

Committed to a strong research focus, Bielefeld University ranks among the top quarter of universities in Germany and is internationally respected. Founded in 1969, the university now has **13 departments** with around **3,200 staff members** (approx. **1,800 academic staff**) and about **25,000** students in **118 degree courses**.

Springing from the Bielefeld principle of **'Transcending Boundaries'**, its research profile is interdisciplinary at its core, involving various faculties and central academic institutes – resulting in cutting-edge research carried out at the highest international level. The support of researchers is paramount – exemplified by the world-renowned **Centre for Interdisciplinary Research**, which is one of the ways the university **fosters academic talent** – along with excellent infrastructure and a range of research and career development services.

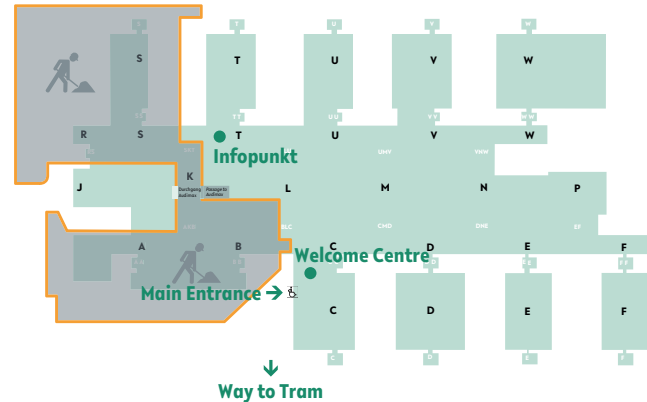
Bielefeld University is an **internationally successful institution with networks around the world**, and in many areas of research, it is a global leader. The University cultivates over **250 cooperations and a large number of strategic partnerships** with universities around the world and participates in numerous international research projects. Every year hundreds of visiting scholars are welcomed to Bielefeld.

Bielefeld University sees **diversity as a strength**, heterogeneity as potential, and difference as an advantage. These ideals form the bedrock of innovative and creative research and are the basis for an open-minded academic life. This ideology extends to social awareness as well, which is evident in the University's active support of scholars in danger. It is also officially certified as a 'family-friendly university', and actively works to change the university culture in this regard, providing a number of family services promoting and supporting a positive work and family life balance.

Moreover, the city of Bielefeld, **one of the safest cities of its size** in Germany, offers adequate conditions for feeling at home quickly: It is the cultural and economic centre of the region of Eastern Westphalia and combines the advantages of city life with the relaxing and exciting leisure opportunities and idyllic feel of the Teutoburger Forest.

Contact

Welcome Centre for internationally mobile academic staff,
Ph.D.-students and their families
Universitätstraße 25/C5-133
33615 Bielefeld



Phone + 49-521. 106-12177
Email welcome@uni-bielefeld.de
Helpdesk Mon-Fr: 11a.m.-12a.m.
and by prior appointment in our office
in C5-133 or via digital meeting

Welcome Centre

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Welcome to Bielefeld University!

Today, being successful in academia is more and more related to being globally mobile. However, **being mobile also brings about a multitude of administrative and organisational challenges** – especially, when doing so from one's home country or abroad in an environment that one does not know?

Having hosted more than 1000 international researchers, we at the Welcome Centre are confident that we can provide the kind of support you need. This is why Bielefeld University has established and prioritized its welcome services as a pivotal project for international researchers and their families. The Welcome Centre team provides information and guidance to international researchers and to their hosting institutes and departments on a wide range of non-academic issues such as **visa and residence requirements, health insurance, accommodations, language courses, family matters**, as well as general information about Bielefeld University and the Bielefeld area.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have. We are happy to assist you.

Your Welcome Centre Team

Our service:

Preparing your stay

- Comprehensive online information platform
- Personal information on
 - visa issues
 - necessary insurances
 - travelling to Bielefeld
 - family matters
- Assistance in finding accommodation
- Assistance in finding child care facilities

Upon your arrival

- Individual support and guidance on all non-academic issues concerning the stay at Bielefeld University and the city of Bielefeld
- Preparation of registration and residence permit application and accompanying to local authorities
- Support in registration for health insurance
- Assistance in opening a bank account
- Information on language courses
- Campus Start Day
- Mentoring Programme interKontakt

During your stay

- Service desk: Personal assistance in questions related to everyday life
- Mediation to other services
- Guided city tours and excursions, family events, etc.
- Informative events on selected subjects of interest
- Monthly get-togethers
- Facilitating contact to other guest researchers at Bielefeld University
- International Spouse and Partner Network

Please, let us know as early as possible that you are coming to Bielefeld!

At our webpage www.uni-bielefeld.de/welcome you can find the link to the **online registration**.

This will help us to make your arrival in Bielefeld as smooth as possible and to support you even before your arrival with more information on relevant issues.

Thank you for your cooperation!

**WELCOME
CENTRE**
for mobile researchers



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