

Funded opportunities at University of Vechta, Vechta, Germany

STUDENT CALL 2025-26

The call is now open for BU students from level 4-7 for, students in any social sciences, arts or humanities programme to attend a summer school at the University of Vechta (UoV) in Vechta, Germany.

The application deadline is **22nd February 2026**

All details including the eligibility criteria are outlined below.

Summer School Details

The summer school will take place **from 17th May 2026 to 1st June 2026**. You must be physically in Vechta during this time.

In April, before the physical mobility commences, you will receive a full students guide as a PDF. You will be reading this carefully and linking in with members of your transnational small group. You will get to know each other digitally, and complete exercises together – you will be working together with this group when in Vechta too. Before travelling, you will also contact other BU students and prepare a country presentation with them to hold during a mid-week event in Vechta.

Just over a week before the programme starts, on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th May at 4pm UK time, you will participate in two online sessions. This will provide you with an introduction to the programmes content: 'cultural well-being', and enable you to meet Magnus Frampton, the lead academic at UoV, some of his colleagues who teach on the programme, and the other students.

You will travel to Vechta by 17th May, no later than 5pm. It is recommended you arrive before this day, but you would need to sort your own accommodation with the funds granted. In Germany you will be integrated into a one-week programme known as an *Intensive Blended Programme*. Unlike BU students, most of the other students on this programme will be travelling for one week only. All will arrive by 5pm on Sunday 17th May, when the programme formally starts. You will be accommodated at the conference centre from Sunday 17th May, departing Friday 22nd May when this programme ends. You will then have a week to prepare a portfolio, with guidance from Magnus, during the second week. This can be accompanied by excursions as suits you; your time will be flexible. The final day will be Monday 1st of June, where you will have a final class with Magnus where you will explore international social work.

You will transfer money to UoV in advance to pay for your room, which has already been reserved.

Students are expected from across Europe (Italy, Austria, Lithuania, Finland and Estonia) and further afield (the Ukraine, Canada). The students will come from various subjects, including social work, education, the arts and the humanities. The language of participation is English. The course

comprises workshops, excursions and social events and is designed as an immersive European learning experience.

The **programme in week one** will include:

- *Music and dance* with music pedagogue Hanna Turunen (Savonia, Finland)
- *Using voice to create a shared space* with musicologist Sanna Pauliina Törmälä-Tranberg (Stavanger, Norway)
- *Joy and gender* with artist and filmmaker Kit Griffiths (England, see <https://www.kitgriffiths.com/>)
- *Music and the arts* with child music therapist Oliver Schöndube (Vechta, Germany)
- *From abstraction to understanding* with designers Traugott Haas & Svenja Wetzenstein (Vechta, Germany)
- *Intersectional bracelet-making* with social worker Deb Woodman (Algoma, Canada)
- Visiting a children's home
- Whole day excursion to Bremen on the Wednesday
- Intercultural party evening

The format for the subsequent week is more flexible. It will involve reflections on your learning and consolidation of your portfolio and the production of a blog for BU, outlining your time on the BIP, including your excursions. To complete the programme, you will submit a portfolio. Upon completing the programme, you will receive a certificate of attendance and participation.

Further details on who is eligible and how to apply are included below. Please note that students are expected to create their own itinerary of cultural excursions once the BIP has ended, as well as organise their own accommodation after the first week. However, there will be information made available to you to help with your planning. Departure will be any time from 8pm on Monday the 1st of June.

Travel and Accommodation

Further information on accommodation will be provided to successful applicants. (For successful applicants we will arrange a discussion with the host summer school leader, Magnus Frampton from the University of Vechta.)

Students are responsible for arranging payment for their own travel and accommodation (if applicable). Turing Scheme funds are provided as a contribution towards these costs.

Who is eligible?

The call is now open for BU undergraduate and postgraduate masters students across the social sciences, arts and humanities. All students on the above programmes are eligible to apply for the main cost-of-living grant. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for additional funding as outlined in the section '[What will the Turing Scheme funding cover?](#)'

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Students from **disadvantaged backgrounds** will receive a travel grant as well as higher cost of living grant. To be eligible for a disadvantaged background status, you must meet at least one of the following (1-4):

1. **Household income of £25,000 or below** (as assessed by Student Finance England/Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland),
2. **In receipt of a BU Maintenance Bursary or BU Hardship Fund for the current 2023/24 academic year.**

3. You meet one or more of the following:

- Student receiving Universal Credit or income-related benefits because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them, such as a child or partner
- Care-experienced students (Students who have been or are currently in the care system (including living in care with foster carers, living in a children's home) or from a looked after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked after)
- Students from low participation neighbourhoods (The Office for Students provides a tool to look at how likely young people are to participate in higher education across the UK, and shows how this varies by area. A low participation neighbourhood would be one where young people were not likely to participate in higher education).
- Black and Minority Ethnic Students (UK Home students only)
- Mature students (21 or older at start of programme, UG only)
- Students who are first in their family to attend university.
- Female students studying STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, as defined by BU)
- Students with caring responsibilities (Caring responsibilities are providing unpaid care to a family member or friend who could not cope without their support. This may be due to illness, disability, a mental health issue, or substance misuse.)
- Estranged students (where a student does not have support from their parents due to a breakdown in their relationship or where neither of the student's parents can be found or it is not reasonably practicable to get in touch with either of them)
- Refugees and asylum seekers

4. Students with additional learning needs (including students registered with ALS at BU):

- The term additional learning needs refers to learners with special education needs (SEN), including those whose SEN arise because they have a long-term disability that has a substantial and long-term effect on the ability to do everyday tasks or are in receipt of Disabled Student Allowance. This would include learners who identify as having a disability, special needs, or medical condition as categorised below:
 - Social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
 - Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
 - Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment
 - A long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
 - Mental health condition such as depression, schizophrenia, or anxiety disorder
 - Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D 13
 - Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using limbs or using a wheelchair or crutches
 - Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

Applicants who meet the aforementioned criteria must be keen to develop a hands-on work experience in a different cultural context, gain intercultural skills and global awareness, enhance their employability and career prospects, and enrich the world as socially responsible global citizens.

What will the Turing Scheme funding cover?

Turing Scheme funding provides grants to support students with **specific costs** related to undertaking their traineeship. The amount of the grant is determined by the length of the mobility and the destination country where the work is being undertaken. The sections below outline standard funding and funding for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Please note that the funding provided through the Turing Scheme is intended **as a contribution towards** the overall costs of undertaking this mobility. It is **NOT INTENDED to cover the entire costs incurred**.

You will receive an initial payment of 90% of funds upfront. After your activity is complete, you will be asked to complete a feedback survey and submit a blog. The remaining 10% will be paid after these requirements have been met.

1. **Funding for Students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds**

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant.

Cost of Living Grant

To calculate the cost-of-living grant, destination countries are divided into two groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-scheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>). There is no travel grant for students who are not from disadvantaged backgrounds.

1. For activities in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £19 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
 - b. £14 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration
2. For activities in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £17 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
 - b. £12 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration.

Example Grant calculation for students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Dates and Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Germany (Group 2 Country)	17 th May – 1 st June 16 days	£17 x 16 days	£272

2. **Funding for Students from disadvantaged backgrounds**

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant, a cost-of-living uplift, and a travel grant. Additional funding is available as outlined below for other costs related to undertaking a mobility.

Cost of Living Grant

To calculate the cost-of-living grant, destination countries are divided into two groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-scheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>).

1. For activities in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £23 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
 - b. £18 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration
2. For activities in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £21 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
 - b. £16 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration.

Travel Grant

Travel grants are **up to a maximum amount** which is calculated based on the destination country.

Rates for each country can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-scheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>

Actual travel grants are paid based on actual travel spend. Students will be required to submit evidence of their travel expenses. Travel expenses refer to airfare for one return journey to/from the destination country. Commuting costs in country are NOT covered. Travel grants can only cover economy travel and will not cover any upgrades.

Where the actual cost of travel is less than the maximum allowed for the destination country, the difference will be subtracted from the final grant payment or invoiced to the student for repayment if needed.

Supplemental travel funding may be available to cover real travel cost for exceptionally expensive travel.

Other Funding

- Funding may be available to offset real costs related to:
- Passport costs
- Visa costs (this can include reasonable associated costs like translated documents and police certificates)
- Vaccines
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Certificates
- Actual costs for support directly related to **additional learning needs**. Receipts are required for these costs to be covered.

Example Grant calculations for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Germany (Group 2 Country)	17 th May – 1 st June 16 days	£17 x 16 days + £250 travel grant	Upto £586

Travel Information

Entry Requirements

You must have a valid passport with at least six months remaining from the date of your return departure to the UK. If you are a student from a disadvantaged background, you can get financial support to obtain and renew a passport. Please factor this into the timescales of your planned travel.

Visa Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to research whether they will need a visa to enter Germany and how long it will take to obtain a visa. Costs associated with visa requirements are covered for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Immunisations (if applicable)

Please refer to the NHS guidelines regarding immunisations:

[Travel vaccinations - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

You will need to book immunisations through your local GP at your own cost. Costs associated with requirement immunisations are covered for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Insurance

BU will provide comprehensive Travel Cover for the duration of the overseas trip. Please note that you might be required by the University of Vechta to purchase a valid medical/health insurance for the duration of your stay.

Applicants are responsible for researching the types of insurance they are required to carry for Germany which may require specific medical insurance to meet visa conditions (ex: to obtain the relevant visa for a traineeship in the USA, you must hold insurance with \$100,00 or medical benefits, \$25,000 for repatriation of remains, \$50,000 for medical evacuation, and \$500 deductible for accident or illness).

For travel to Germany, you could apply for a UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or use an existing UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) if it is still valid.

Please refer to the NHS guidelines regarding the UK GHIC/EHIC:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Covid-19 Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to check the Covid-19 entry requirements to Germany.

Please refer to the FCDO advice about entry requirements and Covid-19 regulations:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

Successful applicants will receive further information regarding Covid-19 considerations and travel guidance once they are officially accepted onto the programme.

Covid-19 Travel Implications

- There could be sudden changes that affect your travel plans, including changes to border control advice which may prevent travel and changes to quarantine and/or testing requirements in Germany or when re-entering the UK.
- **BU MUST approve travel before you depart.** Your travel plans should be in line with UK Foreign Correspondence and Development Office advice. Travel approval will be made on a case-by-case basis within two weeks of the start of the traineeship and, where travel is not possible, you may be able to start work remotely, depending on your host organisations requirements.
- Funding will only be paid where physical travel takes place and BU has approved travel in advance.
- The Global Engagement Mobility Team will support you with the funding process. You will also be given support by your Placement Coordinator and Placement Development Advisor for mobilities that are part of a BU placement year.

Where do I apply and how?

Access your online Application form [here](#). On your Application form you will be asked to complete two main sections:

- a. student information and eligibility requirements
In this section you will be asked to provide your student details including information about the Disadvantaged Background eligibility criteria.
- b. quality assessment
In this section you will be asked to:
 - Outline any academic and work experience you have that are relevant to your mobility.
 - Write a brief statement outlining how this experience will help you to develop your intercultural competence
 - Describe how this experience will positively impact your academic performance
 - State how this experience will enhance your growth and employability

It is your responsibility to ensure all the necessary information is provided correctly.

The call for applications is now open and the deadline is **22nd February 2026**.

Please note the panel's decision is final and we cannot provide individual feedback on applications.

Am I eligible to apply for future mobility programmes if my application is declined?

If your application is declined, you are able to apply again for a future programme (assuming that you still meet the eligibility criteria).

Important notes

- (1) Please ensure your email address is correct. **All communication will be sent to your student email address**, so please check this!
- (2) If successful, your participation in the above programme is subject to the contractual agreement between Bournemouth University and University of Vechta, Germany.

Further Information

If you have questions about your application, please contact internationalgrants@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Please contact Dr. Alex Fry (afry@bournemouth.ac.uk) if you require further **academic information** about this activity.

Timeline

Student Call Launch: 5th February 2026

Application deadline: 22nd February 2026