

Social Engagement

An International Office program



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Social Engagement Program

The social engagement program is offered by the International Office of TH OWL and honors international experience and commitment for supporting international students by awarding an official certificate.

Target

The program's goal is to broaden the awareness of cultural diversity at TH OWL to all members on campus and the surrounding community. It is aiming at supporting new international students with their daily study life at the university as well as during their stay in Germany. All participants will obtain an official certificate appreciating their readiness for social engagement. The certificate can be used for future job or scholarship applications. EU and non EU students can complete the certificate.

Description

Interested students need to register for the program by emailing the International Office and submitting their participants form. The program can be started in either the Winter or Summer semester.

The program is based upon a social credit point collection (SCP) consisting of a minimum amount of 25 SCP which should be achieved. In order to obtain SCP, participants need to perform social engagement activities according to a catalogue which lists the various options. Participants can choose freely from different activities according to their own interests and abilities. In case participants collect more SCP than needed, this will be mentioned explicitly on the certificate.

At the end of the program term, participants will need to hand in a short report about their personal experience.

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Process and Deadlines

In parallel to the program registration, participants need to also communicate the chosen combination of social events by sending an email to the International Office:

internationaloffice@th-owl.de

Upon expiry of the registration deadline, the International Office coordinates the event calendar with the participants for all communicated activities.

As soon as an event took place, the participant can have his/her performance confirmed by the International Office. The respective performance will be stored in their Social Credit Point account.

The minimum amount of 25 SCP must be achieved by end of 2 semesters. Also the report needs to be handed in by that time.

Deadlines Summer term



- Registration of the program by email with the International Office
- Communication of the personal activity combination



- Evaluation of the Social Credit Point Account by the International Office
- Submission of the report



- The International Office issues the certificate

Deadlines Winter term



- Registration of the program by email with the International Office
- Communication of the personal activity combination



- Evaluation of the Social Credit Point Account by the International Office
- Submission of the report



- The International Office issues the certificate

Catalog

Pass-mark for the certificate
= 25 Points



Catalog

The event catalog consists of 5 different formats participants can choose from:

1. Buddy Programme
2. Events International Office
3. Student Initiatives
4. World Café
5. Honorary tutor I.O.

Social Credit Points awards vary and depend on preparation time and work load of an event. According to personal interest, talent and time management, participants can combine the events for social engagement individually in order to achieve the minimum amount of 25 SCP by end of the program.

Below please find two examples to choose from the catalog:

Planning and Participating the International Day („Events I.O.”).....	10 SCP
Moderating an event of the list in „World Café”	5 SCP
Effecting an event of the list in „Student Initiatives”	10 SCP
Total.....	= 25 SCP

Engagement in „Buddy Program”	20 SCP
Effecting an event of the list in „Student Initiatives”	5 SCP
Total.....	= 25 SCP

Catalog

Pass-mark for the certificate
= 25 Points



Engagement within the Buddy Program

- 2 months



20 Points

Co-creation and participation in 2 or more I.O. events

- International Day
- Welcome Day
- Excursion
- Info events etc.

10 Punkte

Engagement within „Student Initiatives“

Realisation of a custom
project or a project from
the catalogue

5 - 10 Punkte

Engagement within „World Café“

Realisation of a custom
project or a project from
the catalogue

5 - 10 Punkte

Honorary tutor job at the International Office

- 3 months
- 2h / week (April until June or October until December)
= 8h / month = 24h / 3 months
- Supporting the International Office with administrative work and
Social Media

25 Punkte

Catalog

Student Initiatives and World Café



Description

These two formats differ in their event character:

„**Student Initiatives**“ are designed for leisure time activities. It has a more **interactive and entertaining character**.

„**World Café**“ is designed for improving the intercultural awareness and focuses on group interaction and community learning. It has an **informative character** and rather is a presentation or discussion format

For both formats, participants will have an election catalog at their disposal from which they can choose. However, it is also possible to propose own ideas (select: other event). Here, the approval of the international office is required.

Event catalog „Student Initiatives“

- ☐ Group Cooking Event (also virtual)..... 10 SCP
- ☐ Celebrate a traditional holiday together (also virtual)..... 10 SCP
- ☐ Group Workout / Yoga Session (also virtual)..... 10 SCP
- ☐ Community Game or Quiz night (also virtual)..... 10 SCP
- ☐ Hiking Daytrip in the region..... 5 SCP
- ☐ Group activity: Cinema, Theatre, Swimming Pool, Zoo..... 5 SCP
- ☐ Other Event (propose your own idea)..... 5-10 SCP

Catalog

Student Initiatives and World Café



Event catalog „World Café“

- ☐ Typical: Learn about my culture (stereotypes, traditions, food, clothes, movies/books, humour).....10 SCP
- ☐ International Student Experience: exchange your thoughts – How do you feel far away from home (academically, socially, culturally and financially)?10 SCP
- ☐ Student Work: Life Balance – feasible? Exchange your experience.....10 SCP
- ☐ And now? Life after the degree – Discuss your options/plans10 SCP

Other

The SCP Account

The SCP account is kept in form of a SCP collection sheet which will be initiated and administered for you by the International Office.

Each performance will be confirmed on this sheet by the International Office.

The report

The report serves all participants for a short self-reflexion. It also serves for debriefing and enables the International Office to improve and adapt the program.

The report is designed in form of a questionnaire in order to assist your self-reflexion.

You can find the questionnaire on page 7.

Questionnaire

for self reflexion on your social engagement



Name:

1) Why did you choose to participate in this program?

2) What kind of social engagement did you choose?

Buddy Program

I.O. events

Student Initiatives

World Café

Honorary tutor job

Other (Please specify):

3) What was your goal?

4) How did you achieve your goal?

5) What did you personally gain from participating in this program?

6) What would you do differently if you had the chance to repeat your activity?