Internationalization of Curricula at TU Berlin

Challenges and Opportunities

Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel | Vice President International Relations and Teacher Education
Lunch für gute Lehre | April 25th 2017
Agenda

• Status quo TU Berlin

• What is an international curriculum?

• 5 dimensions of internationalization of curricular and best practices at TU Berlin

• Conference for internationalization of curricula at TU Berlin

• Discussion
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TU courses taught in English (SS 2016)

seminars: 73
lectures / tutorials / lectures + tutorials: 171
colloquia: 16
projects / workshops: 48

total: about 308 courses in English
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What is an international curriculum?

- An international curriculum is more than lectures in English
- Students need to be prepared for the global job market and to be able to work in intercultural teams
- Therefore learning to take into account different perspectives is of great importance (traditionally there is a predominance of the European perspective)
- Critical awareness for local and global issues of the field of study
  Keyword: “Global Citizenship”
- There are special characteristics depending on the field of study which need to be taken into account
HRK-AG on internationalization of curricula

HRK-AG on internationalization of curricula for the following disciplines:

• engineering
• medical/food sciences
• natural sciences
• social sciences
• general studies/liberal arts
• teacher education

• letter of recommendation was recently published on the HRK website
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5 dimensions of the international curriculum

Language
Culture
Structure
Specialist Topics
Methodologies
Internationalization of curricula: language

• foreign language education (ZEMS, SKB)
• using English literature/sources (in many disciplines a necessity)
• admission requirements (low admission requirements vs. „only the brightest minds“)
• courses in English
• bilingual programs / Dual Degree Programs
• translation service / correction service
Best practices: language

- development of a language policy at TU Berlin
- more English language courses
- shift towards English teaching especially in Master programs
- establishment of a central translation service
- establishment of consistent recommendations of language skills throughout TU Berlin and language acknowledgement tests in the “expert rounds international teaching”
Internationalization of curricula: culture

- diversity as opportunity
- charter of diversity
- intercultural clubs
- student exchange (also new forms of exchange)
- buddy programs (for international students, for refugees)
- intercultural trainings (for administrative staff, research assistants and students)
- network meetings
- online platforms
Best practices: culture

- intercultural module for students (in development as study reform project)
- acquisition of a certificate for intercultural commitment (II PE-WB)
- Intercultural Club: TUBIC
- online integration platform TUBI → developed by students for students (ZIIK)
- International group of regulars (“Stammtisch”)
- establishment of an equality/diversity strategy for TU Berlin
Internationalization of curricula: structure

• guest lecturer / lecturer exchange / staff mobility
• Summer / Winter Schools and exchange programs
• orientation phase
• approval procedure
• window of opportunity for mobility in study schedule / degree program
• Callings of int. Professors (international recruiting, intercultural sensible appeal proceedings, international requirements for applicants)
• recognition of credits earned from abroad
• Uni-Assist
• internships abroad
• definition of international learning and qualification goals in study and examination regulations
Best practices: structure

• expansion of lecturer exchange, e.g. by guest lectures
• IPODI TU Berlin (international post-doc-initiative)
• simplify admission process for applicants from abroad (Uni-Assist)
• take into consideration the grading process in different countries
• more flexible opportunities for mobility
• specify window of mobility in curricula
• TU Berlin is working on a recognition data base for credits earned abroad
  (student mobility)
• revision of the reference guidelines (also by international aspects)
Summer University TU Berlin

- since 2015 managed by TUBS GmbH, since 2017 also Winter University
- this year successful second round with 160 participants
- students from 50 different countries
- cultural side program
- mobility agreement with University of California, University of Florida, Shanghai Jiaotong University and University of Washington
Networks

International networks:

The TU Berlin is i. a. member of:

• **SEFI** (Société Européenne pour la Formation des Ingénieurs)
• **CESAER** (the Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education)
• **WC2** (World Class World Cities University Network)
• **PERL** (The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living)
Mobility agreement

A4Tech

- together with CentraleSupélec Paris, Politecnico di Milano and University College London the TU Berlin founded the European initiative „Alliance4Tech“ (A4T)
- joint mobility agreement
- program enables students to acquire the Master's Degree in industrial engineering in currently up to three countries
- with further study programs to follow
Internationalization of curricula: specialism of subject

• enable window of opportunity for mobility also in „dense“ curricula, free electives (for language courses, intercultural courses, internships, stays abroad)
• making professional experiences abroad, e.g. by excursions, internships
• consideration of international job market analysis in development of curricula
• discipline-specific language programs
• inclusion of international technical lecture
• change of perspective by international case studies
Best practices: specifics of the subject

- define window of opportunity for mobility in field of studies
- excursions
- TU Campus El Gouna
„Educational construction site Tel Aviv“ Green Pavillon 2015

• Project IGSBE (Israeli German Sustainable Building Education)
• supported by the German Federal Environment Foundation (DBU) and the Federal Foreign Office
• German-Israeli exchange project with students of civil engineering and teacher training with the professional field of study construction technology at TU Berlin, students of the Oberstufenzentrum Bautechnik | Berlin (Knobelsdorff-Schule), architecture students of University Tel Aviv as well as students of Tel Hai Colleges
• results of planning and construction are realized by all participants on the so called „educational construction site“ on the forecourt of University Tel Aviv in October 2015
Internationalization of curricula: methodology

- variations of examination methods (complies to international students)
- using comparing didactic methods
- using digitalization (online courses, online & global collaboration)
- introducing knowledge from non-European contexts
- international dialog
- diversity of methodology
- multi-perspectivity
Best practices: methodology

• continuing education: Berliner Zentrum für Hochschullehre, Zentraleinrichtung Wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung und Kooperation →
  i. a. further training on using digital media for internationalization purposes

ExaminationMethods Digitalization VarietyOfMethodologies
ComparingDidactiveMethods
InternationalDialogue MultiPerspectivity KnowledgeFromNonEuropeanContext
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Conference on Internationalization of curricula

“Internationalization of Curricula in STEM disciplines –
Internationalization of curricula in technical oriented subject area“

time period: February 14th – 16th 2018
location: Technical University Berlin
host: Vice President International Relations and Teacher Education of Technical University Berlin, Mrs. Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel
topics: Best Practices, results from the HRK-AG „Internationalization of curricula“ published recommendation letter from April 2017 for Engineering and natural science; dimensions of internationalization of curricula: linguistic, cultural, technical, structural and methodical dimensions
formats: speeches/keynotes, technically oriented workshops, further training offerings for teachers and administration
Preparatory events of the conference regarding the conference

1. Internationale Woche an der TU Berlin: Posterausstellung
   24.04.17, 10:30-13:00 Uhr | Blauer Flur vor Café Wetterleuchten/Hauptgebäude

2. Internationale Woche: Selfmarketing - from Student to Professional
   24.04.17, 10:00-15:00 Uhr | Sherrie Andrea Turnquist

3. 5. Lunch für gute Lehre: Internationale Lehre an der TU Berlin
   25.04.17, 12:00-14:00 Uhr | Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel, Vizepräsidentin der TU Berlin

4. Internationale Woche: Crash Course Intercultural Competence
   28.04.17, 09:00-15:00 Uhr | Dr. Gundula Gwenn Hiller

5. Writing Peer Reviews and answering to Reviewers
   31.05.17, 09:00-13:00 Uhr | Dr. Thomas Nehls, Dr. Andre Peters

6. 6. Lunch für gute Lehre: Curriculum Redesign around Studios and Online Learning
   27.06.17, 12:00-14:00 Uhr | Prof. Dr. Roger Hadgraft, UTS Sydney plus Workshop

7. How to write a Successful Proposal
   22.-23.06.17, 09:00-17:00 Uhr | Cornelia Borek, Iris Löhrmann
Preparatory events of the conference regarding International teaching at TU Berlin

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<td>8</td>
<td>Interkulturelle Aspekte in der Lehre</td>
<td>05.-06.07.17 09:30-17:30 Uhr</td>
<td>Dr. Gundula Gwenn Hiller</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Intercultural Challenges for Visiting Scholars - How to survive at TU Berlin?</td>
<td>21.07.17, 09:30-17:30 Uhr</td>
<td>Dr. Carola Beckmeier, Uta Kirchner, Dr. Monika Rummel</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Planning a Seminar or Lecture for an English speaking Audience</td>
<td>06.-07.09.17, 09:30-17:30 Uhr</td>
<td>Dr. Monika Rummel, Lesley-Anne Weiling</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>How to write a Successful Proposal</td>
<td>28.-29.11.17 09:00-17:00 Uhr</td>
<td>Cornelia Borek, Iris Lührmann</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Lunch für gute Lehre: Educating engineers who can engineer – the CDIO Approach</td>
<td>24.10.17, 12:00-14:00 Uhr</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Kristina Edström, KTH Stockholm plus Workshop</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Revisiting the Quality of your Programme: Internationalizing Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>21.11.2017</td>
<td>Dr. Jos Beelen, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences; Dr. Monika Rummel</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>“Internationalization of Curricula in STEM Disciplines – Internationalisierung der Curricula in technisch orientierten Fachdisziplinen“</td>
<td>14.-16.02.18</td>
<td>Technische Universität Berlin</td>
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International teaching at TU Berlin | Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel | Lunch für gute Lehre | 25. April 2017
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Discussion

„Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world.“

-Louis Pasteur-

- What does the internationalization of curricula mean for our university?
- Which special challenges do you see at TU Berlin and within the departments of the STEM disciplines with regard to the internationalization of curricula?
- Which “Best practices” of TU Berlin do you know of?
- In what extend do you think you can contribute towards the conference?
Thank you!

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