



MICROCREDENTIALS

as a means to promote Internationalization at Home

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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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and Research



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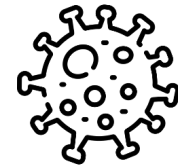
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Digital Mobil @ FH Bielefeld

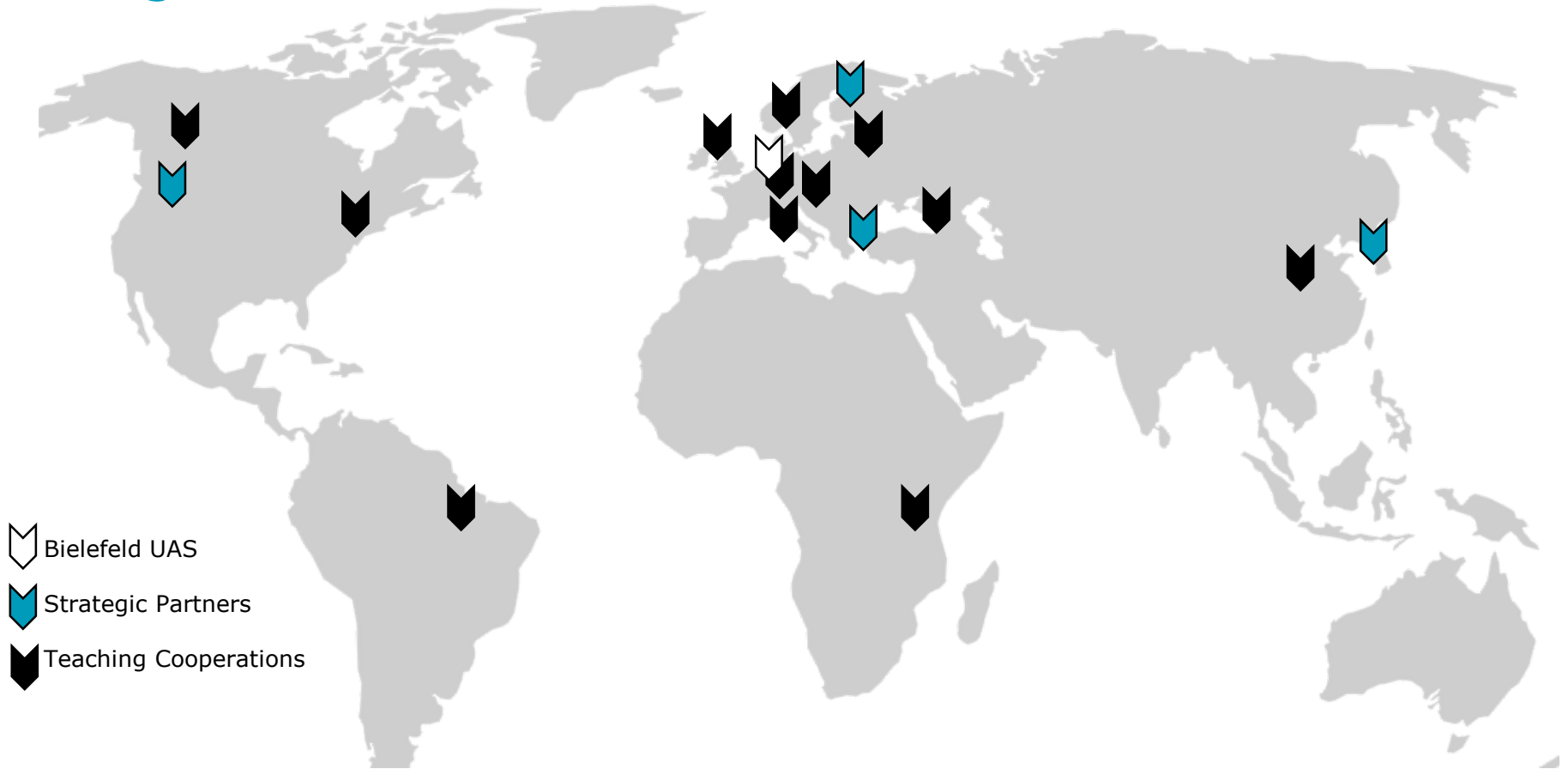
Combine
digitalization and
internationalization






All students have the chance to
gain international experience



Digital Mobil in the World



Map by [Ciker-Free-Vector-Images](#) on [Pixabay](#)

-  Bielefeld UAS
-  Strategic Partners
-  Teaching Cooperations



What are Microcredentials?



„A micro-credential is the **record of the learning outcomes** that a learner has acquired following a **small volume of learning**. These learning outcomes have been assessed against transparent and clearly defined standards.“

European Commission (2021):
[A European Approach to Micro-Credentials](#)

What are the potentials?

According to the [GDN's position statement](#),
Micro-credentials can have positive impacts on



Credential certainty,
transparency and
authenticity



Learner autonomy



Access to
global mobility

Microcredentials at Bielefeld UAS



Microcredentials as initiative for
Internationalisation at Home during the pandemic

Our offer for outgoing students



Since 2020

- More than 100 eligible courses at partner universities
- Refund of fees (USA)
- Transcript of Records
- Recognition of credits

Our offer for incoming students



Since 2020

- About 10 courses per semester
- No fees
- Tutorials and personal onboarding support
- Transcript of Records

Our simplified enrollment process

Students abroad send us

- Certificate of enrollment
- Scan of ID card
- ~~ToR~~
- ~~Fees~~
- ~~Certificates of insurances~~



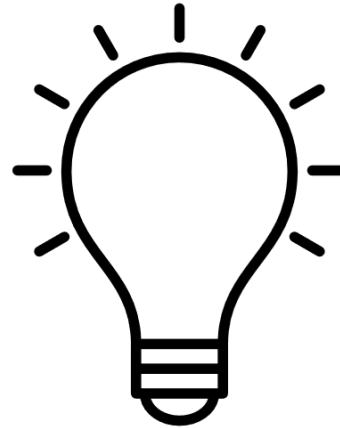
We enroll students

- New status: “digital students abroad”
- same privileges as regular students

Our experiences

Especially popular in **work-integrated study programs**

28 incoming students
since August 2020



>80 outgoing students
from Bielefeld UAS since
August 2020

Not all students ask for a **recognition** of credit points, but all think that a **certificate (ToR or badge)** is important

High demand of **business courses**, but also personal interest courses

Some partner universities were **not able** to offer courses

Student Voices



Networking
New Perspectives
English skills
Course variety



No Networking
Technical problems
Effort



Recommendation rate: 95%

Student Voices

I have a physical disability, so these online modules are a great opportunity for me to get in touch with international universities in a very cost-effective and easy way. [...] I am extremely happy because I completed the module with 100% (5 points out of 5). The lecturer was totally nice and explained everything well. After a period of familiarisation, the technical side of things worked well. The technical support team responded to problems immediately and I felt well supported. I really like the "Microcredentials" offer.

Questions to consider if you want to establish a similar program

1. Which (accredited) courses can be offered for virtual students abroad?
2. How can virtual students abroad be enrolled (free of charge)?
3. Who needs to be informed and who has to give their permission?
4. Who can offer support for virtual incoming students?

Discussion

Do you think similar programs could be implemented at your university?

What is needed to support such programs (on an institutional, national, international level)?



Contact

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→ Information about the [Digital Mobil project](#)

→ Information about the [microcredentials initiative](#)



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