

**Welcome to our Open University Germany ---E-Newsletter no. 16 ---**

What is new, what is interesting about the Open University (OU) in Germany?

----- T O P I C S -----

- 01 Registration close: 16.12.2009 for courses starting in Jan/Feb 2010**
- 02 December: free taster workshop in Berlin: "Different perspectives on crime"**
- 03 Dialogue for drama – writing workshop in Cologne with Jesta Phoenix**
- 04 “Hey there! Open University is using Twitter”**
- 05 New: English for academic purposes online (L185)**
- 06 40th anniversary of the Open University celebrated on British Day 2009**

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Read more...

**01 Registration close: 16.12.2009 for courses starting in Jan/Feb 2010**

Just a few days are left if you want to register for courses starting in January/February 2010. You can register online at <http://www.open.ac.uk/courses> via the 'click to register' button at the top of the webpage of your chosen course.

Entry and study requirements:

- You must be aged 16 or over when the course starts.
- There is no upper age limit.
- All our courses are taught in English, so your spoken and written English must be of an appropriate standard.
- For advice contact your local coordinator (c.f. details at the end of this newsletter).

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**02 Taster workshop in Berlin: "Different perspectives on crime"**

This workshop wants to give you a feeling for what University study is about with crime being the focus of the discussion. It will look at issues such as asking good questions and looking for evidence. It will discuss being reflective about your own experience and looking for evidence of phenomena outside of that experience. It will also consider how different nationalities and cultures have different ideas about what constitutes a crime and how crime should be dealt with.

**Dr Gerry Mooney**, Senior Lecturer in Social Policy in the Faculty of Social Sciences at The Open University in Scotland will be holding this Social Sciences Taster Workshop:

**Monday, 14th December 2009 6 pm to 7.30 pm** at the Hotel de France Müllerstrasse 74  
13349 Berlin

As places for this workshop are limited please register by calling 0221 1626 235 or mailing  
germany-central@open.ac.uk.

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**03 Dialogue for drama – writing workshop in Cologne with Jesta Phoenix**

“This highly practical workshop explores the multiple and complex layers of dialogue such as conflict, motivation, status etc. We will develop a piece of purely informational exchange into a dialogue that is full of drama and character. The writing skills gained in this workshop are easily transferable to prose writing”, says Open University tutor Jesta.

She is a writer for theatre and film. She has worked with the English Theatre in Berlin and had four of her plays produced there and has written several short films, one of which featured at the Britspotting Festival 2004( 'In the Aisles'). She has got a MA in Television Scriptwriting and she is in the middle of the funding part of production for her feature film 'Beacon' - a film about a lighthouse keeper's wife who masquerades as her dead husband to keep the lighthouse. She also works as a freelance script reader for production companies and a script consultant for writers.

The workshop is for all levels, no previous experience is necessary.

The workshop will take place on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010, 11 am to 1 pm** at the  
Carl Duisberg Centren  
Hansaring 49-51  
50670 Cologne

The workshop is designed for all levels, no previous experience is necessary.

As places for this workshop are limited please register by calling 0221 1626 235 or mailing  
germany-central@open.ac.uk.

There are no further events planned at the moment. To find out about future events please  
see [www.open.ac.uk/events](http://www.open.ac.uk/events).

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**04 “Hey there! Open University is using Twitter”**

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What's happening?

If you want to be kept up to date about projects The Open University is involved in, join today to start receiving Open University's tweets: <http://twitter.com/openuniversity>

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**05 New: English for academic purposes online (L185)**

This new online course (L185) develops the specific language needed for successful academic study in English. It consists of a common core of English for academic purposes with two strands - one representing science, maths, computing and technology - and one the

arts, humanities, social sciences, business and health studies. This allows students to develop the academic English that is most relevant to their study. It is based on texts covering a range of topics, including course reading material, student assignments, spoken presentations and oral interactions. Students will also consider the use of English in Western academic culture, comparing it with that used in other parts of the world.

At the end of the course, you will have developed your understanding of:

- your own way of communicating and working in academic situations
- a wide range of academic texts, including: description, cause and effect analysis, comparison, explanation, evaluation, persuasion, problem solving, and argument
- text, paragraph and sentence structure
- academic vocabulary
- how to make the most of your computer in academic study
- how to communicate more effectively in a global academic and work environment.

For more details see: <http://www3.open.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/course/l185.htm>

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## 06 40th anniversary of the Open University celebrated on British Day 2009

We celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Open University and many students supported our efforts to promote the OU in northern Germany. Some even agreed to allow their testimonials to be attached to helium balloons. Some preferred to be there in person.



The traditional “Last night of the Proms” concert was - for the first time in 14 years - ill starred: the weather forecast was just awful, and unfortunately - very much to our regret- it was correct. So, about the time we should have been setting up our picnic table and blanket, it was raining cats and dogs (not those lovely Jack Russell terriers though). Creative as we were, we decided to stay in our tent and have our picnic as well as listen to the concert which turned to background music only.

The traditional reception for graduates on Sunday was rounded up by an interview for “Britain in Hamburg” (<http://www.britaininhamburg.de/video/40th-anniversary-of-the-open>)

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The "OU team Germany" consisting of

Jackie Schüller in Cologne ([germany-central@open.ac.uk](mailto:germany-central@open.ac.uk)),  
Matthew Hawkes in Munich ([germany-south@open.ac.uk](mailto:germany-south@open.ac.uk)) and  
Dr. Marion Bruhn-Suhr in Hamburg ([ou@aww.uni-hamburg.de](mailto:ou@aww.uni-hamburg.de))

will update you in irregular intervals about events, study opportunities, new developments or just interesting issues regarding

the OU in Germany and associates.

Please let other interested people know about this newsletter which they can subscribe via [www.aww.uni-hamburg.de/ou/](http://www.aww.uni-hamburg.de/ou/).

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With kind regards  
Marion Bruhn-Suhr