

>> PROJECT INFORMATION

konstruktiv – Structurally embedding a systematic orientation to new target groups at the University of Bremen

Project term:

August 2014 – January 2018

Participating Faculties:

Faculty 03: Mathematics / Computer Sciences

Faculty 04: Production Engineering –
Mechanical Engineering & Process Engineering

Faculty 11: Human and Health Sciences

Other participants:

Staff Unit for Education and Studies, Administrative
Department of Academic Affairs

Career Center, Administration Department of Student Affairs

Center for Multimedia in Education (ZMML)

Bremen Institute for Work Science (aib)

Coordination:

Academy of Continuing Education at the University of Bremen

Project Leader:

Dr. Petra Boxler (Academy of Continuing Education)

>> Flexible learning formats and accessible structures promote the development of our university and are a way to deal with the challenges presented by an increasingly heterogeneous student body. <<

Prof. Dr. Thomas Hoffmeister
Vice Rector for Education and Studies.

>> A FUTURE-LAB PROJECT

„konstruktiv“ is conceived as a research and development project – a future-lab seeking suitable responses to the challenges that will confront institutions of higher education in the years to come:

The new target groups are already there.

Students who work alongside their studies, have children, or care for family members are no longer far-off prospects, but already reality.

The trend to individualization is unstoppable and impacts all aspects of life.

Individual career or academic objectives call for flexible formats to facilitate their realization.

Knowledge is now quickly outdated. Life-long learning is becoming a matter of course.

Therefore, in today's knowledge society, higher education is increasingly required to offer possibilities for higher learning beyond those provided by bachelor and master studies.

Digitalization brings with it new living habits and opportunities for learning.

The new media are now a natural part of everyday life – and of learning: Innovative, flexible learning formats reflect such developments and universities need to keep pace with events.

More information under
www.uni-bremen.de/konstruktiv



>> ADVANCEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION: OPEN UNIVERSITIES

The competitive call “Advancement through Education: Open Universities” initiated by the German Government and the federal states pursues the goal of promoting concepts of part-time studies and life-long academic learning – especially for people in work, those caring for family members, and career returners: the new target groups.

The „konstruktiv“ project is supported within the frame of this call.

The University of Bremen set up the „konstruktiv“ project to prepare the groundwork for a systematic opening of universities to new target groups. Breaking down existing borders between traditional full-time masters degrees and continuing education will give rise to diverse learning formats that will facilitate the realization of individuals' educational pathways at the various stages in their life courses.



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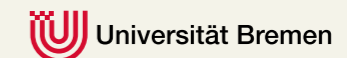
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>> konstruktiv

**Structurally embedding
a systematic orientation
to new target groups
at the University of Bremen**



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***EXZELLENT.**



>> TARGET GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES

Educational biographies are becoming increasingly varied. Today, academic studies, work, continuing education and starting a family are combined in more and more diverse forms. People in different phases of their life – often with migration backgrounds – need more suitable offers of higher learning. “konstruktiv” aims to contribute towards making sure that such offers emerge.

>> Who’s it for?

“konstruktiv” wants to develop offers for people who:

- have taken up employment after graduation from a bachelor’s or master’s program and are interested in further academic education (for example a modular, certificate or part-time master’s program),
- are enrolled on a full-time master’s program and work alongside their studies or have binding family commitments, or
- graduated from a university abroad, or are career returnees, or job seeking university graduates who want to enhance their academic credentials.

>> What does it do? “konstruktiv” develops and promotes:

- offers of higher learning that are flexible in terms of locations and time,
- flexibly designed curricula incorporating numerous options,
- individual guidance and support,
- recognition of existing skill sets and
- linkages between studies and the vocational practice.

>> In which subjects?

“konstruktiv” develops exemplary offers of academic studies and continuing education in the following fields:

- Computer Science / Digital Media
- Energy – Environment – Sustainability
- Aeronautics
- Nursing and Health Sciences

>> CONCEPTUAL APPROACH

The objective pursued by the “konstruktiv” project is to develop innovative, flexible offers of higher learning.

Programs are designed on the basis of **modules** already taught on existing bachelor and master programs as well as in courses of continuing education at the University of Bremen. Detailed **module descriptions** contain all the information needed to make an informed decision and find the right format to fit individuals’ learning needs and personal circumstances.

“konstruktiv” assists teaching staff to design their modules in a way that is more **flexible in terms of location and time**. The aim is to facilitate participation in higher learning for students with career or family commitments. A sensible combination of contact teaching with the possibilities presented by digital media, i.e. blended learning, results in innovative, contemporary teaching and learning formats.

The project puts together a **“modular toolkit”** in each thematic area. Besides modules taught at the University of Bremen, programs may also contain modules of other universities or Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

These modular toolkits form the basis for creating **flexible curricula**. They describe the rules according to which the modules can be combined into a curriculum that offers maximum flexibility and takes individual priorities into account.

We believe that before taking advantage of the opportunities presented by such flexible academic studies and measures of continuing education, prospective students should foremost receive competent advice at first hand. “konstruktiv” does not limit the advice it gives merely to helping students choose the right program; rather, it accompanies them and provides **guidance throughout the entire educational process**. This includes support having their **existing skill sets recognized** and arriving at an optimal mix of academic learning and vocational practise.