

Critical Orientation Week 2022

Dear freshmen, dear students,

Welcome to the university! We, the AStA (Allgemeiner StudierendenAusschuss), present left-wing and emancipatory groups and events in our Critical O-Weeks program, which fight against the existing conditions and want to change them. From October 10th to 27th you can get to know the groups, inform yourself and join them.

Most events take place in the Couchcafé and the Communitas. The Couchcafé is only open during the O-week. You can find it upstairs in the glass hall directly at the central area of the University of Bremen. The Communitas is a self-organized student space. It is located directly below the Mensa. Just walk directly from the stop Zentralbereich towards the Mensa and behind an automatic double door on the right side!

If you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask the people sitting around in the couch café, or ask in the AStA office about critical O-Week.

Have fun!

Monday, 10.10.2022

12:00 A Pad for All (stud. Living & Building)

Place: Communitas

Members talk about their experiences and adventures in founding a housing project. How does the joint purchase of a house work, what resources do you need, how can you get them? How can you find and support each other as a group? What are the hurdles to be aware of? A field report from the fight against high rental costs and for self-organized living and a Q&A session for people who want to start their own

Bude want to create. More info on the housing project at bude.noblogs.org

13:00 ACOMPA. No one should go to the office alone!

Place: Couchcafe/Glashalle

ACOMPA. is a group of volunteers who have been accompanying refugees and migrants to appointments at authorities such as the job centre, registry office, migration office, etc. since 2012 and also translates conversations. The accompaniment is organized confidentially and free of charge and is understood as a practice of solidarity and anti-racism. We are always looking for people who can accompany us to such appointments and who may also have language skills in Ukrainian, Russian, Persian, Arabic, French, Dari, English.... English. Contact: acompabremen.noblogs.org

14:00 Active in climate policy at the University of Bremen (climate department)

Location: AStA conference room A2130

We, Jona and Fiona, from the department for climate policy of the AStA invite you to a short lecture about the different climate policy and activist organizations in Bremen. Here you can learn about

the climate goals of the university and the city of Bremen, which initiative fits your ideas and find inspiration on how to get involved. We are looking forward to seeing you!

15:00 Monkey experiments at the University of Bremen (Bremer Tierschutzverein e.V.)
Location: GW2 B1410

Many students do not know it, and yet it takes place right under their noses on the university campus: Monkey experiments. The Cognitive Neurophysiology group, led by Professor Andreas Kreiter, conducts so-called basic research with rhesus monkeys. From an animal welfare point of view, this is absolutely reprehensible and ethically indefensible. We want to inform about what is happening at your university and explain why we think these experiments should be stopped as soon as possible. How can students contribute to preventing this animal suffering? We want to discuss these and many other questions together.

19:00 Without revolutionary organization it does not work (unfortunately)
(Basisgruppe Antifaschismus Bremen)

Venue: Paradox Cultural Centre, Bernhardstr. 10-12, 28203 Bremen, Germany

The Basisgruppe Antifaschismus Bremen, part of the nationwide communist ...ums Ganze! alliance, introduces itself. We don't want a more social, multicultural or tightly regulated or "sustainable capitalism", but none at all.

In order to make everyday life more bearable - and to set the course for a revolution worthy of its name - we need a revolutionary organization. Organizing necessarily includes the debate about strategies and tactics related to social conflicts. The event will be about presenting this practice and making it comprehensible.

Tuesday, 11.10.

11:00 - 12:00 TV-Stud introduces itself
Location: (Couchcafe/Glashalle)

The situation of student assistants (SHKs) at the universities in the state of Bremen is precarious: they receive barely the minimum wage and are also otherwise employed only according to the legal minimum standards. That means, for example: Few holidays, no Christmas bonus and, in addition, no job security whatsoever.

If this sounds familiar, take action!

Learn more about our campaign and get to know us in a nice atmosphere.

11.00 Information stand and screen printing (Femref)
Location: Campus/Boulevard

The FemRef brings some life back into the steel-lined, cool zone at the Mensasee (also called campus by euphemists) with silkscreen paint, glitter and reading from the floor's own queerfeminist library. With some music in the background (and hopefully waffles in your belly) we invite you to browse, chat, network and get to know each other! You want to know how a film series is organized, readings are planned and workshops are held? And maybe you even want to join us? Then drop by either today or at the latest at the hangover breakfast on Friday on the AstA floor in the office (glass hall 2nd floor) and bring your friends & allies.

12:00 - 13:00 I get the crisis with war and climate

Place: Couchcafe

War and climate change are deadly and destructive. The climate crisis is triggering more and more military conflicts. At the same time, armies and the production of armaments cause an incredible amount of emissions and consume resources. In addition to countless human lives, wars destroy nature and thus the livelihoods of many more people for generations. Accordingly, wars and the destruction of nature are closely linked. In the workshop we discuss the connection and look for common ways out of the organized sadness of this capitalist system.

14:00 Critical University Tour (Networking Department/AStA) Start Couchcafé/ Glass Hall

New to uni and up for a bit of political background? We cover the most important student free spaces and the remnants of past student protests and talk about the possibilities of doing politics at the university. Stops include GW3, a student-organized half-timbered hut, and the AStA of the University of Bremen. And we will have a look at the car that is used as a loudspeaker at many demos in Bremen! So feel free to come around! Tour can also be adapted for wheelchairs!

13:00 -16:00 Coffee - Cake - Hannes Wader Place: Communitas

"Here today, there tomorrow" and on Tuesday from 13:00 at Communitas. We open our doors for you and there will be coffee and cake. Come by, have a chat with us and listen to Hannes Wader singing workers' songs.

You can find us on the ground floor of the Mensa. Just go down the stairs in the cafeteria or enter at ground level from the "Zentralbereich" stop.

16:00 Open Plenum of Students For Future Bremen Location: AStA floor room A2120

Although climate change is already becoming more and more drastic, the destruction of the earth continues unabated. If this upsets you as much as it upsets us, come to the open plenary!

We as Students for Future advocate for the necessary social-ecological transformation and fight for climate justice. Our goal is to take the climate struggles started by Fridays for Future, especially the adherence to the 1.5°C target of the Paris Climate Agreement, to the universities.

We cordially invite you to come by on Tuesday, 11.10., at 4 pm in the HoPo room (room A2120) on the AStA floor. If you feel like chatting in a cosy atmosphere afterwards, you are welcome to come to the Werdersee (in case of bad weather an alternative place). We are looking forward to seeing you!

19:00 Marxism versus Capitalism? Capital in History (Platypus) Location: AStA conference room A2130

In the mid-19th century, Marx and Engels famously remarked, "A specter is haunting Europe-the specter of communism."

Marx intervened mainly in his own time to encourage his socialist contemporaries to change society. 170 years later, Marxism itself seems to have become a ghost.

What is the relationship of capital in history to the emergence of Marxism? What is the significance of Marxism for the history of the left? Has the left answered the problems Marx raised and advanced? Does Marxism still have relevance today? We want to discuss these and other questions with you after an input. We are looking forward to an exciting discussion!

19:00 Sea Bridge Getting to Know You Evening

Location: Kommunikationszentrum paradox e.V. Bernhardstraße 12, 28203 Bremen, Germany

On 11.10. at 7 pm we, the Seebrücke Bremen, invite you to a relaxed round to introduce what Seebrücke means (to us), why sea rescue is not our only topic and what our political work looks like. There will be drinks, a little input about the group as well as some games to get to know you and not only us. Feel free to come by if you are interested in joining us or just want to know what's going on! We meet at Paradox. We strive to provide a low barrier environment. Stair-free access is possible. If you have any questions or wishes, please feel free to contact us at bremen@Seebrücke.org.

We look forward to a great evening with you!

Wednesday, 12.10.

10:00 Streetart.Stencil.Sabotage!

Place: In front of the Communitas, lower refectory entrance

Learn basic know-how about stencil art in the spray workshop. Whether political on-the-run or critical-aesthetic street art: graffiti has been a form of expression of resistance and dissatisfaction with existing social structures or people since ancient times. Within the workshop you will have the opportunity to try out the handling of cans, caps and stencils yourself and to design your own individual bag. Do you want to dive deeper into the matter? Wonderful! Cut your own motifs on stencils and test them out directly on site!

11:00 to 12:30 Quiz until the revolution

Place: Communitas

You are cordially invited to get to the bottom of tricky questions in small teams at Communitas. The main focus is on left-wing topics and the University of Bremen.

Be excited and of course there are sensational prizes to be won. We are looking forward to seeing you!

You can find us on the ground floor of the Mensa. Just go down the stairs in the cafeteria or enter at ground level from the "Zentralbereich" stop.

12:30 - 14:30 When if not now! Into the melee! Critical city walk (Interventionist Left Bremen)

Meeting point 12.30 in front of the citizenship)

The air to breathe is slowly getting thinner. Not only because the fog of war and environmental destruction are poisoning it. At the same time, the dream of a good life for many under capitalism, even in the metropolises of the global North, is over, if it existed at all. But we are not powerless against it. Where there is domination, there is resistance. If we join forces, we can make this resistance visible. We want to visit these resistant places in Bremen with you and go in search of hope for the good life.

14:00 to 16:00 From the University to the Neighbourhood - Neighbourhood Work in Theory and Practice (Neighbourhood Union Solidarisch in Gröpelingen)

Place: Communitas

We cannot fight against or for society as a small group of leftists. Revolution is only conceivable as a process in which as many as possible of those who are oppressed by this system are actively involved. If we want a society that is not ruled from above, but where people are subjects of their lives, then we need to build structures that contribute to the self-empowerment of the masses and enable experiences of collective management. We need power from below in order to be able to fight against this system in an organized way, but also to acquire the skills we need for a new society. We understand revolutionary district work as a tool to build such a power from below. You can find out how in the event.

14:00 Drum Workshop Rhythms of Resistance

Place: Outside in front of the Communitas

Do you enjoy rhythm, want to make noise in a drum group and are you interested in creative forms of political activism?

Then come to our workshop and dive into the world of Rhythms of Resistance.

16:00-18:00 "From Marx to Darwin" - a film afternoon

Place: Communitas

We want to watch a documentary film about the political development of the University of Bremen with you in the Communitas.

The film deals with the University of Bremen from a "Red cadre school" to a "university of excellence".

18/19:00 Tenancy Law 1x1 with Tenants Helping Tenants

Location: AStA conference room A2130

Many female students move into their own apartment for the first time when they start their studies. It is not uncommon for problems with the landlord to arise after moving in: Damage and mold, rent increase, incorrect utility bill or unannounced visits by the landlord, to name a few. With the event Mietrecht 1x1 we want to provide a basic toolkit for dealing with the landlord.

20:00 Open Plenum - Ende Gelände Bremen: Radical disobedience for climate justice!

Location: Infoladen Sankt-Pauli-Str. 12 in the quarter

The climate crisis is destroying whole regions, in NRW a village is being mined by coal companies and politics wants to maintain this system of injustice, exploitation and destruction, because capitalism has to grow - at any price. We stand in the way of this here and now and fight for climate justice, a social-ecological system change and the immediate exit from all fossil energies. You want to know how we are organizing? What we are currently working on and when the next action is? Then feel free to come by our open plenary!

Thursday. 13.10.

12:00 - 13:30 Information booth: Solidarity with Pakistan (Pakistani Student Association)

Location: Campus/Boulevard

More than 33 million people are affected by the recent floods in Pakistan, leaving many without homes or access to health care. This level of climate disaster is unprecedented.

As per the Global Climate Risk Index, Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable countries despite being one of the lowest carbon emitters in the world. It contains more glacial ice than any other

country on Earth outside the polar regions. And due to global warming, these glaciers are melting at an alarming rate, further endangering local communities.

We will be on the Boulevard where you can stop to talk with us about what's been going on and enjoy some food in return for a solidarity donation. All donations will go directly to flood relief projects to help the local communities rebuild their homes and other desperately needed infrastructure.

Hope to see you there.

12:00 Open AStA Plenum

Location: HoPo room A2120 on the AStA floor.

A warm invitation to the open AStA plenum! Here we coordinate ourselves as student self-administration and discuss current events! Guests are always welcome, but during the O-week we especially invite you to come and see if left-wing, parliamentary-critical university politics is something for you!

14:00 Critical University Tour (Networking Department/AStA)

Start: Couchcafé/ Glass hall

New to uni and up for a bit of political background? We cover the most important student free spaces and the remnants of past student protests and talk about the possibilities of doing politics at the university. Stops include GW3, a student-organized half-timbered hut, and the AStA of the University of Bremen. And we will have a look at the car that is used as a loudspeaker at many demos in Bremen! So feel free to come around! The tour can also be adapted for wheelchairs!

14:30-17:30 How is patriarchy related to the climate crisis? Writing & listening to stories from a feminist perspective

Venue: Paradox Cultural Centre, Bernhardstr. 10-12, 28203 Bremen, Germany

In this creative writing workshop we approach the interconnections of patriarchy and climate crisis in the Global South and in Germany. Together with the young development policy forum (jep) and the climate activist Inken Behrmann we invite you to exchange and creative reflection! For more info check out our Instagram: femrefbremen

16:00 Introduction to Higher Education Policy (Department for Higher Education Policy)

Place: SFG 0150

What does university policy actually mean? Which committees and institutions exist at the University of Bremen and in the state? What developments are there in higher education policy at the university and in the state? Which developments are worthy of criticism, which are perhaps also to be welcomed? And why is it actually important to get involved?

The introductory lecture will provide a basic overview of these questions, which the paper will attempt to answer by means of histories of work and protest.

17:00 "The prices have to go down!" - Information event on the current price increases and strategies against them (Department for Antifascism and Antinationalism)

Place: Communitas, next to the theatre hall under the refectory

More and more of us hardly know how to pay for our shopping at the end of the month or where the money for the upcoming heating costs is supposed to come from. We weigh up how much freezing we can endure and how one-sided a diet can be before we can no longer expect it for our health.

The good food is meanwhile further in the supermarket and the gas storage is filled to 80%. What the fuck?

The war and the Corona pandemic have their impact on inflation. But prices are not rising by themselves, they are being raised. The fact that corporations are raking in record profits while we have to weigh whether we'd rather rent or eat healthy is no accident. It is the necessary product of a society that is not oriented towards the needs of the people, but towards the need to maximize profits: and thus changeable!

It's a lie that nothing helps against the current situation but gritting our teeth. We don't want to learn how to make it from a study income to live a life that is as unhealthy as possible! We want a reasonable living for all!

The event will first give an input on how the price increases currently come about and introduce the Bremen Alliance against Price Increases and its work. Afterwards we want to initiate a local alliance at the university, in which we can think about how the topic specifically affects us as students and how we can organize against it!

18:30 The role of students in social change: solidarity and new class politics (district trade union Solidarisch in Gröpelingen)

Place: Communitas

Although studying has nowadays more than ever become a path to the labour market, it remains a common place for students where they are socialised but also politicised, even if many students initially see themselves as apolitical.

So the question arises to what extent this time offers an opportunity to get to know society and one's own position/function in it better. This question in itself is a question of class, and accordingly the answers to it also have to do with class understanding. It depends on the perspective of class politics from which it is viewed and answered.

In the event we want to address the situation of the students from the perspective of the class question. At the same time we explain why we as a district union consider revolutionary district work as a kind of "politics from below" necessary and why this kind of class struggle also belongs to the students themselves.

20:00 Drinking with Lefties (Claw, ZH)

Location: Wienerhof Café, Weberstraße 25

The left-wing radical list invites you to a relaxed evening with white wine spritzer, beer, political discussions and nice chat about God (doesn't exist) and the world (everything sucks)! If you're interested in finding out what's going on politically in Bremen, or if you'd like to discuss with us why the university isn't a big academic playground, come along. If you have other political questions on your mind - bring them along. We'll be meeting at the Wienerhof Café from 8pm and look forward to seeing you there!

Friday. 14.10

11.00- 15.00 Hangover breakfast in the FemRef office on the AstA floor in the Glass Hall

You missed us on Tuesday on campus for screen printing, but still want to have a chat with us in a relaxed atmosphere and collectively develop strategies against the emo hangover? You have discovered books and films that we could or should have (and maybe you already want to borrow something)? You've always wanted to see how we use the space we're given for queerfeminist

activism? Or are you just dying for autographs, flyers, stickers, info brochures and want to know what queer(-feminist)spaces and events there are at the university and beyond? Then you are cordially invited to join us for a hangover breakfast starting at 11 am and to bring a little something with you. See you around!

12:00 Neo-Nazis in the Federal State of Bremen - Structures, Activities and Developments (Mobile Counselling Centre against Right-Wing Extremism)

Location: GW2 B1410

Attacks on party offices, threatening letters, death threats, as well as arson and paint attacks, all this has dominated the reporting on right-wing activities in the state of Bremen in recent years. In this lecture we will look at the current activities, motivations and ideologies of extreme right-wing actors in the state of Bremen. We will focus on a broad spectrum of extreme right-wing actors in the state of Bremen - including supporters of right-wing parties, militant neo-Nazi groups, Reich citizens and supporters of anti-Semitic conspiracy narratives.

14:00 By Zoom to Rojava - Transcultural Cooperation in Times of War (IMS)

Place: MZH 1100

The (radical) left in Germany often looks to Rojava. Rightly so - we can certainly learn a lot from the society and revolution in Rojava. But all too often this ends up in talking/learning "about" Rojava. Sometimes reading a book, sometimes catching up on current developments at ANF. We don't want to learn "about" Rojava so much as we want to get into an exchange "with" the people in Rojava and learn together. With the "Initiative of Mutual Studies of the Students of Rojava and Bremen" (IMS) a cooperation of students has been organized. One thing is clear: solidarity and exchange need a platform, and the IMS tried to provide exactly that. How does the cooperation work? What are the chances and hurdles of such a cooperation? How can I participate? And what happens now after the first successful events? We want to talk about this together with you.

Friday, 21.10.2022

11:00 We stay all housing! The Bremen Alliance Preventing Forced Evictions introduces itself.

Location: AStA conference room A2130 and Zoom

Leftists only win in theory - not true! Our alliance has successfully prevented some dismissals and evictions in the last years. We want to talk about how that was possible and what that means for a left practice. What does the rental market in Bremen look like, what are the conditions under which we fight and what does this have to do with our critique of capitalism?

There will be an insight into these issues and space for discussion

Zoom: <https://uni-bremen.zoom.us/j/99089447876?pwd=cldBcmtjK2Q5c1E0cTQ5cGRzS0pPd09>

15:00-18:00 City walk housing struggles yesterday and today (Basisgruppe Antifaschismus)

Meeting point: Kennedyplatz (with bicycle)

Together we want to get to the bottom of the history of past struggles for housing and visit the places where they took place. The results of these conflicts still shape the cityscape today. The topic of housing has never lost its topicality: we will look at which actors have a decisive influence on the housing market and how they are met with struggle.

The city tour is aimed at all interested, but especially at people who do not know Bremen so well. The tour takes place with bicycles and lasts about 2-3 hours, there is the possibility to go to a pub with us at the end. If the tour has to be cancelled because of the weather, you will find a notice on our social media platforms. Remember to bring warm clothes and your bikes. We are looking forward to seeing you.

15:00 to 18:00 Critical bike rally - on the traces of postcolonial continuities, encounter Bremen anew (organized by the Young Development Forum in Bremen)
Place: BiZ information centre at the Cinemaxx at the HBF (main station)

You are new in Bremen and want to get to know the city from a critical perspective, or you have been living in Bremen for a while and don't know that much about the post-colonial structures in your hometown? At our bike rally you will find out which colonial goods the city of Bremen traded with and was even the European market leader. It's going to be content rich and creative!

Simply register at: buero@ben-bremen.de

You don't have a bike yet? No problem, just add it to your registration and we will find a solution together :)

We are looking forward to curious and interested participants!

Thursday, 27.10.2022

18:30-21:00 Clothes swap party (sustainability department)
Location: Campus, Building SFG, Room 0150

What is a clothing swap party?

We have a lot of clothes in our wardrobe that we no longer wear. They are pretty and in good shape, yet they always end up in the bottom drawer.

How about getting rid of the clothes that have become boring and getting interesting new clothes for them instead? And how about if it doesn't cost a cent and doesn't use any resources in the process?

Come by without money and find your new favorite T-shirt, for example. Or bring clothes and lay them out. All people can try on anything and take it with them. There are no swaps - each person is free to give what they have. Money is not to be a factor this evening. There will be music. Drinks will be offered for a donation.