

The Mission Statement of the Educational Center Bredbeck

Identity and Mission

1. The educational center is operated as a public enterprise under the sponsorship of the Osterholz district and is recognized by the state of Lower Saxony as a residential adult education center (HVHS) according to the Lower Saxony Adult Education Act (NEBG).
2. The educational center sees itself as a meeting place for all individuals and organizations that recognize human rights in their basic understanding and wish to implement them through democratic work.
3. We offer our participants opportunities for the free development of their personalities, make politics tangible, and deepen political action competencies as well as the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for societal participation.
4. The cultural and historical backgrounds of the region, along with its social, economic, and ecological characteristics, are integrated into our work.

Values

5. For us, the individual is at the center of our work. We stand for respect and appreciation of differences, diversity, and equality. Therefore, our institution is designed to be sensitive to diversity across all aspects. We actively work towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination and see ourselves as an open house that recognizes and accepts the individual needs of all its guests.
6. Our work is committed to the sustainable development of global resource distribution justice, the adherence to human rights, social state equality of opportunity, and inter-generational justice.

Content and Didactics

7. The principles of our work are based on the integration of emotional, cognitive, and social learning. The focus is on engaging with different ways of thinking, perspectives, and positions that serve self-reflective, personal, social, and political orientation.
8. A key foundation for our work lies in the biographical experiences, hopes, desires, abilities, and questions of our participants.
9. We develop programs that address current societal challenges and future issues, strengthen critical approaches, and are distinguished by quality and innovation in teaching and learning. Our special didactic feature is the combination of political and cultural education.
10. We understand our educational work in terms of democratic coexistence and equality, as well as a necessary contribution against racism, exclusion, and discrimination. Participants can develop their personal skills freely, without being discriminated against based on gender, age, ethnicity, sexuality, or mobility. This also includes reflecting on one's own experiences, perspectives, positions, privileges, and possibilities of action in the social context.
11. In educational practice, hierarchical gender relations are critically questioned, and critical engagement is promoted. Different manners of conduct, goals, and needs of all genders are equally considered, acknowledged, and supported.

Target Group – Education for All

12. Our programs are open to all age groups in the sense of lifelong learning. Primarily, they are aimed at young adults and their educators.

13. Our educational programs especially target people who are not or only with difficulty reached by formal educational projects. The topics and concerns of marginalized groups get special attention.
14. Our educational work is international and encourages cross-border cultural understanding: we initiate youth and professional exchange with countries in the Eastern Partnership, Israel, and other global cooperation.
15. The programs of our educational institution are intended to have a strong impact in the Osterholz district while also being implemented beyond the region and internationally.

Skills

16. Our programs are organized according to the principle of "Living and Learning under one roof" and are understood as a holistic learning experience that cannot be limited to the hours in the seminar room.
17. The educational institution employs well-trained educators experienced in adult education. They have professional competencies, practical experience, and academic degrees in various fields. In the educational programs, they share their knowledge and experiences in a practice-oriented manner, based on contemporary didactics. They also serve as competent contacts for participants beyond the seminar hours. They are supported by a team of qualified freelance staff.

General institutional objectives

18. Educational processes need a well-established framework. Therefore, professionally qualified staff in pedagogy, kitchen, housekeeping, facility management, and administration work hand in hand. The goal is to create a pleasant, holistic **learning atmosphere** that encourages seminar participants to engage with themselves and their personal and professional world.

Services – A Place for Living and Learning

19. The educational institution develops further education programs respond to current societal needs. The focus of the educational work in the annually offered in-house seminar program includes:
 - International Education
 - Political Education
 - Cultural Education
 - Further education educational specialists
 - Health and personality development
20. We also make our house available to guest groups who wish to implement their own educational programs in accordance with our mission statement.
21. To ensure that everyone feels comfortable in our educational center, the housekeeping service maintains a clean and pleasant environment. We offer our guests a diverse and increasingly sustainable cuisine. Our reception and facility management team are available for all questions regarding the stay and the seminar activities.

Resources

22. Our extensive, nature-rich grounds create a unique learning environment at Bredbeck. The heart of the educational center is the charismatic manor house. In the inviting, well-equipped seminar rooms, participants find the space and time essential for effective learning.
23. Learners shape the rooms according to their learning needs. We enable the flexible and process-oriented use of our spaces and equipment.

Definition of "Successful Learning"

Successful learning, for us, means mutual respect, shared social responsibility, and joy in teaching and learning. Our goals include expanding personal and professional skills, strengthening individual character, and raising awareness of socially relevant issues to foster dialogue, critical thinking, and the ability to shape everyday life. Educators and learners jointly search for access and work on dismantling existing barriers. Successful learning is participatory, process-oriented, holistic, respectful, error-friendly, creative, self-determined, and team-oriented.