

## Bielefeld University – Modern, interdisciplinary and international

Bielefeld University combines classical higher education traditions with innovative structures in research and teaching. Interdisciplinary research, modern courses and world-wide cooperation have made it one of the best universities in Germany and have helped to spread the University's reputation far beyond Germany's borders. Founded in 1969, Bielefeld University today has 13 departments with around 2,800 staff members (including approx. 1,600 academic staff) and approx. 20,000 students attending 107 degree courses.

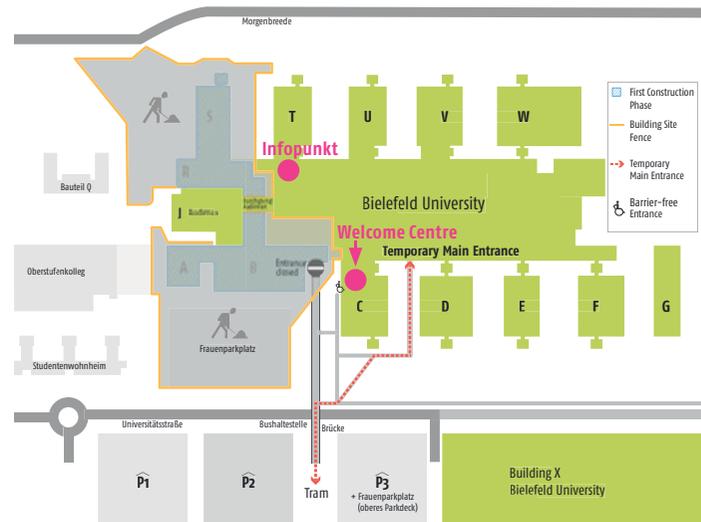
The distinguishing characteristic of Bielefeld University is its interdisciplinary identity in both research and teaching. A shining example of this is the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, which brings together international researchers from various disciplines.

One proof for Bielefeld University's excellent research performance is the success of the cluster "Cognitive Interaction Technology/CITEC" (Human-Machine Communication) and the "Bielefeld International Graduate School in History and Sociology/BGHS" within the framework of the Initiative for Excellence supported by the Federal Government and the State Government.

The University's main building on the edge of the Teutoburger Forest has a unique structure – all departments, research facilities, laboratories, services, and lecture halls are located under one roof. This encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and also facilitates everyday communication and networking among all members of the University. Moreover, the city of Bielefeld 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 of the Teutoburger Forest.

## Contact

Welcome Centre for internationally mobile academic staff, Ph. D. – students and their families  
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33615 Bielefeld



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**Email** [welcome@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:welcome@uni-bielefeld.de)

**Helpdesk** Mon – Fr: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

and by prior appointment in our office C5-133

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Universität Bielefeld

WELCOME  
CENTRE  
for mobile researchers



# Welcome Centre

for internationally  
mobile academic staff,  
Ph.D.-students and  
their families

→ [www.uni-bielefeld.de/welcome](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/welcome)



## Welcome to Bielefeld University!

Today, being successful in academia is more and more related with being globally mobile. However, being mobile also brings about a multitude of administrative and organisational challenges. How to organise visa, housing, and child care from home or in an environment that one does not know?

Being a host to about one thousand international researchers, we at the Welcome Centre know what kind of support you need. This is why Bielefeld University has established our services as a pivotal project at the university for international researchers and their families. The team of the Welcome Centre provides in-formation 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, accomodation, 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 will be 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](http://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!



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