Navigating Your Start – Housing & Arrival Preparation

Please mute your microphones.
We will have time for Questions and Answers after the presentation.

TH OWL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS



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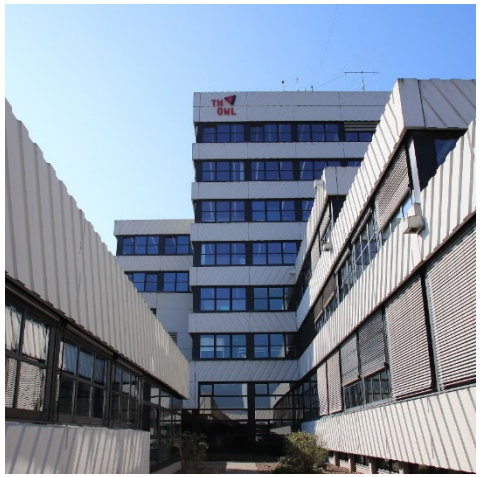


Student Advisor Detmold
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The International Office supports foreign students, during their studies and their stay at TH OWL from your application and arrival until your degree at TH OWL.

https://www.th-owl.de/en/international-office-th-owl/

3 Locations



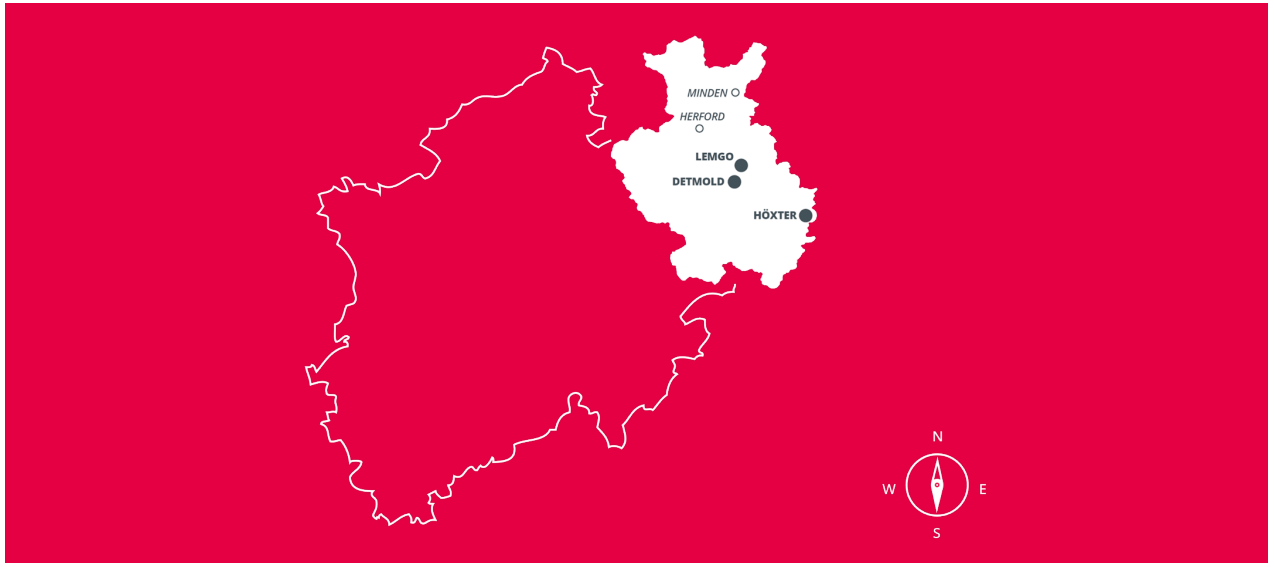
Lemgo



Detmold



Höxter





What should I do if the visa appointment wait time is long in my country?



- Check the specific information and wait time for your home country.
- It does not make sense to apply for the up-coming semester when you know that you will not be able to arrive on time due to visa delays.
- Apply for a Study Visa without having an admission notification but by providing proof that you are eligible for the study program of your choice

Options when you are unsure of your arrival

Do not pay the semester fee until you are sure you will arrive on time. There is no penalty paying the semester fee until October 15th.

Option 1:

- If you have paid - Withdraw your enrolment
- Deadline for full reimbursement 31 August 2026

Option 2:

- Stay enrolled at your own risk and responsibility.
- No obligation being personally present for enrollment.
- Required to pay semester fee, health insurance and counts toward a visa semester.
- Discuss option with your faculty.



Consequences for late arrival



- Payments of health insurance – approx. 145 €/month - start on 1 September (Winter term) or 1 March (Summer term)

- You must continue paying for health insurance – even if you:
  - start your studies online, or
  - do not begin your studies at all

- No reset of semesters within your student visa

Please consider these financial implications when planning your enrollment and arrival

Final dates for arrival

	Master Information Technology	Master Applied Entrepreneurship	Bachelor General Engineering
Late arrival possible?	2 weeks after lecture start	By 3 November	Until January
Online start possible?	No	No	yes
Admission valid until?	Admission offer is valid for 2 semesters	Admission offer is valid for 2 semesters	Only for the semester you were accepted for
Contact person	Baboucarr Jarbo baboucarr.jarbo@th-owl.de	Saurav Borborah saurav.borborah@th-owl.de	Ana Sarcevic ana.sarcevic@th-owl.de

	Master Integrated Design	Master Sustainable Landscape Design & Development	Master Urban Planning & Sustainable Transformation
Late arrival possible?	By 30 November	By end of January	By 30 November
Online start possible?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admission valid until?	Only for the semester you were accepted for	Admission offer is valid for 3 semesters	Only for the semester you were accepted for
Contact person	Maryse Niemeier maryse.niemeier@th-owl.de	Simon Quindel simon.quindel@th-owl.de	Maryse Niemeier maryse.niemeier@th-owl.de

How to re-enroll after winter semester 2026/27:



1. Log into the TH OWL KIS portal with your credentials.
2. Download your winter semester 2026 admission offer letter.
3. Save this file for future enrollment.
4. During the enrollment period for Summer 2027, create a new account in our TH OWL KIS portal. Your previous account will likely be deactivated due to data protection policies.
5. Add a new application and select the degree program.
6. During the application process, you will be asked if you have received admission during the past three years. Select “Yes” and upload you letter of admission that you received earlier.
7. Submit your application.
8. You will receive a new letter of admission that includes the next steps for enrolment.

Before and after Arrival

Living in Ostwestfalen-Lippe

Living in OWL
Housing in Detmold, Lemgo or Höxter

Student residence hall Detmold:

- Studierendenwerk Bielefeld - Registration https://tl1host.eu/SWBI/#home

Student residence hall Lemgo and Detmold

- Landesverband Lippe : i.schwemler@Landesverband-Lippe.de

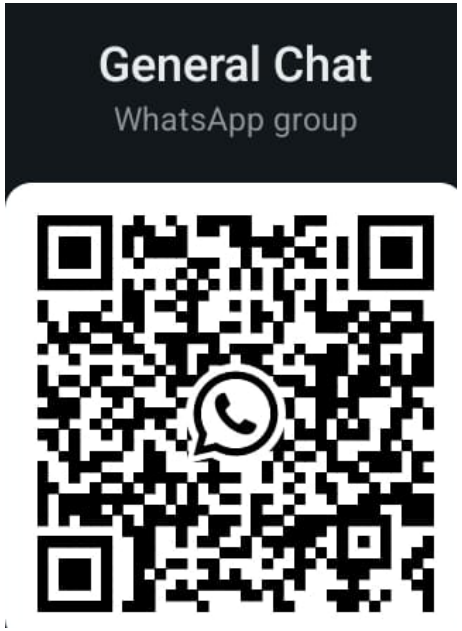
Student residence hall Höxter

- https://unihome-hoexter.de/

List of accommodation possibilities

Living in OWL – Housing – international Group

- Join the international WhatsApp group
- Connect with other students
- Discuss shared apartment options,
- Exchange tips on finding a place,
- Learn about available apartments or sublets



First steps before your arrival

Activate your personal TH OWL user account for using WLAN, email, cloud, library services

- Activation URL: https://idm.th-owl.de/sspr/public/ActivateUser
- You have received your username and password by email

Further information can be found here:
https://www.th-owl.de/en/skim/documentation/basic-it-equipment-at-the-start-of-your-studies/

Apply for your Campus ID card (KISOWL)

- The Campuscard (KISOWL) is your student ID, library ID and cashless payment method all in one.
- Upon arrival: Pick up your card from the service point inside your library

- Attend our **pre-arrival sessions**



Traveling to OWL

1. Flight to Germany
2. Continue with the train with the Deutsche Bahn: Schedule and tickets online
3. Get your semesterticket **download** on App „owlMobil“ (detailed info on our SKIM website)

Usage of „**Deutschlandticket**“:

- All busses, trams, underground as well as regional trains (S-Bahn, RegionalBahn, RegionalExpress) can only be booked for the 2nd class.

- The usage of high speed trains (ICE, IC/EC) or private companies (Flix) are excluded.



First steps on campus

- Attend the official Welcome Ceremony on Lemgo Campus and our orientation week commencing 28th September 2026 - 11.00 to 13.30 hour in der PHOENIX CONTACT arena on Innovation Campus Lemgo.
- Program of the starting your degree at OWL University and all information here: https://www.th-owl.de/en/starting-your-degree/
- Receive your lecture schedule and register for courses via the campus service system ILIAS; visit your exams office
- Check academic calendar and deadlines
- Join guided campus tour and find important buildings, study and relaxation
- Join our first social events for international newcomers



First steps in town

City Registration and Residence permit:

1. Register within 2 weeks at the City Hall.
2. Provide the form „Wohnungsgeberbestätigung“ filled out by your landlord.
3. Apply for your electronic residence permit for NON-EU students.
4. Receive an email invitation by the immigration office incl. a list of documents to present.

Activate your bank account:

At the bank of your choice present your student card and the confirmation of city registration to open and activate your account.

Financing your studies and stay



Students need to have sufficient **health insurance protection** and **secure their living expenses** for the ENTIRE residence period for the purpose of studies AND the purpose of job search.

This can be done by opening a blocked account with sufficient money **(992,- per month/11.904,- per year)** or by submitting a guarantee declaration by a third person.

Work permit



Please consider that your MAIN purpose is your STUDIES and not work!

This is why students are only allowed to work in a limited manner:

- 140 full or 280 half days (up to 4 hours per day) per year.

Example: contract starts on 1 July – you are allowed:

140/280 days by 31 December

- There is no limit for any kind of student employment within the university.
- You will need the approval of the immigration office if you want to work more

Work permit



- You are allowed to work up to 20 hours a week in more than one job
- **Attention:** If you work more than these 20 hours, you will be excluded from the student health insurance and will need to pay more insurance contribution!
- Self-employed work (if you issue an invoice) is only allowed with the approval of the immigration office!
- Mini Jobs with an income of max 556,-€ are tax free. If your income is higher: you will need to declare your income to the German tax office
- **More info here!**

How much time do I have to finish my study program



It is expected that students finish a bachelor program within the **regular or average** study period + 3 bonus semester ≈ **9** semester in total.

After graduation

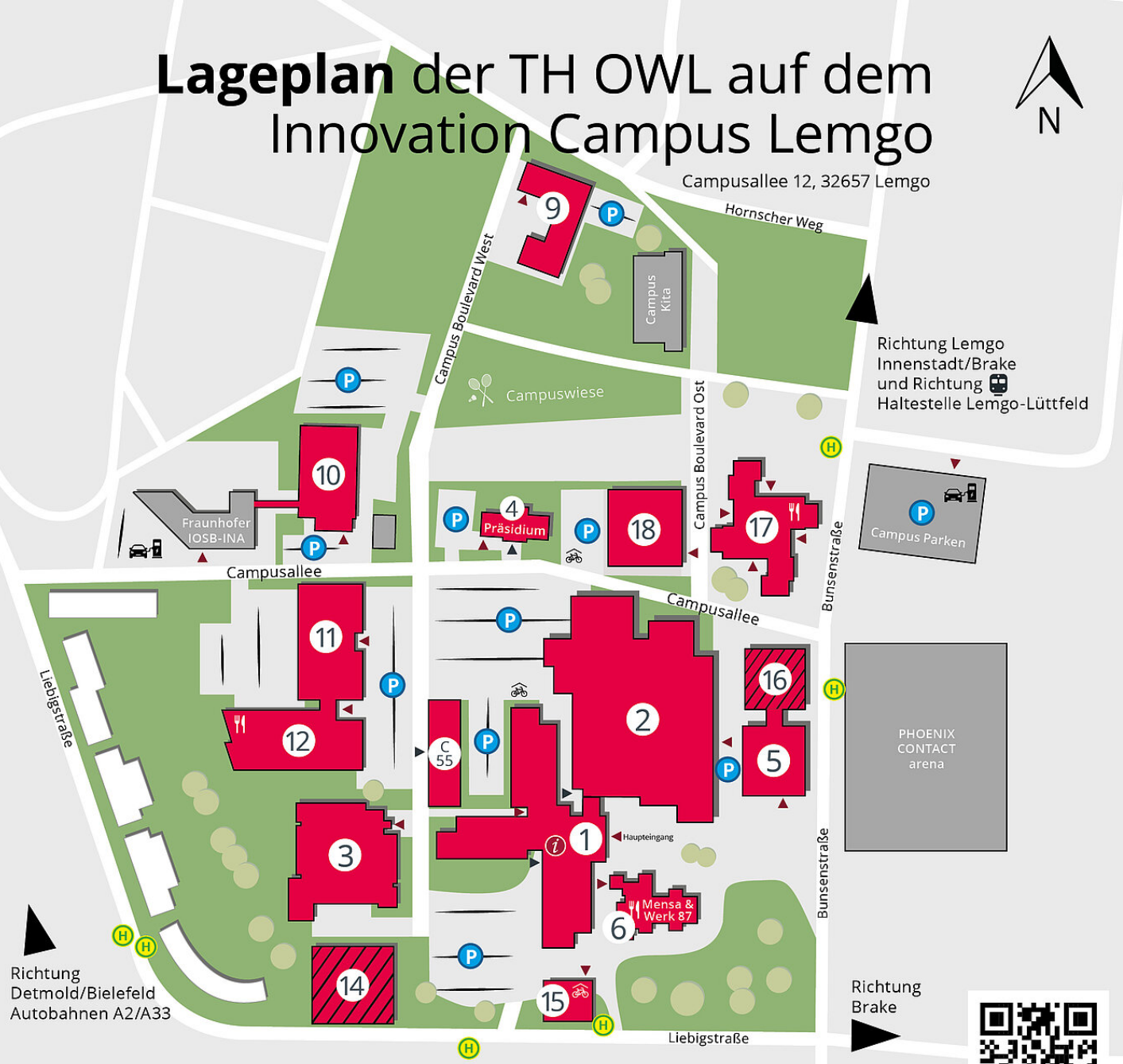


After graduation, students are allowed to apply for a residence permit for the purpose of **job search**. This residence permit can be issued for max **18 months** in total.

The total **duration** for the purpose studys in Germany including the preparation period may not exceed **10 years**!

TH OWL
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE OSTWESTFALEN-LIPPE
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

Lageplan der TH OWL auf dem Innovation Campus Lemgo



1 Hauptgebäude: Infopoint, Elektrotechnik, Life Science Technologies, Maschinenbau, Produktions- und Holztechnik, Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Bibliothek, Zentrale Studienberatung, Career Service, Immatrikulationsamt, International Office

2 Laborgebäude

3 Laborgebäude Produktions- und Holztechnik, FabLab|OWL

4 Präsidium, Verwaltung

5 Laborgebäude Life Science Technologies

6 Mensa, Cafeteria „Werk 87“

9 Institut für Energieforschung (iFE), S(kim)

10 SmartFactoryOWL

11 Centrum Industrial IT 1 (CIIT), Institut für industrielle Informationstechnik (inIT)

12 Centrum Industrial IT 2 (CIIT), Forschungs- und Transferzentrum (FTZ)

14 Errichtung eines Neubaus

15 Technikgebäude

16 Errichtung eines Neubaus

17 InnovationSPIN, Institut für Wissenschaftsdialog (IWD), Campus Foundery OWL, OWL Racing-Team

18 Future Food Factory OWL, Institute for Life Science Technologies (ILT.NRW)

C55 Interim-Büro-Containeranlage

*kurzfristige Änderungen vorbehalten | Stand 09/2023

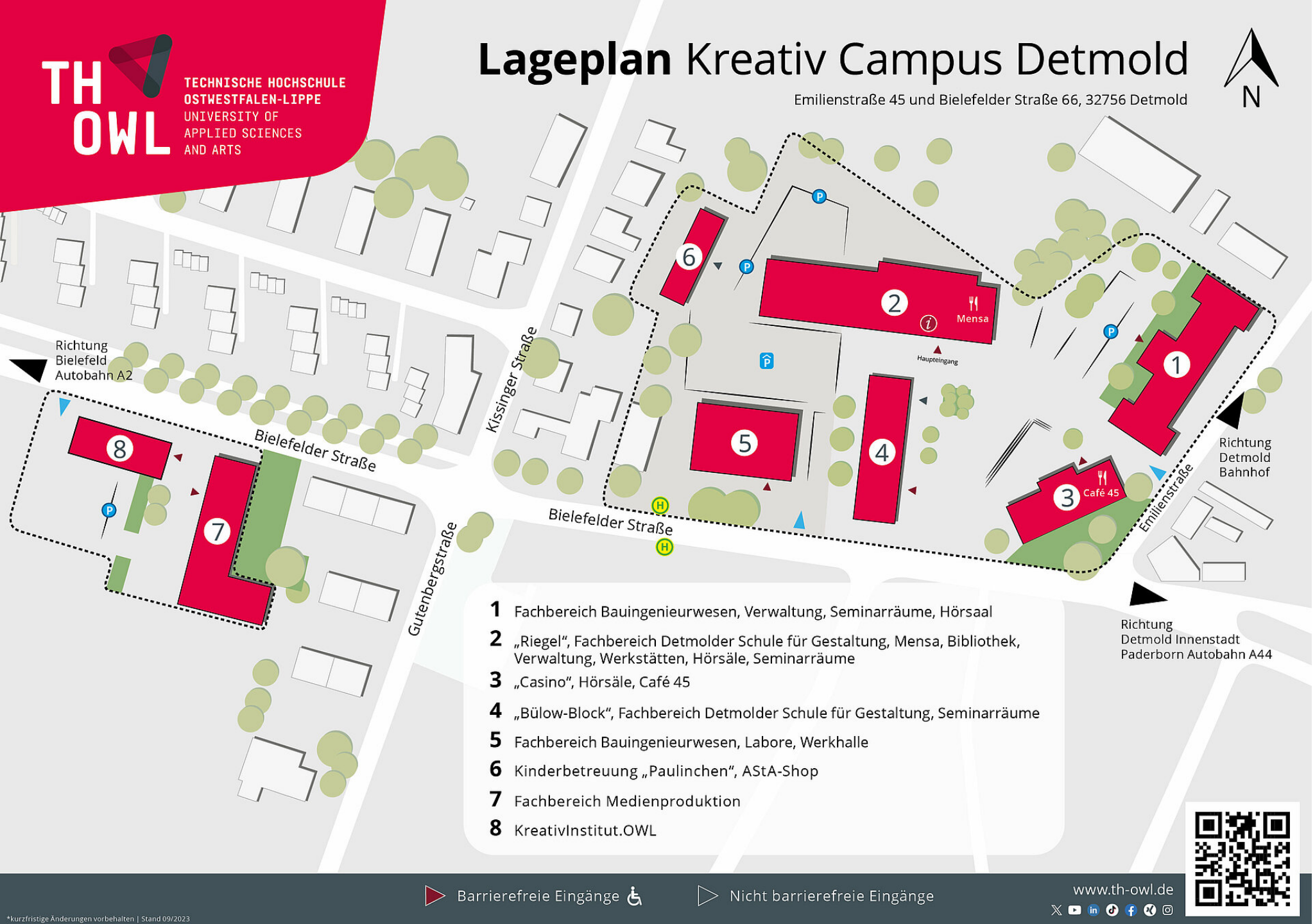
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32657 Lemgo

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OSTWESTFALEN-LIPPE
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AND ARTS

Lageplan Kreativ Campus Detmold

Emilienstraße 45 und Bielefelder Straße 66, 32756 Detmold



1 Fachbereich Bauingenieurwesen, Verwaltung, Seminarräume, Hörsaal

2 „Riegel“, Fachbereich Detmolder Schule für Gestaltung, Mensa, Bibliothek, Verwaltung, Werkstätten, Hörsäle, Seminarräume

3 „Casino“, Hörsäle, Café 45

4 „Bülow-Block“, Fachbereich Detmolder Schule für Gestaltung, Seminarräume

5 Fachbereich Bauingenieurwesen, Labore, Werkhalle

6 Kinderbetreuung „Paulinchen“, AStA-Shop

7 Fachbereich Medienproduktion

8 KreativInstitut.OWL

Barrierefreie Eingänge

Nicht barrierefreie Eingänge

www.th-owl.de

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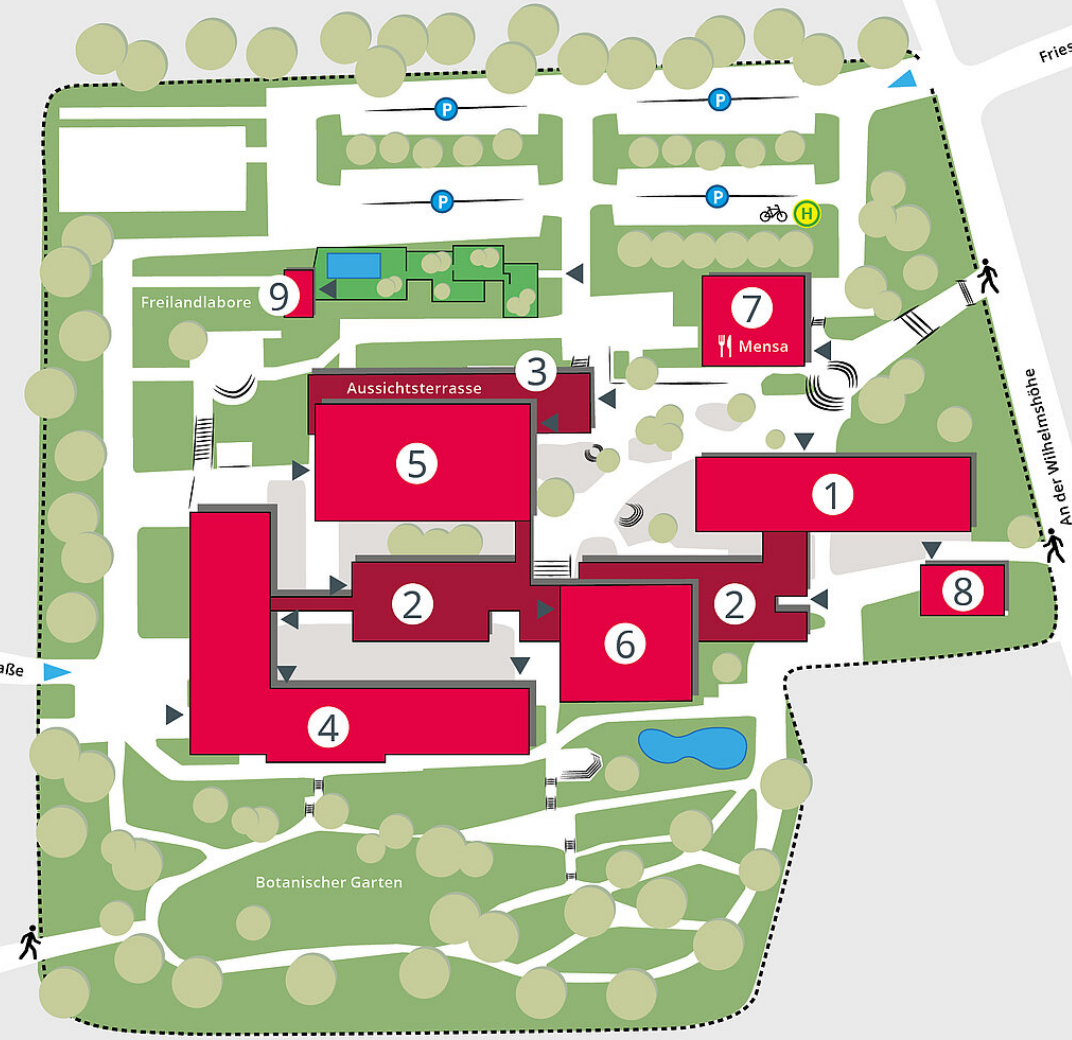
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Lageplan Sustainable Campus Höxter

An der Wilhelmshöhe 44, 37671 Höxter



1 Verwaltung, Standortsprecher, Konferenz-Räume, Dekanate

2 IT-Center, Labore, Computer-Pool-Räume der Studiengänge Angewandte Informatik, Precision Farming

3 Labore, Hörsäle, Büros

4 Labore, Hörsäle, Büros, Arbeitsplätze für Studierende

5 Laborgebäude Umwelt

6 Bibliothek, Lern- und Arbeitsräume, Labore

7 Mensa

8 AStA

9 Mauergärten, Veranstaltungs-Pavillon

Nicht barrierefreie Eingänge

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Thank you!

Join us for the next Pre-Arrival online session:

- **Starting Your Studies at TH OWL – Program-Specific Q&A**
- Wednesday, 26.08.2026 at 12:00 pm

Link: https://www.th-owl.de/international/international-student-guide/#c-accordion-84972-2