

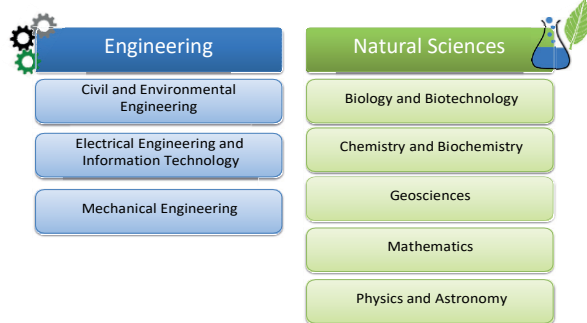
WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- students of **Natural Sciences** and **Engineering** at Ruhr-Universität Bochum

PREREQUISITES

- **proficiency in the foreign language:** at least level **B1** of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR); for typologically distant languages (e.g. Chinese, Russian, or Arabic): level **A2**
- **proficiency in the primary language:** **native speaker** or at least level **C1**
- **German or English** must be *either* the native / primary language *or* the target language

STEM faculties of RUB



HOW DO I APPLY?

The Tandem.MINT-program runs over the course of one semester. For the **summer semester**, you can apply until **March 31st**.

The application form and further information are available online:

<http://internatural.blogs.rub.de>

QUESTIONS?

Contact us: tandem-mint@rub.de



RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

Tandem coordination

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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

RUB

TANDEM.MINT

TANDEM LANGUAGELEARNING PROGRAM

for students of Natural Sciences & Engineering



ABOUT TANDEM.MINT

WHAT IS TANDEM LANGUAGE LEARNING?

In a language tandem you can learn and practice a foreign language, e.g., German, in interaction with a tandem partner who is a native speaker of your target language or speaks the language on a comparably high level (C1 at least) – in return, you support your tandem partner in learning your native language.

In contrast to a language course, it is your decision which skills you would like to improve specifically, what you want to focus on, and which approach and resources you would like to use. Learning in a tandem is geared towards the individual objectives and capabilities of both tandem partners.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT TANDEM.MINT?

That your tandem-partner is also a STEM-student allows you to pursue a specialized focus and establish connections to your studies. For example, you can discuss subject-specific topics or work with specialized texts.

In doing so, you may acquire technical terms and practice describing specific matters and processes which will also help you with writing typical texts (e.g., lab reports or papers) in the foreign language. This gives you the opportunity to test your language skills even for a specialized context. Of course, you can also start with topics of your own choice if that helps you start speaking and gradually adjust the level.

HOW DO I BENEFIT FROM PARTICIPATING?

In the tandem you can improve the foreign language with a hands-on approach and in an authentic, social context. This way you become more confident speaking the language in everyday life and in academia. Besides advancing your language skills, you get to know local and international fellow students of similar fields of study and can enhance your intercultural competence. The tandem can therefore be useful to prepare for a (study-related) stay abroad. Moreover, you can practice working together in multilingual and multicultural teams and acquire transferable skills for an increasingly globalized working environment in the sector of Engineering and Natural Sciences.



HOW IS THE PROGRAMME SCHEDULED?

Once the registration period is over, we will try to find a matching tandem partner for you. In our information session you will meet your partner that you can arrange your first individual meeting. At the beginning of the semester, you will also participate in an introductory session at the University Language Centre (ZFA) where you will receive more information on tandem learning. If needed, you may also register for an individual coaching session in order to develop your personal learning objectives.

Throughout the semester, you arrange and plan the individual meetings with your tandem-partner independently. A tandem portfolio provides you with guidelines and impulses for your tandem sessions.

DO I RECEIVE CREDIT POINTS?

You can choose between the certificate-option and the CP-option. In the **certificate-option**, you will obtain a participation certificate at the end of the semester based on regular participation and a short written reflection. If you want to obtain credit points, it is possible to complete Tandem.MINT as a module (**CP-option**). Whether these credit points can be transferred towards elective modules depends on the individual regulations of your degree program and is subject to individual agreements with the academic advisors or examination board.

Please note that you will not receive a grade for the tandem or an assessment of your language proficiency.



What does STEM mean?
STEM is short for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (equivalent in German: MINT). The term mostly refers to the complete range of Natural Sciences and technical disciplines.

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