

## **Funded opportunities at University of Vechta, Vechta, Germany**

### **STUDENT CALL 2023-24**

The call is now open for BU undergraduate Social Sciences or Social Work, Archaeology and Anthropology in Science and Tehcnology and Postgraduate Social Work students to attend a summer school at the University of Vechta (UoV) in Vechta, Germany.

The application deadline is **20 February 2024**

All details including the eligibility criteria are outlined below.

#### **Summer School Details**

The summer school will take place **from 10 June 2024 to 8 July 2023**.

#### **Week 1 Blended Intensive: Oranges and lemons: comparing policies, projects and practice**

This module is part of a wider intensive programme: you will travel to Vechta, Germany on Monday 10th June 2024, enjoy 6 days of face-to-face lessons, activities and exchange. The week closes at midday on Saturday 15th June.

It is blended: this means there will be two additional online sessions before meeting in person (provisionally scheduled Monday 13th May and Wednesday 15th May, 90 minutes, 17:00 Central European Time). We will also be putting you into digital mixed-country groups and giving you tasks to do together, before and during the week. This will include presenting your country during the week, and doing a shared presentation with mixed country-group partners at the end of the week. Students are expected from Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Ireland, Germany, the US and the UK.

The programme will include:

- Visiting a children's home
- An art group
- Using music in social work
- Tango and social work
- Guest speakers from the UK, US, Spain and Estonia
- Excursion to Bremen
- Intercultural evening

Upon completing the programme, you will receive a certificate of attendance and participation, and you have the option of completing portfolio for graded credits (6 ECTS). If your application is successful Vechta will cover catering costs (including breakfast, lunch and dinner for all three full days in Vechta), but you will be making a small contribution to the cost of pre-booked accommodation for the week (expect around 150-200 Euros).

#### **Week 2: Bespoke programme of intercultural consolidation learning, reflecting and building on the previous week's BIP and preparation for week 3**

The format for this week will be discussed and agreed with the group. It will involve discussion with students at Vechta, reflections on week 1 and consolidation of learning journals, preparation of materials for week 3, and intercultural learning in the region.

### **Week 3: Blended Intensive: Cultural and social well-being – Identity and participation**

This stand-alone module can be completed as a compact intensive programme: you will travel to Vechta, Germany on Sunday 23rd June 2023, and enjoy 6 days of face-to-face lessons, activities and exchange, closing on Friday 28th June. It is blended: this means there will be two online sessions beforehand (17:00 Central European Time, 90 minutes on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th June), and we will be putting you into digital mixed-country groups. We will be giving you tasks to do together, before and during the week. This will include presenting your own country, as well as doing a shared presentation with mixed country-group partners at the end of the week.

Students will be participating from the UK, Spain, Finland, Estonia, Canada, Australia and Germany. Many of the week's presentations will be tied to the themes of the arts and participation.

The programme will include:

- Visiting a children's home
- Using art and design to investigate identity
- Music session with Hanna Turunen from Savonia, Finland
- Self-portraiture as a tool exploring issues of diversity and identity with Eleni Papouli, University of West Attica, Greece
- Workshop 'Joy and gender' with UK performance artist Kit Griffiths, <https://www.kitgriffiths.com/>
- Excursion to Bremen
- Intercultural evening
- Free meals: Breakfast all days, lunch included on three days

Upon completing the programme, you will receive a certificate of attendance and participation, and you have the option of completing a portfolio for graded credits (6 ECTS). For European applicants, if your application is successful you will receive a grant towards some of the costs of the week from your own university. Expect to pay 225 Euros towards your own single-room accommodation (already reserved). Vechta will cover other costs, including full catering costs for the week, and all workshop facilitators' fees.

Students wishing to extend their stay for longer should note Vechta is also a good base from which to explore Northern Germany, with Hanseatic UNESCO-site cities (Bremen, Hamburg) being easily reachable by train. Any further stay would not, of course, be supported by Turing funding and would be on a personal basis.

### **Week 4: Bespoke programme of intercultural consolidation learning, reflecting and building on the previous week's BIP and programme as a whole**

The format for this week will be discussed and agreed with the group. It will involve further discussion with students at Vechta, reflections, consolidation and completion of learning tasks on the programme, and intercultural learning in the region, the production of a blog for BU and development of reflective diary/learning journals.

Further details on who is eligible and how to apply are included below.

#### ***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 Social Sciences or Social Work, Archaeology and Anthropology in Science and Technology and Postgraduate Social Work. 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. *NB: Turing Scheme funding is intended to be a contribution towards your living costs.*

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 three groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/funding-opportunities/cost-of-living-groups/>). There is no travel grant for students who are not from disadvantaged backgrounds.

1. For placements in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
  - a. £545 per month for placements between 4 weeks and 2 months
  - b. £380 per month for placements between from 9 weeks to 12 months
2. For placements in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
  - a. £480 per month for placements between 4 weeks and 2 months
  - b. £335 per month for placements between from 9 weeks to 12 months

#### **Example Grant calculation for students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds**

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Dates and Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Germany (Group 2 Country)	10 June – 8 July 2023 1 month	£480 x 1 month	<b>£480.00</b>

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

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant and 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 three groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/funding-opportunities/cost-of-living-groups/>).

1. For placements in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
  - a. £545 per month for placements between 4 weeks and 2 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)
  - b. £380 per month for placements between from 9 weeks to 12 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)
2. For placements in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
  - a. £480 per month for placements between 4 weeks and 2 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)
  - b. £335 per month for placements between from 9 weeks to 12 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)

#### **Travel Grant**

Travel grants are calculated based on the distance to the destination country. Distances are calculated from Bournemouth University to the city where the traineeship is taking place. To find the distance:

1. Go to Google Maps

2. Right-click on Bournemouth and choose 'Measure Distance'
3. Click on your destination city to create a path to measure
4. The total distance will be displayed in the bottom centre of the map

The rates are as follows:

- 10 to 99km: £20
- 100 to 499km: £165
- 500 to 1,999km: £250
- 2,000 to 2,999km: £325
- 3,000 to 3,999km: £480
- 4,000 to 7,999km: £745
- 8,000 to 12,000km: £905
- 12,000km+: £1360

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

#### **Other Funding**

- Real costs related to obtaining or updating a passport, obtaining a Visa, or Covid-19 related costs. Receipts are required for these costs to be covered.
- 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)	10 June – 8 July 2023 1 month	(£480 x 1 month) + (£110 x 1 month) + (£250 travel grant)	<b>£840.00</b>

### **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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://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?***

1. You can Contact the academic lead, Jonathan Parker ([parkerj@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:parkerj@bournemouth.ac.uk)) to arrange a time to speak about this opportunity.
2. 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 **20 February 2024**.

**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](mailto:internationalgrants@bournemouth.ac.uk).

Please contact Professor Dr. Jonathan Parker ([parkerj@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:parkerj@bournemouth.ac.uk)) if you require further **academic information** about this activity.

### **Timeline**

Student Call Launch: **02 February 2024**

Application deadline: **20 February 2024**