

# Mind the Gap!

Starting your career in Germany  
YERUN Staff Training 14.03.18



# Mind the Gap!

## Starting your Career in Germany

- preparing intern. students for the German job market and/or a business start-up
- students choose their focus: job market, start-up or both
- 25 students per cohort; from all faculties; bachelor, master & Ph.D.
- 2 semesters (1 phase = 1 semester)
- individual coaching, workshops, events, company visits



# **Mind the Gap! Starting your Career**

...is successor of Mind the Gap! – professional



**Mind the Gap!  
– professional**

**Mind the Gap!  
Starting  
Your Career**

July 2015 – December 2017  
3 semester  
50 students

January 2018 – December 2020  
2 semester  
100 students  
entrepreneurship option added

# Mind the Gap! – professional 2015-2017

- preparing int. students in their final phase of their studies for the German job market
- no start-up / entrepreneurship option
- average age: 26
- 50 participants in total (chosen from 110 applicants in total)



# Mind the Gap! – professional 2015-2017

- 1<sup>st</sup> cohort
  - 25 students; from 2 faculties; bachelor, master & Ph.D.
  - 3 semesters: April 2016 – July 2017
- 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort:
  - 25 students; from 5 faculties
  - bachelor & master
  - 3 semesters: Oct. 2016 – Dec. 2017



# Mind the Gap!

## Starting your Career in Germany

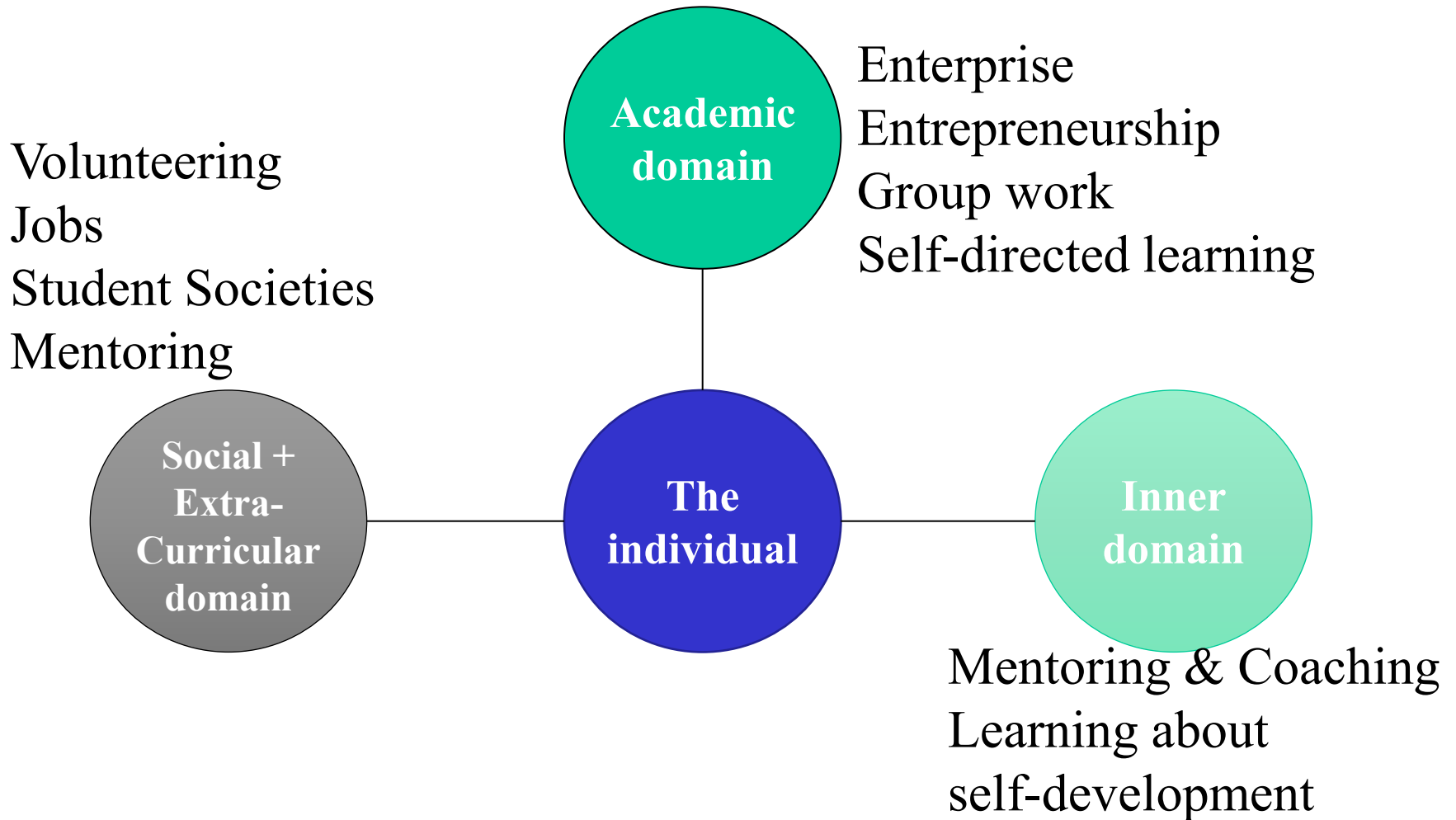
### 2018-2020

- follows the successful path of Mind the Gap! – professional
- with minor adjustments based on qualitative evaluation research (*see below*)
- adds the start-up option
- application phase has begun in Feb. 2018
- cohort will start in April 2018



# Mind the Gap!

## ... the three domains



# Mind the Gap!

## Groundwork for your qualification

- Intercultural trainings
- Creating awareness for problems
- Offering orientation
- Working out individual competencies and potential





# Mind the Gap!

## Groundwork for your qualification

- learning how to look and apply for jobs
- Entrepreneurship: defining your idea and pitching it
- Business games “Planspiel”



# Mind the Gap!

## Individual profile and soft skills

- assessment of individual competencies
- shaping your individual profile
- adjust application documents
- relate to favoured occupational areas



# Mind the Gap!

## Individual profile and soft skills

- visit of job fairs (including preparation)
- visiting companies, start-ups and co-working spaces
- visiting events of the Gründungswoche Bremen/Bremerhaven



# Mind the Gap!

## Individual profile and soft skills

- expert hearings (company delegates, startupper, alumni)
- learning about law: living, working, and start-up business in Germany
- coaching: how to write applications in German
- coaching: how to develop a business plan



# Mind the Gap!

## Self-presentation

- Non-verbal communication trainings
- Preparing for job interviews in small groups
- Trainings for job interviews with video recordings



# Mind the Gap!

Competencies relevant to professional life and the  
German labor market





# Mind the Gap!

Gaining a grounding in how to starting up a business



# Mind the Gap!

## Creating your own network





# Mind the Gap!

Working together in set groups and international teams



# Evaluation

- during the whole project period, Mind the Gap! is evaluated
- conducted by Nadine Binder, Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGGGS)

## AIMS AND GOALS

- existing workshops can be adjusted to the needs of our participants
- the research serves for the possible further usage of the project-model at other universities



# Funding

- German Academic Exchange Service or DAAD
- the largest German support organisation in the field of international academic co-operation
- funds Mind the Gap! – Starting your Career in Germany
- has funded its predecessor Mind the Gap! – professional



# Calendar

Option: German job market

Date	Event
21.04.	Intercultural training
26.04.	Job fair, University of Bremen
10./12.05., 02.06.	Training in non-verbal communication
29.06.	Profile assesment and research strategies
20/27.10.	Application documents: dos and dont´s
	Company visits
November	Job fair in Cologne
10.11.	Job interviews in Germany
November	Training job interviews (with video recordings)
December	Event - Living, working, entrepreneurship in Germany

# Calendar

Option: Start-ups/ Entrepreneurship

Date	Event
21.04.	Intercultural training
26.04.	Job fair, University of Bremen: Presentation by BRIDGE
04.05.	Let's try it: defining your idea, pitching it, and entrepreneurial networking
26.05.	Science Cup (Business game)
06.06.	Start-up-Lounge, University of Bremen
October	Funding for start-ups / excursion co-working space
	Visiting start-ups/ Entrepreneurs
12.-18.11.	Gründungswoche 2018
December	Event - Living, working, entrepreneurship in Germany
January	Business modell (2 days)

# Contact

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