One-week Block Seminars – Characteristics

- One week block seminars either in May or in October. During this time no regular lectures are given.
- Give students the opportunity to put knowledge into practice and broaden their horizon.
- Find here a selection of successful topics:
  - “The Political Economy of South Africa”
  - “Governance, Accountability and Ethics”
  - “Conflict Resolution in Business”
  - “The Holy Cow calls you now to India!?“
  - “The Political Economy of South Africa”
  - “Governance, Accountability and Ethics”
  - “Conflict Resolution in Business”
  - “The Holy Cow calls you now to India!?“
  - “Current Trends in Internet Marketing and Social Media”
  - “U.S. Business Culture, Risk and the Financial Crisis with Case Studies”
  - “Intercultural Communication in the Business World”
  - “American Culture in the Global Context”
  - “Cross cultural management – including South African perspectives”
  - “International Leadership and Negotiation”
  - “Marketing Communication Management”
  - “Economic Ethics in Africa”
  - “Career Planning and Professional Development”
  - “Becoming Global Leaders”
  - “Strategy in action (cases)”

- Lectures from our partner universities are invited to submit their application with the proposed topic by December 5th for the block week in May or May 10th for the block week in October.

- Block Weeks in 2018: 14th – 18th May, 22nd – 26th October
- Block Weeks in 2020: 4th – 8th May, 26th – 30th October
Detailed Information about the Block Week

1. What is the Block Week?

This special type of class is offered once every semester: at the beginning of May and at the end of October. It lasts one week, from Monday to Friday.

During block week, no regular lectures are given. Instead, students are encouraged to attend one of the several “special” classes offered. These could be projects, business games, case studies etc. Generally, the block week should serve to broaden the students’ horizons and extend beyond the courses offered in their specific study programmes. Please feel also invited to offer a course that refers to your home country such as “The Political Economy of South Africa”, or compares the situation of your country to Germany.

Not only faculty members, but also German and international guest lecturers offer block week seminars.

The lecturers are supposed to hold a full-time class of 30 teaching hours (1 teaching hour has 45 minutes). Please note that we do not expect our lecturers to teach all day – the students can/should be committed to contribute actively e.g. doing group work, research, presentations etc. The majority of the students participating in a block week seminar will get 2.5 ECTS credits. 1 ECTS credit is equivalent to a workload of 30 hours (each 45min.), hence 2.5 ECTS credits to 75 hours! Our students are supposed to know this! The students are expected to attend the seminar regularly and the group will remain the same the whole week so that continuous working is possible. There is no final examination.

Our students might expect the timetable as follows. However, feel free to adapt it to your and the students’ preference at the beginning of the block week.
2. Who are the students you will be working with?
In general the Bachelor students from different study programs such as International Business Management, Business Law, Social Work etc. have to take two block week seminars during their entire studies. That entails that the background and the prerequisite the students bring along will be diverse. We ask you to consider that while preparing the class. For the complete list of study programs the students come from, see https://www.hs-osnabrueck.de/en/university/faculties/wiso/degree-programs/bachelor/ . Due to a wide range of seminars (about 40 every block week including the offers in German) they have the free choice. Nevertheless, once registered for a course they have to attend regularly when they want to get a “pass” grade and credits.

3. Remuneration
The whole seminar will be remunerated with EUR 850.00. Also a daily allowance of EUR 24.00 will be paid for a period up to ten days. We will also cover the travelling expenses (2nd class flight, airport shuttle, travel insurance, visa fee) up to 1000.00 EUR and accommodation if no other funding is available.

4. How to apply
We would like to ask you to specify the topic and contents of the planned lecture by completing the application form. Regarding the formulation, please note that we will forward this course description to our students later on. So try to design it in a way that attracts the students’ attention, especially the title of your course. We also ask you to send us your CV. Please submit these documents by December 5th for the block week in May or May 10th for the block week in October. The faculty’s International Commission will select the offered topics of our guest lecturers and we will inform you as soon as a decision was taken.

5. Our facilities
All classrooms at our faculty are fully equipped with the latest multimedia technology (e.g. computer with internet connection, projector, microphone, media containers with notebooks) enabling you to use teaching aids such as memory sticks with your files, CD-ROM, DVD for Powerpoint presentations, etc.

We also have 3 computer labs. If you want to use one of these, we ask you to indicate this on the application form.

If you want your students to do group work using internet they can either use the computer labs or they work with their own laptops connected to WLAN offered at our University.
Furthermore you have the possibility to send the required material (overview of your seminar for the students, PPT presentations etc.) in advance to our staff who will upload it to our e-learning platform before your arrival. Please bear in mind that it is not usual to buy special books or case studies for these one-week-seminars.

In addition, the faculty offers an office for guest lecturers. The room contains a PC and a container with some office material for your personal use. An extra laptop can also be provided. It might however be used by several guests at the same time. If you want to do some larger or preparatory works for your lectures, we would recommend to bring your own laptop. Please note that if you bring your own laptop and want to use WLAN, your laptop must have a WLAN programme.

6. Accommodation
You are usually accommodated in our guest house on campus. It is located on the Caprivi Campus, Caprivistraße 30 A, Osnabrück, i.e. very close to the lecture rooms. The guest house features furnished rooms, lounge, kitchen, bathrooms and washing machine. It does, however, not include breakfast, but there is a cafeteria very close on campus which is open from Monday to Friday.
In case the guest house is fully booked, we will book accommodation in a hotel nearby.

7. What else?
We usually organize a program for all international guest lecturers, so that they will get to know each other and the lecturers at the Faculty of Business Management and Social Sciences. Examples: Welcome dinner with the Academic Dean, guided city tour, feedback meeting. Before your arrival you will receive an individual schedule for your stay.

Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact us!
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