

Innovative Universities Global Webinar

Event starts at 5PM CET
Please stand by!



March 7, 2024

Welcome to Innovative Universities Global Webinar

University College Freiburg – A Learning Community

March 7, 2024

Construction of the webinar



60 min: 15-min presentation + discussion



Live: every second Thu @5PM CET



Recordings: available on YouTube + impressions sharing via [#InnovativeUniversities](#)



Moderators

for the 2023-2024 season:
Isak Frumin and Dara Melnyk



The Steering Committee:

Phil Altbach, Jules Coleman,
Daniel Kontowski, Attila Paustis,
Jamil Salmi, Po Yang, Maria
Yudkevich

Invited expert



Paul Sterzel

Managing Director of University
College Freiburg

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University College Freiburg – A Learning Community

Innovative Universities Global Webinar Series

Paul Sterzel – UCF Managing Director

March 7, 2024



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Developments in (German) higher education over the last ~15 years...

- Ongoing secondary school reforms
- Standardization: Bologna implementation in Germany and Baden-Württemberg
- Massification of higher education: from 2 million students → 3 million
- Fragmentation and specialization: from 10,000 study programs → 22,000
- Research orientation: from € 4 billion third party funding → € 9 billion

→ Window of opportunity for innovation in higher education



Figures

- Public research university founded in 1457
- 11 faculties from humanities to social and natural sciences to medicine and engineering
- ~450 professorships and an academic staff of about 5,800
- 24,500 students in about 250 programs

Facts

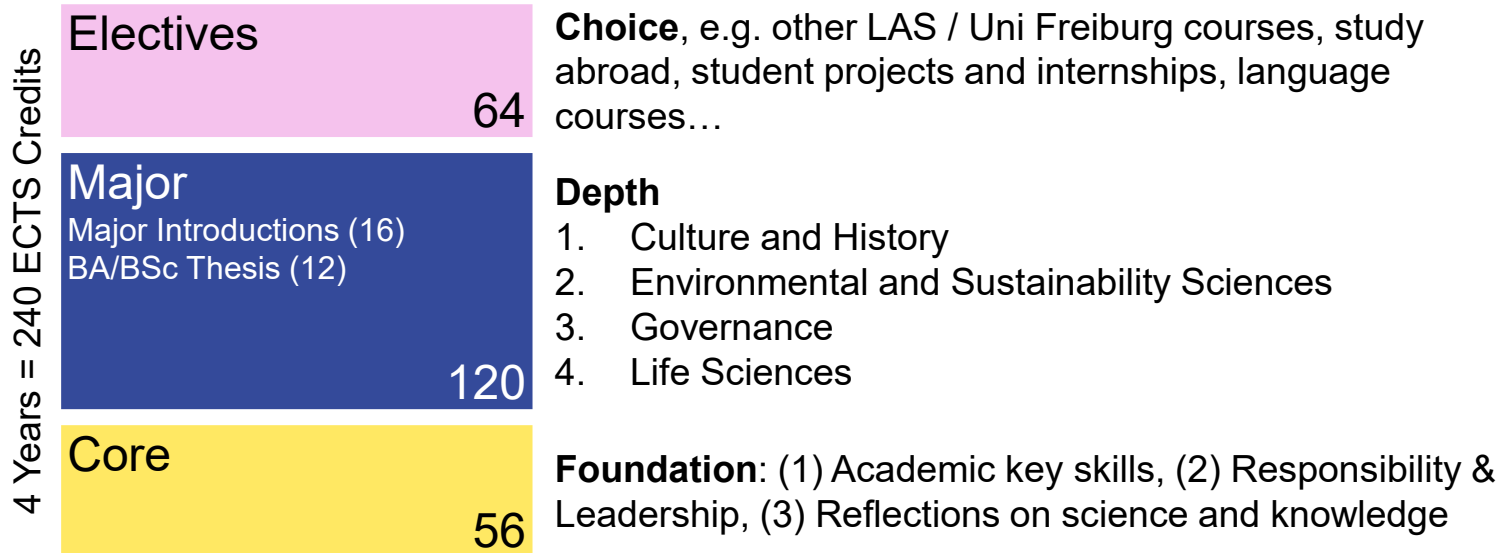
- Highly ranked in Germany and internationally, international orientation, attractive student location
- Successful 3rd party funding applications, also for teaching
- Tradition in interdisciplinary research, e.g., the three focus areas “Cultures and Societies in Space and Time”, “Pathways to Sustainability”, and “Signals of Life”

University College Freiburg



- Central and interfaculty institution for international, interdisciplinary teaching and learning offers
- Liberal Arts and Sciences Bachelor Program (LAS)
- Professorships, teaching and administrative staff, teaching import from University and beyond
- ~300 LAS students, ~30% international
- LAS community at a college within a university





Liberal Arts and Sciences



- 300 applications for an intake of 80 students p.a.
- 300-320 students from 40 countries, 30% non-German
- 12% from the Freiburg area (50% for Uni Freiburg BA/BSc overall)
- 85% study abroad for 1-2 semesters
- 25% dropout rate (55% for Uni Freiburg BA/BSc overall)
- 80% alumni continue with graduate studies, 50% outside of Germany



Experiences

- Integration, collaboration, and mutual learning at the University of Freiburg
- Teaching institution within a research-driven university system
- International institution in a German higher education setting
- Flexible institution in a bureaucratic system

Beyond Freiburg

- More flexibility, interdisciplinarity, and student orientation mainly for the first year of studies (“Studieneingangsphase”)
- New LAS programs, e.g., in Giessen, Hamburg
- New LAS initiatives, e.g., in Karlsruhe, Nuremberg



Community

- Positive mutual obligations
- Shared orientation towards teaching and learning
- Openness for new people, ideas, topics...

Members

- Staff and students in teaching and learning as well as in co-/extra-curricular activities
- Student involvement and responsibility (Boards of Studies, Examiners, Directors, Advisory Board)
- Internal and external instructors, mutual learning, joint / co-taught classes
- Collaborations and partnerships beyond the University, Freiburg, Germany
- ...

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Panel Discussion

Save the date:

**Thursday,
March 21**

**Almaty School of
Management**

**Stay tuned for the upcoming
webinar!**



**Asylbek
Kozhakhmetov**

President of Almaty School of
Management

**Have a great evening and
follow us with
[#InnovativeUniversities](#)**