



WELCOME SESSIONS

for International Degree-Seeking Students

1, 8 & 20 April, 6 & 18 May 2026

i To register for a session, please complete registration form on the *back page*

Dear International Degree-Seeking Students,

Congratulations on your admission to Osnabrück University! To help you get off to a smooth start, the International Office offers you a choice of five Welcome Sessions which will take place on:

- Wednesday, 1 April, 10:30–12:30, 02/E03, Seminarstraße 19 a/b
- Wednesday, 8 April, 10:30–12:30, 19/124, Neuer Graben 27
- Monday, 20 April, 10:30–12:30, 02/109, Seminarstraße 19 a/b
- Wednesday, 6 May, 10:30–12:30, 19/124, Neuer Graben 27
- Monday, 18 May, 10:30–12:30, 19/124, Neuer Graben 27

During the Welcome Session, you will receive your **welcome pack** and an **introduction to Osnabrück University and the services** we offer. This includes explaining formalities such as collecting your **Campuscard**, **registering with the authorities**, applying for a **residence permit**, taking out **health insurance**, and opening a **bank account**. We also cover aspects such as **housing**, **part-time work**, **scholarships and volunteering**. After a final **Q&A** session, our student tutors will give you a short **tour of the campus and city**, and accompany you to the dining hall for lunch.

The information below may be useful if you wish to complete some of the formalities before your Welcome Session.

Collecting your Campuscard

After following the instructions in your enrolment letter about uploading a passport photo, you can collect your Campuscard from the Info-Point, Neuer Graben 27 (StudiOS building) and validate it. This card acts as your student ID card, library card and canteen payment card all in one! You can also upload your Deutschland-Semesterticket on to your smartphone using the app stated in your enrolment letter.

For more details, see: <https://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/en/studying/organization-of-studies/campuscard>.

Registering with the Citizens' Office (*Bürgeramt*)

All newcomers to Osnabrück should register their new address with the Citizens' Office (*Bürgeramt*) within two weeks of arrival. Please book an appointment online well in advance:

https://timeacle.com/business/index/id/332/row_id/299.

If needed, first switch the language setting to English. Then click »*Bürgeramt*« (Citizens' Office), »Registration Matters«, »Registration«, and then »Continue«. Select a time for an appointment on a day that suits you. Enter your personal details and check the privacy boxes. After clicking the blue button »Book appointment«, you will receive an email from *timeacle GmbH Co. & KG* with your official appointment ticket. Please go to the Citizens' Office at the Stadthaus at the time of your appointment with the following documents: **appointment ticket**, **ID card/passport** and **Wohnungsgeberbestätigung** (housing provider confirmation).

Opening a bank account with the Sparkasse Osnabrück

Students who wish or are required to open a bank account with the Sparkasse Osnabrück will be given assistance from one of our student tutors. You will need the following information and documents:

- passport
- registration certificate from the Citizens' Office (*Meldebescheinigung*)
- mobile number
- email address
- German tax ID (if not yet available, please submit to the bank at a later date)
- US-American students only: taxation no. (TIN)
- Russian and Iranian students only: residence permit

Applying for a residence permit with the Foreigners' Authority (*Ausländerbehörde*)

If you enter Germany **without a visa** and your stay exceeds three months or if you enter Germany **with a visa** and your visa expires before the end of your stay, you are required to apply for a residence permit. Students from EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland do not require a visa or residence permit.

To apply online for an appointment to obtain your residence permit, go to:

<https://service.osnabrueck.de/dienstleistungen/-/egov-bis-detail/dienstleistung/5222/show>.

Click on »*Online-Dienst Aufenthalt: Ausl. Studierende*« to access the portal, which is available in eight languages. Please scan and upload the necessary documents onto your laptop or smartphone before you start the process:

- passport
- certificate of enrolment
- proof of health insurance
- proof of sufficient funding (bank statements, blocked account, declaration of commitment, scholarship)
- registration certificate from the Citizens' Office (*Meldebescheinigung*)
- current residence permit (if applicable)

Switch the language setting to English (or whichever other language suits you), then read the information provided in the section »Studying at a university or doing a doctorate«. Select whether this is your first application for a residence permit for educational purposes or whether you would like to have your residence permit extended. Enter your postal code to make sure that the *Ausländerbehörde Osnabrück* is responsible for your request (students resident outside of Osnabrück must register instead with their local town hall). You will then have the option of registering a user account or continuing »without logging in«.

Then simply answer the questions and upload your documents as required, step by step. Make sure you enter the correct email address – it will be used by the Foreigners' Authority to contact you to arrange an appointment.

Several weeks or months after applying, you will be offered an appointment with the Foreigners' Authority. Please bring the following to that appointment:

- A biometric passport photo with a light background
- €100 in cash (ERASMUS/DAAD scholarship holders are exempt from this payment)
- Your passport

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, 24 March, 11:00 & Thursday, 2 April, 11:00: Placement tests for German as a Foreign Language

Venue: Building 94 (Westerberg Campus, Nelson-Mandela-Str. 4), Room E01

Although your chosen program may be taught entirely in English, you will get more out of your stay in Osnabrück if you can speak some German. It will make everyday activities such as shopping or going out easier and allow you to expand your circle of friends. We therefore strongly recommend that you attend one of the many German as a Foreign Language courses offered by the Language Center (starting from 13 April).

To ensure that you are placed at the right level, the Language Center offers two placement tests to choose from on 24 March and 2 April. No registration is required, but it is advisable to create a personal account on www.onset.de beforehand and bring your login details with you on the day of the test.

Only students with previous knowledge of German but no proof of their level need take this test. You will be placed on the appropriate course based on your test score. The test is not necessary for complete beginners or for students who have already passed a German language test (e.g. TestDaF, DSH, telc or Goethe-Zertifikat), who will be placed based on their test results.

For more details, see:

<https://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/en/campus-life/language-courses/german-as-a-foreign-language>

Date to be decided: Introduction to Academic Culture in Germany (virtual event)

Host: Mira Hazzaa

Virtual conference room: <https://conf.dfn.de/webapp/m/979161341>

Wednesday, 1 April, 11:00: Introduction to the University Library (virtual event)

Host: Matthias Laubenheimer

Virtual conference room: <https://webconf.uni-osnabrueck.de/rooms/mat-k4g-ffy> (no registration required)

Friday, 3 April & Monday, 6 April: National holidays – Easter Friday & Easter Monday

Please note that the university and the majority of shops will be closed.

Tuesday, 7 April – Friday, 10 April: UOS Introductory Week

During this week, some faculties, departments and programs provide a subject-specific induction for their new students, both German and international. You will learn more about the university, your faculty, the city, how to register for courses, etc. This is your chance to get to know other new students in your program, as well as more advanced students. Learn from their experiences!

Tuesday, 7 April: lectures begin

As soon as you know your date of arrival, please complete the form overleaf and send it to teresa.gehrs@uni-osnabrueck.de. We look forward to welcoming you to your new university and city of choice.

Friday, 10 April, 09:30–11:30

International Mixer

Venue: 19/124 (StudiOS Building, Neuer Graben 27)

Host: Teresa Gehrs + student tutors

A great opportunity to meet other new international students and chat over a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. Simply drop by whenever it suits you. With complements of the DAAD, with funding from the Federal Foreign Office.

**Saturday, 18 April, 13:30–16:30: Walk around Rubbenbruchsee lake (3 km) and play crazy golf
(no experience needed!)**

Venue: Barenteich, Osnabrück (see <https://minigolf-osnabrueck.de>)

Host: Teresa Gehrs + student tutors

Meeting point: “Barenteich” busstop. The bus line M2 (going in the direction of Landwehrviertel) departs from Neumarkt platform A2 (for map of platforms at Neumarkt, see: https://www.vos.info/fileadmin/user_upload/2025/abfahrtspositionen/umgebungsplan-neumarkt-05052025.pdf) at 13:06. It’s a 16-minute ride from Neumarkt to Barenteich (13 stops). Please check a map to see whether you can approach Barenteich more easily on foot or by bike from your place of residence. For other times, check: <https://fahrplan.vos.info/>.

Cost contribution: €2 (payable in cash on the day. Ideally in coins!). The remaining cost will be covered by funding from the DAAD.

Subject to change. Lasted amended: 11 February 2026

See reverse for the registration form →

I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE:

Welcome Session on Wednesday, 1 April at 10:30

or

Welcome Session on Wednesday, 8 April at 10:30

or

Latecomers' Welcome Session on Monday, 20 April at 10:30

or

Latecomers' Welcome Session on Wednesday, 6 May at 10:30

or

Latecomers' Welcome Session on Monday, 18 May at 10:30

Please tick one of the Welcome Sessions and email your registration form to teresa.gehrs@uni-osnabrueck.de as soon as you know your date of arrival in Osnabrück. We look forward to welcoming you to Osnabrück soon.

First name:

Last name:

Gender:

Email address:

Degree program:

Date of arrival:

Nationality:

Languges spoken:

Contact

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