

International Teaching – Formats and Opportunities

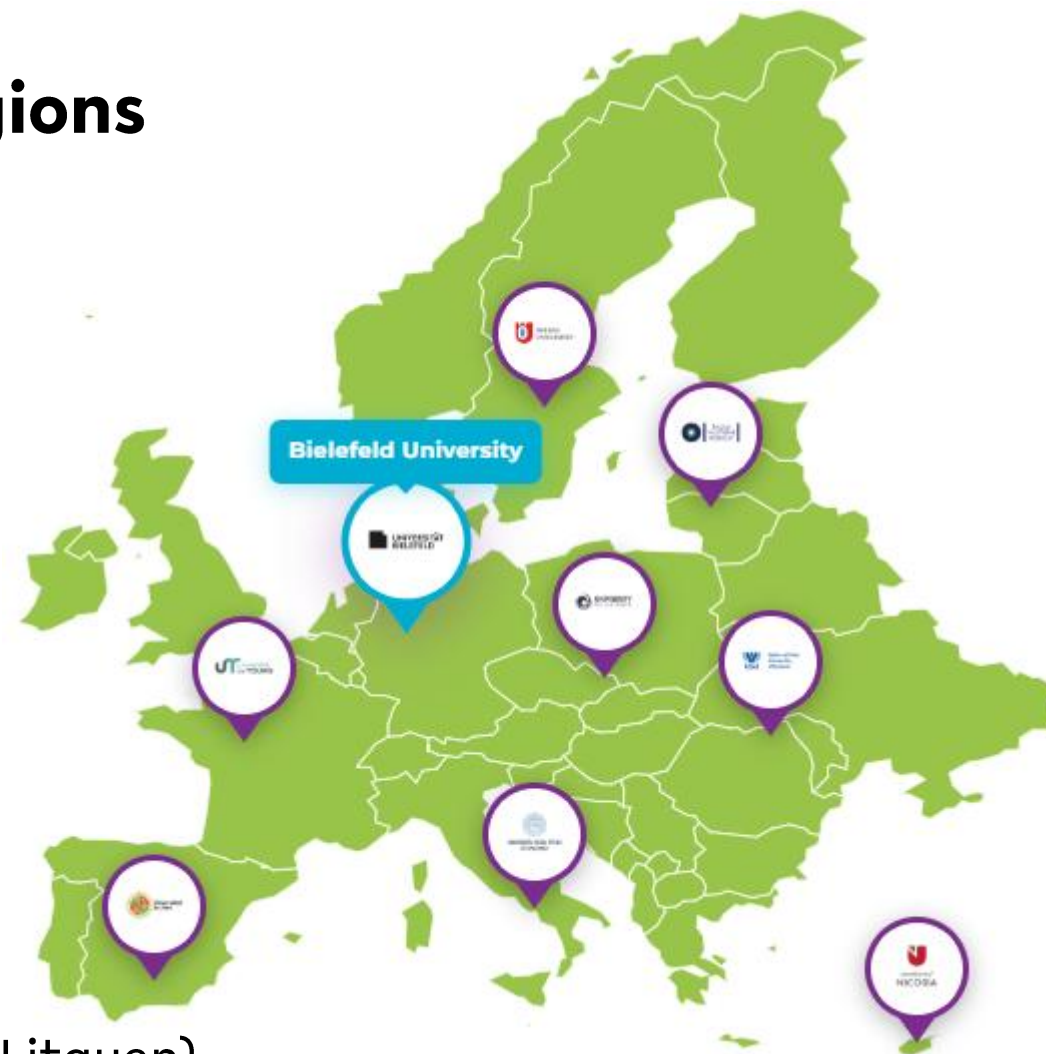
Johanna Springhorn & Dr. Fabian Schumacher (Centre for Teaching and Learning)

10 September 2026 | Zoom

NEOLAiA – Partner

9 universities in non-metropolitan regions

- Bielefeld University (UNIBI, Deutschland)
- *University of Jaén (UJA, Spanien – Lead)*
- University of Nicosia (UNIC, Zypern)
- Örebro University (ORU, Schweden)
- University of Ostrava (OU, Tschechische Republik)
- University of Salerno (UNISA, Italien)
- “Ștefan cel Mare” University of Suceava (USV, Rumänien)
- University of Tours (UT, Frankreich)
- Šiauliai State University of Applied Sciences (SVK, Litauen)



Goals for Teaching

- Development of **innovative teaching formats** through joint courses, collaborative projects and exchange of knowledge and materials
- Attracting **international students** and incorporating **international perspectives** into teaching

Benefits for Teaching

- Gain **teaching experience** at other universities
- **Share expertise** and **expand your academic network**
- Enable students to learn in an **intercultural learning environment**

Formats for Teaching

Virtual options	Blended options
➤ Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)	➤ Focus Academies
➤ In the future: virtual courses	➤ Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP)

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)

- Virtual collaboration between two NEOLAiA partner universities and courses
- Lecturers plan the online collaboration phase of the students in advance
- Students are working together on a project
- Duration of the collaboration phase is flexible

In the future: Virtual Courses

- Online courses taught by a lecturer from a NEOLAiA partner university
- Course is open to students from all NEOLAiA partner universities
- Synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning formats
- Plan opportunities for interaction between lecturers and students

Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP)

- At least three different NEOLAiA partner universities are involved
- Blended format: a joint virtual phase + a joint face-to-face phase (usually 5 days)
- Thematic focus determined by the teaching staff
- Collaboration between students in multicultural teams

Focus Academies

- Based on blended intensive programmes
- Blended format: joint virtual phase + joint face-to-face phase (usually 5 days)

Three key areas of focus in NEOLAiA:

- Digital Transition
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Enhanced Mobility

Support for Teaching

- Facilitating icebreaker activities for student groups
- Facilitating group work sessions
- Support with the preparation of group work assignments
- For virtual/hybrid formats: support with facilitation, developing options for digital collaboration



Ongoing open call for different virtual or blended formats in NEOLAiA

https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/international/profil/netzwerk/neolaia/neolaia_teaching_internat/index.xml



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Zentrum für Lehren und Lernen



Funding for Internationalisation in teaching ("Qualitätsfonds"/ Quality Fund)

(Call for applications: deadline for submissions is 4 October 2026)

<https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/einrichtungen/zll/hdle/qualitaetsfonds/>



Funding: Quality Fund

- Aim of the funding scheme: develop and implement new international, digitally supported teaching and learning scenarios/concepts as virtual formats or further develop existing partnerships (e.g. COIL projects)
- Teaching projects within NEOLAiA are expressly welcome, but applications from outside the scheme are also encouraged
- Funding amount for individual projects: up to €5,000 over the course of one semester
- All lecturers at Bielefeld University with a teaching load of at least 4 contact hours per week are eligible to apply
- Funding period: Summer semester 2027 or Winter semester 2027/28
- **no funding available for teaching staff or student mobility**

Funding: Quality Fund

Assessment criteria

- Plausibility and pedagogical quality of the international integration in your teaching
- Quality of the design (planned interaction and collaboration, use of digital tools, and the interplay of synchronous and asynchronous formats in line with learning objectives)
- Added value for the development of students' competences in an international context (subject-specific, intercultural, linguistic, digital and/or collaborative competences)
- Feasibility of the international cooperation or the initiation of a cooperation



NEOLAIa Programme NEOTeAch: Digital international teaching projects

(next call expected: November 2026)

https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/international/profil/netzwerk/neolaia/neolaia_neoteach-1/index.xml



NEOTeAch-Programme

- During a course, lecturers give students the opportunity to create and publish (e. g. on the NEOLAiA website) digital products
- Possible products: e. g. Podcasts, (explanatory) videos, collaborative websites
- **Important criteria:**
 - It is clear that the multimedia products have been developed and created by students
 - Products must be in at least two languages (English + one other NEOLAiA language); cooperation within NEOLAiA (e. g. group work) is encouraged
 - Criteria for publication (e. g. data protection/student consent) will be taken into account

NEOTeAch-Programme: Institutional support

- **Pedagogical planning:** teaching consultations at the Centre for Teaching and Learning
- **Practical implementation of the project:** Consultancy and support at BITS SPACE

Opportunities for exchange and networking with NEOLAiA partners



NEOLAiA “Pedagogical Hub”

DISCOVER WHAT WE CAN DO

TRAINING

COLLABORATE

HUB SUPPORT

<https://neolaiacampus.eu/our-communities/pedagogical-hub-2/>



Networking platform



Welcome to NEOLink

Your gateway to innovative collaboration and networking

Enter NEOLink

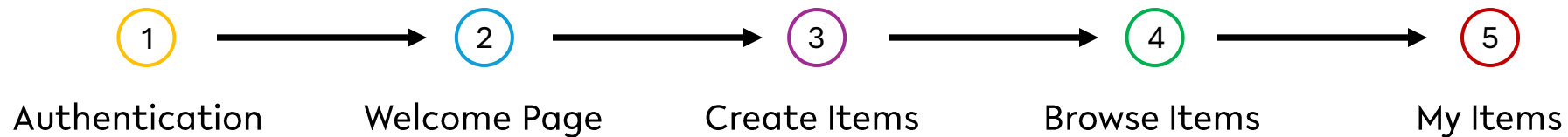
<https://neolink.neolaiacampus.eu/login>





NEOLink is a platform developed to support this process by providing a dedicated platform where users can easily **post, explore, and connect around collaborative initiatives** such as Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs), Focus Academies, COIL projects, and other international teaching and learning opportunities.

Topics



Create Items

What type of item are you creating?

1

Select Category

2

Basic Info

3

Virtual Café Settings



Focus Academy



BIP



COIL

Virtual Exchange
Courses

NEOTeach



Summer School



Open Q&A session



TRANSFORMING REGIONS FOR AN INCLUSIVE EUROPE



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