



Networking during your studies

Connecting with people – online and offline

Networking and exchanging ideas during your studies is important, but even outside of a pandemic often a challenge, especially for first-year students. Which contact points are there and where can I find like-minded people? The following overview offers some assistance and shows the various networking opportunities at TU Braunschweig.

INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS AND PRELIMINARY COURSES: During the introductory events you will get in touch with other first-year students. Take advantage of this opportunity to network and exchange contact details. You can find information for first-semester students about introductory events, orientation weeks and preliminary courses [here](#).

VIRTUAL EVENTS: Your introductory events only take place digitally? There might be no personal exchange here, but it is also possible to socialize in a virtual setting. If the lecturer does not suggest this of their own, ask whether it is possible to stay in the virtual room for some minutes after the official end of the event so contact details can be exchanged.

LEARNING GROUPS: Learning together motivates and the thematic exchange within one's own subject can help clarify open questions. Thus, you can also find new friends at the same time.

STUD.IP: In Stud.IP, not only all the information about available courses is listed, it is also possible to get in touch with lecturers and other students. With the tool Blubber, Stud.IP provides students with an internal communication tool which is a mixture of chat and forum. There is also a virtual notice board which is helpful when looking for flats, jobs or study groups. Students are also able to create an advertisement to search specifically for a learning group or start one themselves.

COMMUNICATION TOOLS: In addition to the Blubber tool, it is of course possible to use the webmail service at TU Braunschweig with your TU Braunschweig email address. Gauß-IT-Zentrum also offers the messaging system Rocket.Chat. TU's instant messenger can be reached via the URL messenger.tu-braunschweig.de - simply log in with your TU ID and start chatting. For instant messaging outside of TU services, WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Discord, slack, Zoom and Skype are worth mentioning. Each service has its own advantages; pick the services and tools you feel the most secure and comfortable with.

STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS: Constructing a self-driving vehicle on a scale of 1:10 in *Team CDLC*, intercultural exchange by participating in AIESEC's volunteer projects all over the world or committing to environmental protection in the initiative *Students for Future Braunschweig* are just three examples of student associations. An overview of student initiatives can be found [here](#). Just browse through the website and contact your favourite initiative via email, StudIP or Instagram.

FACULTY STUDENT BODY: In faculty student body, students can get involved in their own subject-specific studies and actively participate in the planning of their degree programme. You can find an overview of the subject groups at TU Braunschweig [here](#).

STUDENT UNION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND AUTONOMOUS WORKING GROUPS: Working in a department offers a good opportunity to make contacts and also to get insight into university politics. On the website of the student union executive committee of TU Braunschweig (AStA) both AStA departments and autonomous departments can be found. AStA departments are, for example, the *AG Frauenbibliothek* (Women's Library Working Group), the *AG Antirassismusreferat* (Antiracism Department Working Group) or the *AG Referat für Ökologie & Nachhaltigkeit* (Ecology and Sustainability Department Working Group). Autonomous units are interest groups that work together with the student bodies and the university, but act independently, autonomously, in relation to them. Examples of autonomous units at TU Braunschweig are the Unit for Accessibility, the Autonomous Women's and Lesbian Unit and the Gay Unit. Would you like to find out more? More information can be found [here](#).

DIVERSITY@TU: STUDENT NETWORKS LGBTIQ*@TU | BIPOC@TU | FGS@TU: The [Diversity Office](#) initiated three student networks for queer, BIPOC and First Generation Students. Thus, a protective space should be created to support and get in touch with each other. If you are interested, you can send an e-mail to diversity@tu-braunschweig.de.

ALL-INCLUSIVE - WORKING GROUP ON THE TOPIC OF "STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES": The working group offers the opportunity to talk to other students in a familiar circle about their own everyday life at university and to exchange ideas on how to improve it. If you are interested in joining the working group, please contact the [representative for students with disabilities or chronic illnesses](#).

TU BRAUNSCHWEIG SPORTS CENTRE: Beach volleyball, boxing or abdominal exercises - everyone will find what they are looking for at TU Braunschweig sports centre. This is a good opportunity not only to do something good for health, but also to get in touch with students from a wide range of disciplines. You can find the complete offer [here](#).

SANDKASTEN: From the book case on Campus North to the campus cinema on Forumsplatz and the student garden in Beethovenstraße - a wide variety of activities are implemented by the Sandkasten project. The idea behind this project is that all members of TU Braunschweig contribute to shaping the campus through their own initiative. Take a look at the [Sandkasten page](#) and find a project you would like to support - or start a project yourself.

THE LANGUAGE CENTRE: At the Language Centre, not only new languages can be learned, but also meeting new people is possible. You can choose between [12 different languages](#). Besides that, they also offer intercultural workshops or individual writing advice, among other things.

THEATRE AND UNICHOIR: Do you like acting or are you passionate about singing? If so, TU Braunschweig has the right offer for you with [TU Braunschweig theatre group](#) or the English-language theatre group [TUBS-Players](#) as well as [TU Braunschweig choir](#).

(DIGITAL) GAME NIGHT: Games allow students to get to know each other in an informal way. Use, for example, the notice board on Stud.IP and start looking for a gaming group. In addition to a face-to-face meeting, various platforms offer the possibility to organize online game nights: Classic games such as Settlers, Carcassonne or Wizard can be found at Brettspielwelt.de, among others. Activity fans will like Skribbl.io, a multiplayer drawing game and Quiz. Workshop-Spiele.de offers amusing games for getting to know each other.

Do not hesitate to talk to your fellow students or contact them digitally and commit yourself in various projects and groups: Studying together is more fun.

Do you have any questions? Please contact us - the Central Student Advisory Service ([Zentrale Studienberatung – ZSB](#)) of TU Braunschweig is there for you.