exams. Either you collect the "Scheine" by yourself and bring them to me (respectively drop them in my post box), or you tell your lecturers that they should send the "Scheine" to me (by inhouse mail or email) after they have revised your exams. As soon as I have received all (!) "Scheine" I can issue the transcript of records and send it to you or your home coordinator. For this reason, you should send me (together with the form "Transcript of Records") the correct E-Mail-address and post-address of your Erasmus-coordinator at your home University.

I the download area you find also a brochure with more information about the faculty of Social Sciences (the Department of Political Science is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences).

I wish you a pleasant and interesting stay at our Department and our University.

Kind regards

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Haunss (Erasmus Coordinator Political Science)