



Press Release

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Subject	University Rankings

Once Again Among the World's Best

University of Bayreuth defends top position in latest THE ranking.

In a ranking of the best universities worldwide, the University of Bayreuth was once again deemed a leading institution with internationally visible teaching and research. The newly published ranking by the London-based magazine Times Higher Education (THE for short) includes 980 universities around the world. Among the top ranking institutions in Germany, the University of Bayreuth was once again 27th.

In 2015, the University was able to advance to ranking group 251–300 – not least because the collection of data was adapted to better fit the ranking standards established in English-speaking countries. In the Times Higher Education World University Ranking 2016, the University of Bayreuth managed to defend this position, which had represented a marked improvement over prior years. The University achieved an equal or better score in each of the relevant categories of the global ranking compared to last year. In particular, the scores relating to scientific research achievements and cooperation with technology-driven companies represented an improvement to the 2015 results.

“The THE ranking is a leading global higher education ranking, which has continually refined its methodology over the past years and tailored it to fit the global landscape of higher education. We are therefore all the more pleased that the University of Bayreuth has consolidated its position in this leading international group,” explained University President Prof. Dr. Stefan Leible. “The latest results provide impetus for us to continue to develop our international profile in research and teaching.”

The interdisciplinary, English-taught master's programmes set to launch in Winter Semester 2016/17, for example, will provide fresh impetus to further improve Bayreuth's international visibility. Another factor is the number of doctorates successfully completed, which the THE ranking considers in relation to the number of academic staff members. One reason why the University of Bayreuth was once again able to score well in the THE ranking category “teaching” is the long-time commitment it has shown to supporting junior researchers from Germany and abroad.



View on the Bayreuth Campus.

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At almost the same time, another higher education ranking (organizationally and methodologically unrelated to the THE ranking) was published: the “QS Top 50 Under 50” ranking, conducted by the company QS in cooperation with a panel of scientific experts. This ranking only considers universities around the world which are less than 50 years old. Compared to other German universities in this ranking, the University of Bayreuth was ranked 3rd behind the Universities of Ulm and Bremen.

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The University of Bayreuth at a Glance

The University of Bayreuth is a young, research-oriented campus university. The University's founding mission in 1975 was to support interdisciplinary research and teaching and to develop interdisciplinary research priorities with which it could strengthen its own profile.

Its research programmes and programmes of study are frequently updated and cover the natural sciences, law, business and economics, languages and literature, and cultural studies.

A good instructor-to-student ratio, high performance standards, interdisciplinary collaboration, and academic excellence have allowed the University to maintain its strong position in the rankings. The University of Bayreuth is included among the best young universities in the world in the Times Higher Education (THE) worldwide ranking "100 under 50".

The University of Bayreuth has been an international leader in African Studies for many years; the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) is part of the Excellence Initiative by the German federal and state governments. High Pressure & High Temperature Research carried out at the Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics has also established a strong reputation worldwide. Polymer research at the University is a frontrunner in the funding ranking published by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The University of Bayreuth has a tight international network of strategically selected university partnerships.

There are currently around 13,500 students enrolled in 146 different programmes of study offered by the University's six faculties. With around 1,200 members of the academic staff (of whom there are 235 professors) and roughly 900 non-academic staff members, the University of Bayreuth is one of the region's largest employers.