

Space to think.





Professor Stefan Leible  
President of the University of Bayreuth

## Welcome to the University of Bayreuth

In this brochure, I am proud to present to you a university that has earned its excellent reputation in research and teaching, both nationally and internationally.

You may wonder how a small university in northern Bavaria consistently manages to attract promising students and outstanding scholars from around the world. There is no one single answer.

To give a few examples: our Cluster of Excellence *Africa Multiple* conducts its cutting-edge research together with an extensive international network, the *Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics* has established a worldwide reputation of its own, and the University's polymer and colloid research has become a driving force behind some fascinating new materials. We refer to our strategically selected, interdisciplinary research priorities as our "focus areas". These focus areas combine the University's cross-disciplinary expertise and generate synergies with remarkable innovative power. The recent establishment of the *Bavarian Centre for Battery Technology (BayBatt)* at the University is a prime example of this approach to cutting-edge research.

We are also excited about our newly founded *Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health* in the nearby town of Kulmbach, which is dedicated to the sustainable production and distribution of high-quality, nutritious food and to the effective prevention of "diseases of civilization".

At the heart of the University is the community feeling on our campus. It is a constant source of inspiration. Everywhere you look, friendships are being made, collaborations are being initiated, and ideas are being sparked, ensuring that our university remains a beacon of innovation. If you need more space to think – then look no further.



Prof. Stefan Leible

The University of Bayreuth >>

# A campus full of opportunities.

*The centre of Bayreuth's campus: it's only a short walk from here to the cafeteria, library, lecture halls, and much more.*



**Imagine you're a law student and have the opportunity to acquire a sound business education that opens up exciting new prospects and leads to the esteemed German title *Wirtschaftsjurist*. Or you could do your doctorate in ecology and environmental sciences and become one of the sought-after geocologists who develop new strategies for solving environmental problems.**

However, you may want to go in a different direction. In that case, Philosophy & Economics, Health Economics, Global Change Ecology, or Sport, Business & Law could be the right choice for you. There is a long list of degree programmes and research areas that set the University of Bayreuth apart from other universities.

### **On course for success with the right strategy**

In retrospect, it is now clear how prudent it was back in 1975 to establish a university based on strength in individual subject areas combined with interdisciplinary research and teaching. Recent examples include the launch of our Cluster of Excellence *Africa Multiple* and the addition of our seventh faculty, which is dedicated to food research, eliminating diseases of civilization, and fostering healthy living.

The questions facing our globalized society are becoming more and more complex. The right answers can only be found through close cross-disciplinary cooperation – one of the University's main assets. The University of Bayreuth is characterized by academic freedom, scientific progress, and practical relevance, all of which are understood in the context of social and cultural responsibility.

### **A bright future after graduation**

Our easy-to-reach campus, where everything you need is right at your doorstep, offers a perfect setting for study and research. There are a wealth of close-knit networks and a strong community feeling here. Instead of crowds, you'll see familiar faces. It's easy to meet people on campus, and before you know it, you may be joining one of our exciting projects. The University of Bayreuth recruits and fosters talented students and scholars of all backgrounds and from all over the world, while ensuring that they are given plenty of creative freedom. Students benefit from our cooperation with higher education and non-university institutions around the world, opening up exciting prospects for their future careers.

Study >>

# Quality over quantity.

*Our university encourages participation in student initiatives like the Formula Student international design competition, in which student groups design, build, and race their own formula style racing car.*



## Does a university need to be several hundred years old before it can make a name for itself internationally in teaching and research?

The University of Bayreuth is currently rated among the top universities in the "351 under 50" *Times Higher Education* worldwide rankings, which focus on the world's top 351 young universities founded less than 50 years ago.

## Intensive academic supervision of students

You too may soon be among the outstanding graduates who contribute to the excellent reputation of the University of Bayreuth. In any case, your chances of success will be good, because we invest a great deal in teaching and support for our students. Building on a solid foundation of basic and application-oriented research, our students receive subject-specific and interdisciplinary training geared to future scientific, technological, and social challenges. Plenty of new challenges await – we look forward to tackling them with you!

## Top marks for study environment

It is no wonder that the University of Bayreuth consistently achieves top positions in the rankings compiled by the *Centre for Higher Education Development (CHE)*. The study environment, the supervision of students, and the well-equipped student laboratories are all rated as outstanding by our students. They consider themselves to be getting plenty of personal attention in subjects such as biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and computer science. Meanwhile, the Department of Earth Sciences is also ranked highly for its scientific publications and research budget. The main driving force behind this success are the University interdisciplinary research priorities in fields such as macromolecule and colloid research, the physics of non-linear dynamics, and ecology and environmental research.

**CHE**  
Ranking

*Top marks for study environment  
in the CHE University Ranking*

**THE**  
WORLD  
UNIVERSITY  
RANKINGS  
YOUNG

*40<sup>th</sup> in the international THE Young  
University Ranking "351 under 50"*

Cross-disciplinary study programmes >>

# Interdisciplinary right from the start.

*Performing well in your subject area opens up the possibility to work on exciting interdisciplinary projects in Bayreuth.*



**The University of Bayreuth has earned itself an excellent reputation, both nationally and internationally. In 1975, it was one of Germany's first universities to be established with an interdisciplinary founding mission, and it has since become a leader in innovative research and teaching.**

Initially, the focus was on building up the well-respected disciplines of mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry, geosciences, and African studies. Facilitated by our open campus culture, innovative and interdisciplinary research projects of considerable import were soon set in motion.

### **The first collaborative research centres**

Just a few years after the lecture halls first opened their doors, the *German Research Foundation (DFG)* approved the University's proposal for three interdisciplinary collaborative research centres: for ecosystems, polymers, and African studies.

### **The next milestone**

Combining law, business, and economics in a single faculty has been a true success story. The Faculty is renowned for its interdisciplinary and highly sought-after degree programmes, such as law with additional qualifications in economics, health economics, sports economics, philosophy and economics, and industrial engineering.

### **Engineering science sets standards**

The 1990s then saw the University placing emphasis on materials science. The purpose of this was to nurture interdisciplinary cooperation in the fields of chemistry, physics, and ecology, and eventually led to the founding of the Faculty of Engineering Science. Today, this faculty is setting new standards in areas such as nanotechnology, contributing greatly to Bayreuth's international reputation as an innovative location for applied materials research.

### **Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence**

The *Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence, which was established in 2018, links six subject areas – English studies, Romance studies, history, sociology, religious studies, and social anthropology – and thus confirms the international significance of Bayreuth's cutting-edge research. The Cluster explores the concurrency of multiple ways of life, which are complex and constantly influencing each other, in order to demonstrate how Africa is comprised of multiple relationships. The focus is on the continental and transcontinental interdependencies of cultural, linguistic, social, religious, political, economic, and ecological processes in Africa. Since Bayreuth only conducts "research on Africa with Africa", the University has founded four *African Cluster Centres* in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. The resulting scientific collaboration promotes a better understanding of these African processes, and brings more transparency to Africa's relations with Europe, Asia, and the Americas.



Research >>

# Excellent prospects for your talent.

*Between 2016 and 2018, 578 researchers earned a doctorate and 27 completed a Habilitation. The perfect start to an academic career!*



**It can't be mere coincidence that so many universities like Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and Cambridge are located away from major urban centres. Excellent research obviously seems to thrive in a setting where the mind has space to think, and the spirit freedom to soar.**

This is the kind of environment that awaits you in Bayreuth. It isn't only the famous opera house that enjoys an international reputation, but also the University and its research institutes. Scientific exchange profits tremendously from the wide variety of disciplines our communicative campus brings together here. That is probably another reason why the University of Bayreuth has received so many awards and honours for its scholarly accomplishments.

### **A university with an international reputation**

The University's spirit and its excellent research environment are winning over more and more researchers. Moreover, international scholars rate Bayreuth as one of the most attractive universities in Germany, consistently placing it among the top institutions in the *Humboldt Rankings*.

The University has an impressive international network and maintains more than 150 partnerships with universities and research institutions abroad. In addition, researchers

benefit from the services of the *University of Bayreuth Graduate School*, which promotes scientific exchange in the early phases of independent research and offers a range of workshops and training opportunities. In addition, elite graduate programmes and research activities at the University are supported by the *Elite Network of Bavaria*.

### **An enriching work environment awaits you**

We are committed to equal opportunities, fostering scientific careers through coaching, mentoring, and dual career support, and helping couples and families to balance their working and private lives. You'll find plenty of inspiration on our small yet well-laid-out campus, where we place less emphasis on growth and more on optimizing our quality infrastructure.

In doing so, we rely on subject-specific and interdisciplinary research priorities that allow us to be among the world's best. Our research strength allows us to meet a considerable portion of our financial obligations using third-party funds. Over the past 30 years, some 201 young researchers from the University of Bayreuth have been appointed to professorships in Germany or abroad.

# Science and Engineering

(A) High Pressure & High Temperature Research

(A) Advanced Materials

(E) Energy Research & Energy Technology

(A) Polymer & Colloid Sciences

(A) Nonlinear Dynamics

(A) Ecology & the Environmental Sciences

(A) Molecular Biosciences

(A) African Studies

(E) Food & Health Sciences

(E) Governance & Responsibility

(E) Innovation & Consumer Protection

(E) Cultural Encounters & Transcultural Processes

# Life Sciences

# Humanities and Social Sciences

Focus areas >>

## How new fields of research emerge in uncharted territory.

Did you know that some of Africa's most promising scholars are doing their doctoral research in northern Bavaria? Would you have thought that spider silk is thinner than human hair, yet has greater tensile strength than steel and is more elastic than nylon? Isn't it reassuring to know that in the future the quality and origin of groceries will be monitored more effectively thanks to Bayreuth's food and health sciences research?

These are only a few of the many questions whose answers you'll find at the University of Bayreuth. The next generation of Africa scholars, for example, are here at the *Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS)*. Regarded as a leading educational institution, the School has received €10 million in funding from Germany's federal and state governments. Meanwhile, Europe's Airbus plants benefits from close collaboration between our chemistry, physics, and engineering departments and the University's research centres working in the field of polymer research. And consumer protection studies is now at home in the focus area Food & Health Sciences. Bayreuth's scholars in this new field seek to identify the relationships between food quality, nutrition, general health choices, and physical well-being.

### The drivers of scientific innovation at the University

That's just a small sample of the work being done by the 12 focus areas from which the University of Bayreuth derives its excellent international reputation for research and teaching. But what is the key to their success? The focus areas are where all the University's drivers of scientific innovation meet. Researchers combine the strengths of their individual subject areas to certain strategically chosen cross-disciplinary research priorities, thereby bolstering the University's innovative potential.

### Two steps to world-class research

The established focus areas are known as the *Advanced Fields* (A). These are carefully selected research concentrations whose centres collaborate with global leaders in their fields. In contrast, the *Emerging Fields* (E) represent the newer interdisciplinary fields that have developed in response to critical, socially relevant demand for such research. Both the *Advanced Fields* and the *Emerging Fields* offer scholars a diverse range of unique opportunities to contribute to cutting-edge research.

(A) Advanced Fields

(E) Emerging Fields

*The University of Bayreuth works together with over 150 partner universities worldwide. Each semester, it hosts internationally renowned scholars as visiting professors.*

Faculties >>

# Our faculties: fertile ground for research and teaching.

**The University of Bayreuth has seven faculties, whose (inter)disciplinary concentrations are the source of our university's international reputation – ideal conditions for those who want to teach and conduct research with the best and brightest.**

The University of Bayreuth may not offer the same range of courses as super-sized universities. But our size makes it easier for us to ensure the highest academic standards across our whole spectrum of courses. And we in Bayreuth agree: that is what really counts.

**The secret to our success: the strength of our disciplines**

We understand that strong disciplines are the basis of cross-disciplinary teaching and research. It is for this reason that the University has chosen to concentrate its efforts on seven faculties, making sure that their research and teaching is facilitated across the board.

**Advanced Grants awarded by European Research Council**

We take pride in our accomplishments, and our faculties regularly make headlines in the academic world. In 2013, for example, three professors at the University of Bayreuth were awarded *Advanced Grants* by the *European Research Council (ERC)*. These grants represent the highest honour conferred by the EU for outstanding scholarly achievement. The grant-holders are based in the Physical Chemistry I research group of the *Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics* (one of the University's research centres), where they are conducting trailblazing fundamental research on the design of new materials.

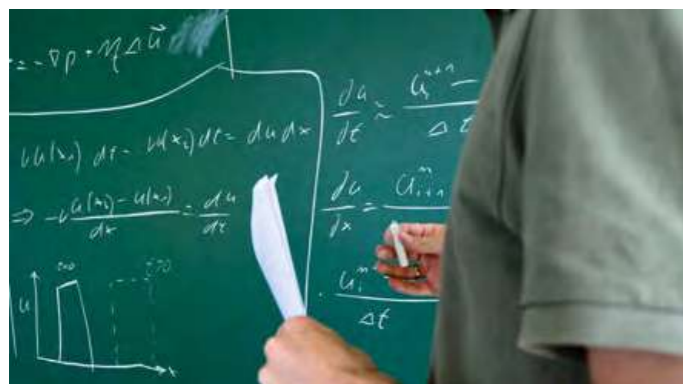
**A recipe for research excellence**

In 2016, a scholar in Bayreuth received the *Leibniz Prize* for his outstanding work in the field of experimental petrology. Our reputation for scholarly achievement has affected the University positively in every regard. And our campus, with its impressive research facilities and institutes, has long been an international magnet for teaching and research. That is probably why the University of Bayreuth has been able to celebrate so many awards and honours for its scholarly accomplishments.





# Faculty of Mathematics, Physics & Computer Science



**It is impossible to imagine today's world without the countless contributions that have come from the fields of mathematics, physics, and computer science. They play a fundamental role in our daily lives, and are an essential part of a number of neighbouring disciplines. The scientists working in these fields drive research forward with their creativity and ensure that this spark catches on in teaching.**

At our faculty, students and early-career scholars have the chance to work in a highly creative research environment. This is evidenced by renowned research awards, major externally funded projects, and the four programmes of study currently offered by the *Elite Network of Bavaria: Biological Physics, Macromolecular Science, the STEM Teacher Education Programme, and Scientific Computing.*

## Research and teaching of the highest order

Without a doubt, the fine reputation and excellent research conditions of our faculty attract outstanding scientists. They not only impress the scientific community with their excellent research, but are also award-winning educators – proof that their commitment to teaching is appreciated by our students. The Faculty's outstanding teaching and research infrastructure includes state-of-the-art laboratories, powerful mainframes, modern lecture halls, and PC pools. The well-equipped library also provides free access to an extensive range of e-books. Students also benefit from research-based internships, in addition to having access to high-performance mathematical software. They can write their bachelor's or master's thesis while working as part of an international research team in a field such as robotics, computer graphics, data science, algebraic geometry, dynamics and optimization, biological physics, or innovative materials and energy.

## Exciting collaboration on campus

The Faculty's institutes are active in interdisciplinary research associations and research training groups, covering topics such as polymer and colloid science, molecular bioscience, high-pressure and high-temperature research, non-linear dynamics, and complex systems. In the interfaculty *Research Centre for Modelling & Simulation (MODUS)*, our sophisticated theoretical methods and computational processes are applied in fields as varied as energy technology, sports, philosophy, and economics.

# Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences



**Can we preserve the environment and natural resources in a sustainable way? What are the effects of climate change and microplastics on the environment? How can energy be converted and used efficiently? These questions are examples of the important, future-oriented research topics at our faculty.**

In one *DFG* collaborative research centre, we investigate the physical, chemical, and biological processes that are responsible for the effects of microplastics on the environment. And we ask how plastics can be modified to reduce the burden on the environment. Another focus is the combination of nanotechnology with the macroscopic world, known as mesotechnology. At the *Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry and Geophysics*, which is internationally renowned for its high-pressure and high-tempera-

ture research, we investigate what holds the earth's core together.

## Funding in the millions

For more than 30 years, excellent work has been done in our faculty and at the affiliated institutes, as obvious from collaborative research programmes and individual projects funded by the *DFG*, the State of Bavaria, and the EU. Renowned research fellowships such as *ERC grants* and *Lichtenberg professorships* demonstrate the extraordinarily high standard of our research. In terms of attracting funding relative to our number of scientists, the life sciences occupy a leading position compared with other German universities. In the field of polymer research, the University of Bayreuth, together with the University of Mainz, actually receives by far the most *DFG* support. The geosciences also receive extensive funding in the field of climate and environmental research.

## Strong performance in university rankings

Thanks to the survey responses from our students, the University of Bayreuth is once again among the leaders in the current *CHE rankings* in biology, chemistry, and geosciences. The study environment, the supervision of students, and the equipment in the student laboratories regularly receive very good ratings, with chemistry currently in second place and geosciences in third. We are particularly proud of the teacher education programme in biology, which took first place nationwide in the categories "Assessment of Study Organization", "Mentoring by Teachers", and "General Study Situation".

# Faculty of Law, Business & Economics



**A globalized future will see the demand for universal skill sets continue to rise. For this reason, our faculty attaches great importance to providing a general education that cuts across subject boundaries and gets students involved in research projects at an early stage.**

We combine law, business, and economics under one roof, offering innovative, interdisciplinary degree programmes such as Health Economics; Sport, Business & Law; Business Administration & Engineering; and Philosophy & Economics. Law students in Bayreuth can earn additional qualifications in economics or engineering.

## **A hive of research activity**

The close connection between law and business has also resulted in some exciting new research approaches, which find expression in numerous interdisciplinary research centres. The work of the research centres is reflected in a variety of ways: in addition to regular events such as guest talks and special lectures, the University of Bayreuth hosts a wide range of meetings, conferences, and workshops on its campus each year. The Faculty's research findings commonly feature in renowned journals, books, and commentaries.

## **Excellent student support**

Our faculty has held top positions for years. Students in particular, but also the business world, have given our lecturers and graduates top ratings. As illustrated by the rankings, they praise Bayreuth's above-average study environment and well-structured degree programmes. It goes without saying that we provide students with an ideal learning environment in addition to excellence in research and teaching. In addition, a well-organized alumni network helps graduates to build up their professional networks.

## **International network**

The University of Bayreuth works together with over 150 partner universities worldwide. Each semester, it hosts internationally renowned scholars as visiting professors.

# Faculty of Languages & Literatures



**What new opportunities does the 21<sup>st</sup> century hold in store for opera and theatre? How will languages and cultures develop in the face of global change? Why do over 50 million people in West Africa speak Hausa? What are the influences of new media on the diverse cultures of our world?**

Languages are keys to other cultures, and the Faculty of Languages & Literatures at the University of Bayreuth is committed to opening doors to the cultures of the world. Short walking distances, small learning groups, and close contact with lecturers create just the right conditions for a well-supervised and intensive programme of study.

## **Building bridges to foreign cultures**

The range of programmes offered by our faculty includes African Verbal & Visual Arts, English & American Studies, Arabic Studies, German Studies, Islamic Studies, Romance Studies, Music, Theatre, and Media Studies. Many degree programmes have an interdisciplinary component, offer the option of a dual degree with international partner universities, and are oriented towards intercultural processes. Of particular interest are the relationships between European and non-European languages, and their literatures and cultures. The Faculty strives to develop intercultural study programmes with universities in various regions around the world. All of the Faculty's programmes of study are mindful of research in their respective fields, and have a clear vision of their applications and practical relevance. Studying at our faculty means studying in an interdisciplinary and globally networked environment!

## **International research and doctoral studies**

The departments within our faculty have a track record of putting into practice Humboldt's ideal of the unity of teaching and research. They are supported by the *German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)* and the *DFG*, and maintain a wealth of international contacts and partnerships. Graduates are spoiled for choice by the wide range of doctoral programmes, such as Computer Game Studies, Music & Performance, Media Culture & Media Economy, and Communicative Construction of Knowledge, as well as courses offered through *BIGSAS*.

# Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences



**People ignorant of their cultural roots can neither understand the world nor change it. Knowledge of the humanities and social sciences forms the necessary basis for mastering the diverse challenges of a global future.**

The Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences lives by the principle of the academic unity of research and teaching. It translates the research strengths of its individual subject areas – including philosophy and the study of religion, anthropology, sociology, history, educational science, and sports science – into innovative, research-oriented teaching, while nurturing early-career scholars.

## **New perspectives and broader horizons**

Our range of courses allows students to broaden their intellectual horizons across faculties. For example, the degree programmes Philosophy & Economics; Sport, Business & Law; and History & Economics are coordinated together with the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics. The interdisciplinary dual degree programme Culture & Society, which is offered jointly with the Faculty of Languages & Literatures, allows students to choose from among nine different subjects. Meanwhile, African Culture & Society combines anthropology and sociology. Development Studies, which is taught in English, trains the international experts of tomorrow. The Faculty also offers a range of doctoral programmes.

## **International research and qualifications**

The Faculty is one of the key centres of Bayreuth's Africa research, and is deeply involved in the Cluster of Excellence *Africa Multiple*. In addition, we network closely with research institutions in Latin America and other regions of the world.

# Faculty of Engineering Science



**Did you know that spider silk has five times the tensile strength of steel – yet is as elastic as rubber? It's just one of the many phenomena our departments within the Faculty of Engineering Science are investigating.**

Ever curious, our faculty explores a vast domain spanning the environmental sciences, biology, and advanced materials. Our research focuses on various areas involving energy technology, materials, processes, mechatronics, and sensor technology.

## **An ideal environment for research and teaching**

Our faculty contributes to the *Technology Alliance of Upper Franconia (TAO)*, a unique initiative which was created to foster cooperation and take advantage of synergies in teaching, research, and training between the Universities of Bayreuth and Bamberg, Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts, and Hof University of Applied Sciences. Together, we carry out innovative projects centred around a number of core issues such as energy and transport. These projects frequently take a cross-disciplinary approach to investigating topics such as sensor technologies, information technologies, materials, and human-machine interfaces. While new core subjects such as healthcare are being established, technologies stemming from the fields of bioanalytics, food and beverage technology, and water resource management that have potential for broader applications are also being explored. In Bayreuth, this diverse array of research topics is brought together by the Centre for Materials Science & Engineering and the Centre for Energy Technology.

## **The world is your laboratory**

It goes without saying that our students benefit from this cooperation. They get the chance to wrestle with some of the most challenging problems currently facing engineers while enjoying an extensive range of additional tutorials and classes. State-of-the-art laboratories, small study groups, and personal contact with instructors help to create an ideal learning environment.

# Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health



**How do we provide as many people as possible with high-quality, healthy food? Is it possible to slow down the rapid increase in diseases of civilization such as type II diabetes, the causes of which are to a large extent to be found in our diet and lifestyle? What behavioural patterns and socio-economic factors prevent people from looking after their own long-term well-being?**

Two of the greatest challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century are the sustainable production and distribution of high-quality, healthy food on the one hand, and the effective prevention of disease on the other.

## **An integrative approach to health and nutrition**

The *Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health* is facing up to both of these closely related challenges, and in so doing is breaking new ground in Germany. We are convinced that one can only really understand the connections between nutrition, exercise, and health if one understands how they relate to relevant economic, legal, and sociological aspects, as well as behavioural questions.

For this reason, the Faculty closely combines research and teaching skills from a wide range of disciplines, such as biology, biochemistry, health economics, food and consumer law, sociology, behavioural science, and sports science. The scientific focus is on the following topics: metabolomics, epigenomics, bioinformatics, digital health, new breeding methods, food law, behavioural economics, and public health.

## **Bayreuth spirit on the Kulmbach Campus**

The University's Faculty of Life Sciences is located in the nearby town of Kulmbach. It is home not only to several international food companies, but also to the *Max Rubner Institute*, the *Bavarian Control Authority for Food Safety and Veterinary Medicine*, the *State Technical College for Food Technology*, the *Competence Centre for Nutrition*, and the *Kulmbach Clinical Centre*. All these bodies are involved in various research projects and in the Faculty's teaching activities.



Strategic alliances >>

# The university of networkers.

*Conferences and other important academic events regularly take place at the University of Bayreuth. In addition, there is a broad range of talks, lectures, and workshops dealing with some of the most pressing issues of our time.*



**A university that wants to be one of the best can never rest on its laurels. That's why we in Bayreuth are constantly thinking about how we can improve and expand the spectrum of research and teaching we offer. Today, the University benefits from a number of strategic alliances that will continue to raise our profile in terms of quality as we move forward into the future.**

The University of Bayreuth cooperates with the best German universities in nationwide programmes, and has even assumed leadership in joint ventures, helping to advance research areas such as algebraic geometry, rare earth elements, and material modelling. At the same time, we are hard at work across borders as a member of many different European research alliances, and we lead several international consortia, for instance research groups on teaching STEM subjects and energy-efficient windows. Another good example of a vibrant international network is the *AEGIS Group*, which links Europe's leading African studies institutes, including the *Bayreuth Institute for African Studies*, and organizes a joint summer school every year.

## **Research with real-world relevance**

Our cooperation with the *Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft* is of particular interest. There are two *Fraunhofer* research groups at the University that foster national and international cooperation with industry. Together with the *Max Rubner Institute*, we also host the Research Centre for Food Quality, in which regional companies from the food industry are also involved.

## **University cooperation at all levels**

The University of Bayreuth also works together closely with neighbouring universities, such as Erlangen-Nuremberg, Würzburg, and Bamberg. Together, we push forward basic research in the sciences and the humanities, but also develop innovative technical applications. A prominent example of this is polymer and plastics technology. As a strategic alliance, *TAO* brings together the efforts and ideas of all the higher education institutions in our region.

International orientation >>

# Teaching and researching internationally.

*The University's professional advisory and support services bring German and international students together at an early stage of their studies. In addition, we regularly offer intercultural projects and training programmes and reach out to our alumni community in a number of different ways.*



**A university that strives to be among the best in research and teaching must not shy away from international comparison. In this regard, the University of Bayreuth has been keeping pace since 1986, long before the Bologna Process.**

It was then that the founding president established initial contacts with *Shanghai International Studies University* in order to facilitate the international exchange of students and lecturers. Since that time, the University has continued to expand its fruitful strategic partnerships. Today Bayreuth is known for its exciting bilateral and multilateral study programmes with dual degrees, for example with the *Universities of Pablo de Olavide* (Spain), *Bordeaux* (France), and *Ohio* (United States). The range of courses includes a number of international programmes of study in English, French, and Spanish. Equally popular are its Summer Schools. The University is also involved in a variety of research projects with international partners, and offers joint doctoral degrees in cooperation with several universities abroad.

## **Successful international strategy**

These are all offshoots of our internationalization strategy, which received a most favourable review in an extended re-audit conducted by the German Rectors' Conference in 2019. The *Internationalization of Universities* audit is funded by the federal government, and reinforces the University of Bayreuth's objectives of working with the best and brightest worldwide, attracting promising young scholars, and recruiting outstanding international students.

## **African studies – a beacon of international cooperation**

For over 30 years, Bayreuth's scholars have been conducting joint research with their African counterparts on topics relating to Africa. *BIGSAS* and the *Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies (BA)* host researchers in the field from all over the world. They work hand in glove with more than 30 universities in 25 different African countries. International cooperation has been going so well that €40 million in third-party funding has been acquired for African studies over the past ten years. *BIGSAS* is funded by the *Excellence Initiative* of the German federal and state governments, while *BA* receives its support from the *DFG*.

Partnerships worldwide >>

# Ideas without borders.

*The DAAD has supported this partnership since 2015 as part of its programme "Strategic Partnerships and Thematic Networks".*



**The University of Bayreuth currently works with over 150 partner universities worldwide. Drawing on many years of experience of conducting international projects, Bayreuth competes actively on the international market, and the University continues to push forward internationalization by setting up offices abroad.**

The *International Office* is the hub for all matters relating to the University's international network. It develops and coordinates strategic concepts, while initiating and cultivating international partnerships in science and industry.

### **One International Office, many services**

*Welcome & Alumni Services* provides guidance and support for students and researchers from abroad. In addition, the office helps researchers and their families to travel and network within the European scientific community. *Welcome & Alumni Services*, the *Welcome Centre*, and the *Bayreuth International Alumni Centre* have received several awards for their valuable work.

### **International strategy bearing fruit**

In 2016, the University of Bayreuth set up its first gateway office at *Shanghai International Studies University*, taking its strategic partnership of over 30 years to a whole new level. The office serves all members of the University and its partners in the East Asia region. This is where, for example, the joint bachelor's and master's programmes in German and Economics are coordinated, programmes that have been praised as examples of successful ventures in bilateral teaching in both Germany and China. The University of Bayreuth now works closely with more than ten universities in China, Hong Kong, Japan, and Taiwan.

### **Scientific cooperation worldwide**

As of 2018, there is also a gateway office at the *University of Melbourne* in Australia. From here, joint ventures with eight universities in Sydney, Perth, Brisbane, Newcastle, and even New Zealand can be efficiently coordinated. Further gateway offices are set to be opened in Bordeaux and Boston. In addition, the University has founded four *African Cluster Centres* in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa as part of its Cluster of Excellence. Internationalization has long been a tangible feature of the University of Bayreuth. Students from all over the world truly enrich campus life with their unique perspectives and flair.

A university for company founders >>

# Taking care of business.

*The Entrepreneurship & Innovation Department of the University of Bayreuth champions start-ups and spin-offs as well as knowledge transfer. It also arranges contact between external company founders and cooperating partners at the University.*



**The innovative strength of our region's economy is a key factor in keeping it competitive. For this reason, the University of Bayreuth has long been fostering and developing its cooperation with industrial partners as a matter of course.**

On the one hand, with its far-reaching joint ventures in research, it supports the SMEs of Upper Franconia as a think tank, and on the other hand it actively promotes entrepreneurial thinking and initiatives on campus.

### **A hothouse for entrepreneurial spirit and new ideas**

As a university for founders, Bayreuth aims to provide both students and staff as early as possible with the tools they need to successfully implement their creative ideas and apply them to their own company or start-up. And our friendly, open campus culture offers the ideal conditions in one place. Using various teaching formats, such as *Ideation Week*, students are familiarized with innovation and creativity techniques through real-life challenges. Project management tools such as *(Lego) Scrum* and models for planning your own business concepts are provided. If you wish, you can also apply for a start-up semester so that you can fully concentrate on your business idea and perfect it. This has proved to be a winning formula, as the number of start-ups originating in Bayreuth keeps growing steadily.

### **Think and act like an entrepreneur**

The *Entrepreneurship & Innovation Department* is where all paths converge, when it comes to establishing exciting new contacts between science and business. Here, research and innovation partners are brought together and advised, knowledge transfers arranged, and funding opportunities explored. In addition, an Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation and a municipal start-up and innovation centre are being planned, both of which will link up regional players even more closely.

### **Founding a successful business**

In addition, the department promotes entrepreneurial thinking and initiative among students. Here, they are equipped with the necessary qualifications and skills to found their own company. The department provides comprehensive support including advice on setting up a business, access to support programmes for start-ups, and assistance applying for industrial property rights.

In addition, the University supports student initiatives such as the *5-Euro Business Competition* on the subject of business start-ups, the company forum *Gründerforum Bayreuth*, and *Enactus Bayreuth*, an initiative for social entrepreneurship.



Family-friendly university, diversity >>

# An equal opportunities environment.

*The University is committed to equal opportunities, and actively supports scientific careers through coaching, mentoring, and dual career support, helping couples and families to balance work and private life.*



**“Our campus provides a setting for life in all its diversity – people take centre stage, regardless of their skin colour, origin, gender identity, religion, or worldview.”**  
(excerpt from the University’s mission statement)

The University of Bayreuth makes every effort to maintain gender equality, inclusion, and family friendliness. In the years 2006, 2010, and 2013, the family-friendly infrastructure of our campus was audited and approved by *berufundfamilie gGmbH*, part of the *Hertie Foundation*. In 2016, the University of Bayreuth joined the best practice club *Familie in der Hochschule* and signed the corresponding charter to help ensure students and staff members are able to balance family and working life. In 2018, the University received the *German Association of University Professors and Lecturers (DHV)* quality seal for its transparent and fair appointment negotiations. Beyond this, there are many measures with which the University has successfully built up a family and inclusion-friendly environment for research, study, and administration.

### Space to think for families

For example, several preschools are located right on campus or in the immediate vicinity. Plus, the University offers flexitime arrangements, teleworking options, and flexible part-time positions. In addition, we make sure to take specific family situations into account in university regulations.

### Equal opportunities promote the potential to innovate

Moreover, the University aims to increase the proportion of women in management positions and in *STEM* subjects. It is actively supported in this by several women’s representatives, who help the University to implement its gender equality policy. In particular, the women’s representatives ensure that female scholars and students do not experience disadvantage in any form. Everyone – regardless of their gender, background, or nationality – should have the same opportunities on campus. Diversity can only enrich our university and unlock more innovation.

### Actions speak louder than words

The *Equal Opportunities Department* ensures that words are backed up by deeds. This dedicated team keeps an eye on the awarding of scholarships, supports female scientists through coaching and mentoring, and assists the life partners of staff who have moved to Bayreuth. In addition, we organize *STEM* programmes and activities for girls attending secondary school in and around Bayreuth.



*In 2018, the University of Bayreuth received the DHV quality seal for fair and transparent appointment negotiations.*

*The University of Bayreuth sees itself as having a special responsibility to serve as a role model when it comes to advancing sustainable development in society – a vision which has a significant impact on the University's decision-making.*



Green campus >>

# Where responsibility involves sustainability.

**A visitor taking a stroll over the picturesque grounds of the University of Bayreuth would be right in assuming that mindful and sustainable treatment of the environment plays a special role here.**

This is yet another area where the University meets its responsibilities. Everyone works together in an interdisciplinary way to nurture sustainable thinking on campus and in society at large. Many activities are initiated by student organizations, members of the student body, and university staff. Sustainability is also a central issue in the teaching and research activities of a number of our faculties.

**A student voice for sustainable development**

These activities are coordinated using the *Green Campus* platform, which was launched by the University Governing Board in 2016. The *Green Campus* team is made up of students from a wide variety of subject areas, and is actively supported by the teaching staff. Their mission is to recommend measures to improve resource management, nature conservation, and awareness of healthy eating and lifestyles. The coffee machines on campus, for example, will now only be stocked with reusable cups that are returned via a deposit system. The University is facing up to its responsibilities and has included sustainable development on campus among its top priorities.

**Fairtrade University quality seal**

In 2016, the University of Bayreuth became Bavaria's first university to earn the title *Fairtrade University*, awarded by *TransFair Deutschland e. V.* in recognition of promoting Fairtrade products on campus. In addition, as part of a pilot project the University is developing a criteria catalogue to implement sustainability measures at higher education institutions across Germany.

**Bayreuth among the world's best**

In the 2018 *UI Green Metric World University Rankings*, the University of Bayreuth ranked second nationally and 28<sup>th</sup> internationally. These rankings evaluate the most dedicated and successful universities in the field of sustainability.



*Since 2016 the University of Bayreuth has been a "Fairtrade University".*

The city of Bayreuth >>

# You don't have to love Wagner to love Bayreuth.

*Unlike at larger universities, in Bayreuth you're sure to run into people you've met on campus. When you need a break, Bayreuth's city centre offers many charming spots to discover.*



**Whether you have joined our university to study, work, or conduct research – there is one point on which we can all agree: newcomers feel at home here in no time. The University of Bayreuth, with around 13,500 students, is a comfortable size, and it is a place where you will make new contacts quickly.**

With a population of around 74,000, Bayreuth is not particularly large, but that is one of its charms. The city may be world-famous for its annual opera festival, but it also offers a wealth of cultural and artistic attractions aside from Wagner. It should come as no surprise that the city's party and pub scene is firmly in the hands of the students. And you will be surprised by how quickly you find your way around, as the boundaries between campus and the city centre disappear.

### **Campus culture at its finest**

Perhaps you would like to help shape our campus culture beyond just taking it in. That can certainly be arranged. For instance, you could sing in the university choir or the gospel choir, or play your instrument in the university orchestra or big band. The campus also hosts regular film screenings during the semester, as well as art exhibitions, theatre productions, a variety of musical performances, and last but not least the University's annual open air festival.

### **Weekend trips**

The Frankenjura and Fichtel Mountains, right on Bayreuth's doorstep, are ideal for sporting activities such as cycling, hiking, mountain climbing, canoeing, rafting, and skiing. Bayreuth and the surrounding region offer plenty of ways to enrich your leisure time. However, if you do happen to crave the feel of a bigger city now and then, Nuremberg is only a one-hour train ride away, and Munich is only two-and-a-half hours away. You can reach Berlin in four hours by car, and Leipzig in half that time. And don't forget: being in the heart of Europe means Prague is also only a three-hour drive away.



Get in touch with us >>

# Welcome to our campus!

*The University of Bayreuth continues to increase the strength of its international reputation. All work carried out by the University Governing Board is characterized by mutual respect and trust.*



**You'll be inspired by the exceptional spirit that flows through our university.**

For example, take Prof. Andreas Voßkuhle, President of Germany's Federal Constitutional Court, who discovered his passion for law in Bayreuth. He says: "I deliberately began my studies at a young, dynamic university, and soon appreciated what a conducive place it was for study, and the close supervision I received during my first semesters from the professors who teach there."

Come discover a university whose interdisciplinary approach is reflected in the contributions of its students, researchers, alumni, and local sponsors.

**Why not get in touch?**

We look forward to hearing from you.

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