Call 2024

In higher education, we are seeing a growing demand for competent teachers. It is not just about being well-versed in your academic field anymore. You've got to create engaging and challenging experiences in your seminars and lectures. Sooner or later, most teachers start thinking about the following points:

- How can I gain teaching experience and improve my didactic skills?
- How can I address my students properly?
- What is the local teaching culture like?
- How can I improve my career opportunities outside of my research?

Have you asked yourself some of these or similar questions? Then the International Teaching Professionals (ITP) program is the perfect choice for you. The call for applications is open now!

In this well-structured training program for both PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers, you will learn how to successfully master the challenges of teaching in higher education. Furthermore, you will get the opportunity to network with other international university teachers from different research fields to learn about a variety of approaches to teaching.

The program consists of the following four main components explained below:

(1) Didactic Training

Didactic experts will hold ten mandatory workshops (in person and online) on different teaching topics in English. They will help you to enhance your pedagogical knowledge and systematically professionalize your teaching activities. Moreover, in the self-paced e-learning course *LevelUP – Designing Digital Teaching* ITP fellows familiarize themselves with important digital teaching topics. Attending the workshops is mandatory for all selected program participants.

Table 1 Overview of the workshops of the International Teaching Professionals program 2024 including working units (wu = 45 min.).

DATE	TOPIC / FORMAT	WU
SEPTEMBER 12+13, 2024	The Basics of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education / In person	16
OCTOBER 2024 – JUNE 2025	Level UP - Designing Digital Teaching / Self-paced E-Learning	8
OCTOBER 18, 2024	Integrated Course Design	8
NOVEMBER 22, 2024	Diversity in Academia / In person	8
JANUARY 15+16, 2025	Competence-Oriented Examinations / Online	12
JANUARY 28, 2025	Advising Students in Higher Education / In person	8
FEBRUARY 13+14, 2025	Introduction to the Flipped Classroom Model / Online	8
MARCH 14, 2025	Feedback on the Concept of the Practical Teaching Project / Online	8
MAY 8, 2025	Intercultural Conflict Management in Higher Education / In person	8
JUNE 19, 2025	Reflection Workshop / In person	4

(2) Practical Teaching Project

In order to put theoretical ideas into practice, you will teach your own course at the University of Potsdam (external participants at their home institutions) in the summer semester of 2025. To participate in the program, you must have the opportunity to teach a course that covers 1-2 semester hours per week and has a connection to your research field.

(3) Mentoring

Before starting the program, you have to search for your own mentor who will support you in navigating the teaching culture in your discipline. Your mentor should be an experienced teacher in higher education. The mentor will guide you during the conception and realization of your practical teaching project to develop teaching competence in the academic context. Before the teaching period starts, you will discuss

your preferred teaching concept and find ways to implement it. The mentor provides subject-specific guidance and visits your course 1-2 times per semester to give feedback.

Please find a detailed description of the mentoring for you and your mentor on [the website of the programm](#).

(4) Networking

The planned networking with peers will consist of two components: the ProTeaching Forum and the mutual teaching observation. In the ProTeaching Forum, you will have the opportunity to exchange ideas with other participants and reflect on your role as a teacher. An expert can be present in the forum meetings if desired. You will conduct the mutual teaching observations at least once during the summer semester in order to give and receive feedback on teaching performance.

Eligibility & Program Costs

- **Eligibility:** International and German PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers.
- **PoGS Membership:** Participants affiliated with the University of Potsdam must be members of the Potsdam Graduate School (PoGS). Free membership can be applied for at any time on [the PoGS website](#).
- **Program Costs:** Program costs are differentiated according to membership in one of these groups

Table 2 Overview of the costs for the ITP program.

WHO	PHD CANDIDATES	POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS
University of Potsdam	225€	337.50€
Postdoc Network Brandenburg[1]	-	337.50€
PoGS partner institutions[2]	1,918€	1,918€
External applicants	2,301€	2,301€

For applicants from partner institutions and external institutions, the program costs should be covered by the respective institute. Please enquire before you apply whether costs can be covered. Have this confirmed on the prepared form and enclose it with your application documents.

If you are unable to participate in the program, a refund of the paid or payable participation fee is only possible if you cancel in writing by e-mail up to 10 days before the start of the program. A partial refund of the participation fee for non-participation in individual workshops is not possible.

Application Procedure

What to submit:

- Fill out the [online registration form](#)
- Motivation letter (see below, max. 1 page)
- Signed consent forms (find it on the [program's website](#))
- Cost coverage declaration (if applicable) (find it on the [program's website](#))

Motivation Letter: Please state the following (max. 1 page):

- What do you expect from participating in the ITP program?
- What do you want to learn?
- What specific teaching ideas do you have?

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[1] PostDoc Network Brandenburg: Film University Konrad Wolf, Viadrina University, TU Cottbus-Senftenberg
[2] You can find [a list of the partner institutions](#) on our website.

- How your own teaching ideas can benefit from the program?
- How you plan to implement your teaching, for example, at the University of Potsdam?
- How does the ITP program fit into your schedule/is compatible with your workload?

Please attach all documents in one pdf file and label it with your name. Send your complete application **by May 31, 2024** *to: pogs@uni-potsdam.de subject: "Application ITP Program".*

Selection procedure: A multidisciplinary jury will select candidates according to the following criteria: motivation and engagement, prospects for successful participation in the supplemental qualification program, existence and feasibility of a teaching project, and completeness of formal requirements regarding the application documents.

Further Details

- **Period**: The program runs from September 2024 until June 2025. The **kick-off meeting** will take place on **September 4, 2024** at the PoGS (Am Kanal 47, 14467 Potsdam).
- **Language:** To successfully take part in the program, you must be fluent in English.
- **Childcare**: If needed, free childcare for in person workshops can be arranged in Potsdam.
- **Certificate**: You have to complete all components of the program and write a reflection in order to receive the certificate.
- **Questions**: If you have any questions about the program, please contact the ITP program coordinator of the Potsdam Graduate School: Marie Schneider, Tel.: 0331-977-363512, E-Mail: marie.schneider@uni-potsdam.de