

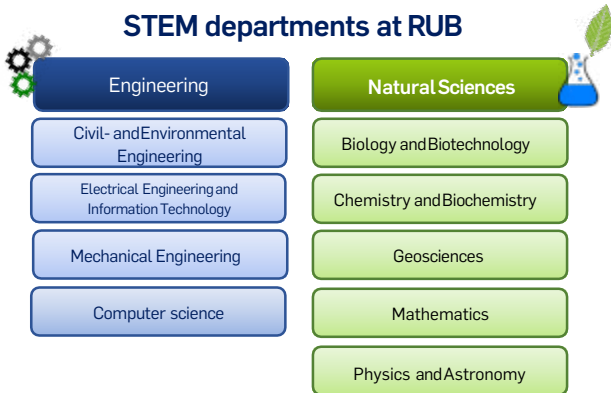
WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- RUB students of **natural sciences, engineering and medicine**

Prerequisites

- **Proficiency in the foreign language:** at least **level B1** of the Common European Framework of References (CEFR); for typologically distant languages (e.g. Chinese, Russian, Arabic etc.): **level A2**
- **Proficiency in the primary language:** **native speaker** or at least **level C1**
- **German or English** must be *either* the native/source language *or* the target language

STEM departments at RUB



HOW DO I APPLY?

The Tandem.MINT program runs over the period of one semester.

For the summer semester 2023 you can apply until **April 9.**

The application form and further information are available online:

www.rub.de/tandem-mint

Questions?

Contact us: tandem-mint@rub.de



RUHR-UNIVERSITY BOCHUM

Tandem.MINT Coordination

Julia Salzinger, M.A. (Ms.)

tandem-mint@rub.de | www.rub.de/tandem-mint

University Language Center (ZFA)

Enke Spänkuch, M.A. (Ms.)

zfa-tandem@rub.de | www.rub.de/tandem



TANDEM.MINT

LANGUAGE-LEARNING PROGRAM
for students of natural sciences and technical fields of study



ABOUT TANDEM.MINT

WHAT IS A LANGUAGE TANDEM?

In a language tandem you practice a foreign language in interaction with a tandem partner who is proficient in your target language as a native speaker or at a comparably high level (C1 at least) – in return, you support your tandem partner in learning your native language.

In contrast to a language course, you can decide for yourself which skills you would like to improve specifically, what you want to focus on, and which approach and resources you would like to use. Thus, learning in a tandem is geared towards the individual objectives and capabilities of both tandem partners.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT TANDEM.MINT?

The fact that your tandem partner is also a STEM student allows you to pursue a specialized focus and establish connections to your studies. For example, you can discuss specialist topics or work with specialist texts. In doing so, you can acquire technical terms and practice expressing subject-specific matters and processes. In addition, you can practice writing texts in the foreign language that are relevant to your field of study (e.g. protocols, lab reports etc.). This gives you the opportunity to test your language skills not only in everyday language but also in specialized contexts. Of course, you can choose any topic you like and feel comfortable with to start talking in the foreign language and adjust the level gradually.

HOW DO I BENEFIT FROM PARTICIPATING?

In the tandem you improve your foreign language skills with a hands-on approach and in an authentic, social context. This way you become more confident speaking the language in everyday life and in academia. Besides advancing your language skills, you get to know international students from similar fields of study and can enhance your intercultural competence.

The tandem can therefore be useful to prepare you for a (study-related) stay abroad. Moreover, you can practice working together in multilingual and multicultural teams and acquire transferable skills for an increasingly globalized working environment in the sector of engineering and natural sciences.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM STRUCTURED?

After the registration is closed, we will try to find a matching tandem partner for you. You will meet your partner in our information session and will participate in an introductory session at the University Language Center (ZFA) where you will learn how to structure your tandem learning that it will be most beneficial for you. If needed, you may also register for an individual coaching session in order to develop your personal learning objectives.

Throughout the semester you arrange and plan the individual meetings with your tandem partner at your convenience. A tandem portfolio and the accompanying Moodle course provide you with guidelines and suggestions for your tandem sessions.

CAN I OBTAIN CREDIT POINTS?

You can choose between a certificate option and a CP option of the program. For the **certificate option** you will receive a certificate of participation at the end of the semester after successfully completing the program by attending regularly. If you want to obtain credit points, it is possible to complete Tandem.MINT as a module (**CP option**). However, this depends on the regulations specific to your subject, your degree program and/or the decision of the department.

Please note that the Tandem.MINT program does not include a graded exam or anything that would allow us to evaluate your language proficiency.



What is STEM?

STEM stand for Science Technology, Engineering and Math – the abbreviation usually refers to the entire spectrum of the natural sciences and technical subjects.