

Mission Statement ABL

– Version amended on March 27th, 2017 –

The **Academy for Educational Research and Teacher Training (ABL)** is the central institution for teacher training at the Goethe-University. We believe that well-trained teachers are the mainstay of our education system. Therefore we make sure that our courses are based on the latest research and meet the needs of the teaching profession today and tomorrow. At the same time we seek to interlink the perspectives of subject didactics and educational research. We hope to create a mutually fruitful exchange between higher education and scientific research conducted by universities and non- university institutions.

To this end, we aspire to fulfil the following five objectives:

- (1.) *Initiation and support of research projects:*** We initiate and support research projects that tackle central issues in subject didactics and educational research. In doing so our primary aim is to support early career researchers working in the field of subject didactics.
- (2.) *Professionalisation of teacher training:*** We aim to provide relevant courses that use a plethora of methods and are based on the latest findings of subject didactics and educational research. These principles are also held true for our courses in advanced and further education. Close mentoring is offered to all beginning students and moreover we provide support and possibilities for further education to students, trainees and teachers alike.
- (3.) *Harmonisation and synchronisation of courses:*** We aim to adjust our curriculum to the needs of our students, enabling them to complete their studies successfully and within the standard period of study. In order to coordinate subject-related courses with those offered in subject didactics and educational studies, we believe it is important to have all courses evaluated by internal and external experts on a regular basis.
- (4.) *Building strong partnerships with educational institutions in our region:*** We seek to develop longstanding and fruitful cooperation with regional educational institutions. All involved – especially pupils, students, teachers and researches – shall profit from a strong network that succeeds in bridging the theory-practice gap and goes beyond the mere organisation of school placements.
- (5.) *Internationalisation of research and teaching:*** We believe that it is important to compare teacher education worldwide. In order to promote the exchange of ideas with internationally acknowledged experts in subject didactics and educational research, we aspire to internationalise our research across domains by focussing on topics of global relevance. In cooperation with our international partner universities, we aim to realise ample exchange possibilities for our students and lecturers.