

## Exchange Programme "Supporting families, children and youths in their environment"

University of Applied Sciences Emden/Leer (Germany) | Faculty of Social Work and Health | Summer Term 2026

In the summer semester of 2026, we are offering 11 courses in English, from which you can put together your own individual course programme.

Ten courses are in the field of social work (max. 30 ECTS) and one course is a German language course (5 ECTS).

(Please note the requirements for credit transfer at your home university in advance and discuss your choice with the International Coordinator.)

course title	lecturer	course evaluation	credit points (ECTS)
From Life to Stage: Empowering Children's Rights and Future Visions through Theatre	Monika Witzke Miriam Weinzierl	graded (or only pass/fail)	3
Addiction and Health: Social Perspectives for Addiction Prevention and Addiction Support	Knut Tielking	graded	3
Project Development and Practice	Carsten Bunk	graded (or only pass/fail)	4
Press and Public Relations in Social, Education and Health Sectors (online course)	Insa Segebade	graded	3
Creative Writing in Social and Educational Work (online course)	Insa Segebade	graded	3
Potential traumatic life events and health across the life course	Jutta Lindert	graded	4
Body-Based Methods in Social Work: Psychomotricity for Empowering Children and Families	Jörg Lemmer Schmid	pass or fail	3
Non-Violent Communication	Inga Henn	pass or fail	2
International University Week	Astrid Hübner	pass or fail	3
Laughter (Yoga) as a tool in Social Work	Inga Henn	pass or fail	2
<i>Total possible ECTS in Social Work and Health</i>			<b>30</b>
course title	lecturer	course evaluation	credit points (ECTS)
German Language Course	tba	graded	5

For further information about our exchange programme (course description, etc.) and living conditions in Emden, please visit our website. If you have any further questions, please contact our International Coordinator Catherine Herbin.

We look forward to hearing from you!



## Detailed course description

<b>1. "From Life to Stage: Empowering Children's Rights and Future Visions through Theatre", Monika Witzke and Miriam Weinzierl</b>	
Course Description	<p>Children's rights – such as the right to equality, education and protection from violence – apply to all individuals from birth until the age of 18. Yet their significance extends far beyond this age group: dealing with children's rights consciously or unconsciously shapes our own biographical experiences as well as our professional and private practice.</p> <p>This seminar combines knowledge on the topic of children's rights with theater-educational methods. These methods build on existing knowledge about children's rights and create a creative space for biographical reflection and self-expression. At the same time, the theatre pedagogical approach enables participants to get to know concrete techniques for working, creating, and reflecting on the topic of children's rights with different target groups. It is the combination of this theoretical and practical approach that makes this seminar particularly distinctive.</p>
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS pass/fail or graded
special course requirements	-

<b>2. "Addiction and Health: Social Perspectives for Addiction Prevention and Addiction Support", Knut Tielking</b>	
Course Description	<p>The seminar offers a concise yet comprehensive overview of addiction issues from a social work and social science perspective. It explores addiction in the context of health, taking into account key forms of addiction, their causes and conditions of development, as well as relevant epidemiological data. The addiction support system is examined in its various facets (prevention, counseling, treatment, and support), and new findings and open questions in addiction research are discussed. Evidence-based approaches and sociocultural aspects are integrated throughout.</p> <p>Students are expected to gain competency in the critical review and understanding of emerging alcohol and drug issues, also addictive behaviors and policies and self-efficacy to effectively articulate to develop research and better inform policy changes in Germany and globally.</p>
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS pass or fail
special course requirements	-

<b>3. “Project Development and Practice”, Carsten Bunk</b>	
Course Description	Short introduction into the system of social services in Germany. Weekly practice day in a social service. If applicable: Development and implementation of a project offered in the social service.
ECTS and course evaluation	4 ECTS, In consultation with the lecturer, course performance can be assessed as pass/fail (SL) or graded (PL). In order to evaluate your performance, you are required to provide a written report on your learning experience. This report can either be ungraded (pass/fail) or graded. The report can be written in English or German.
special course requirements	Participants must submit a current certificate of good conduct for the practical unit in a social institution (social service) and depending on the social institution a proof of vaccination, if applicable.

<b>4. “Press and Public Relations in Social, Education and Health Sectors”, Insa Segebade</b>	
Course Description	Press and public relations work is an important element in order to be visible as a social institution and to be perceived with one's own profile. The course provides basic knowledge of effective public relations in the social sector.
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS graded
special course requirements	Online-Course! Please ensure you have a stable internet connection + laptop (or similar) with microphone and camera.

<b>5. “Creative Writing in Social and Educational Work”, Insa Segebade</b>	
Course Description	“Fiction gives us empathy: it puts us inside the minds of other people, gives us the gifts of seeing the world through their eyes. Fiction is a lie that tells us true things, over and over“, said Neil Gaiman and explains at the same time why creative writing is a good company ion if your work in a social institution. You will learn on a practice-based method how writing works and how and why writing can be used in social work.
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS graded
special course requirements	Online-Course! Please ensure you have a stable internet connection + laptop (or similar) with microphone and camera.

<b>6. “Potential traumatic life events and health across the life course”, Jutta Lindert</b>	
Course Description	Potential traumatic life events (PTE) have an impact on (mental) health. The specific aims of this course are: 1) to define potentially traumatic life events; 2) identify vulnerable groups and the impact of PTEs; 3) recognize trajectories of health impacts; 4) get to know intervention models to mitigate the impact of traumatic life events.
ECTS and course evaluation	4 ECTS graded
special course requirements	-

<b>7. “Body-Based Methods in Social Work: Psychomotricity for Empowering Children and Families”, Jörg Lemmer Schmid</b>	
Course Description	This practice-oriented weekend seminar (Fr/Sa/Su) introduces fundamental psychomotor principles of empowerment and personal development, not only through theoretical input but primarily through embodied, movement-based self-exploration. The seminar includes relaxation techniques, body awareness exercises, and cooperative group activities and games. Learning outcomes are largely based on the group’s willingness to reflect on their personal experiences in relation to their own professional field within social work. No prior experience or specific physical abilities are required. Participants are invited to wear comfortable clothing suitable for movement. Please bring enough to drink and eat for the breaks with you (the canteen is closed on the weekend).
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS pass or fail
Special information	Block seminar

<b>8. “Nonviolent Communication in Social Work”, Inga Henn</b>	
Course Description	This course introduces students to the principles of Nonviolent Communication (NVC) according to Marshall Rosenberg. Through interactive exercises and reflection, students develop key skills such as empathy, active listening, and needs-based communication. As part of the final assessment, students apply the NVC concept to a specific field of social work.
ECTS and course evaluation	2 ECTS Pass or fail
special course requirements	-

<b>9. "International University Week", Astrid Hübner</b>	
Course Description	You have the opportunity either to participate in the IUW 2026 or in another international week either in Emden or outside Germany
ECTS and course evaluation	3 ECTS pass or fail
special course requirements	Block seminar with additional preparatory and follow-up sessions Costs may arise during the International University Week. These are usually reimbursed afterwards. An advance payment is usually required. If you have financial difficulties, please speak to the professor in advance.

<b>10. "Laughter (Yoga) as a Tool in Social Work", Inga Henn</b>	
Course Description	This practical module explores the use of Laughter Yoga as a resource-oriented method in social work. Students actively engage in exercises that promote joy, connection, and emotional resilience. A willingness to laugh without reason is essential. Upon successful participation, students receive a certificate from the International Laughter Yoga University.
ECTS and course evaluation	2 ECTS pass or fail
Special information	Block Seminar

<b>11. "German Language Course", N.N. (International Office)</b>	
Course Description	You will be assigned to the appropriate German course for international students based on your current level of German. The International Office is responsible for assigning students to courses and coordinating schedules.
ECTS and course evaluation	5 ECTS graded
special course requirements	Short placement test at the beginning of the semester