

# Workshop Café – Student Reflections & Perspectives

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## Overview of the procedure

### What is a Workshop Café?

The Workshop Café at Angewandte enables the broader reflection of a curriculum or a study programme, based on student feedback regarding the practical implementation of a group of courses that are viewed in their entirety. Students are offered a safe space where an open discussion of study experiences and a constructive dialogue on topics and questions relevant to the pursuit of studies can take place. The Workshop Café at Angewandte is a further developed version of the workshop method "World Café" adapted to the needs of the Angewandte, which also incorporates elements of sociological group discussion.

At Angewandte, organisational units (department or its organisational counterpart, such as a commission, or study committee) can use a Workshop Café to get to know the students' points of view in a differentiated way, so as to take these into account in own further reflections concerning quality development. The procedure can be used to reflect on a period of study (e.g., semester, academic year), on a group of courses (ZKF, subject, subject group), or on the entire study programme.

### Who is involved in a Workshop Café at Angewandte?

A Workshop Café is initiated by one of the above-mentioned organisational units, who calls in the Unit for Quality Enhancement (UQE) for the conceptualisation and implementation. The organisational unit brings in the issues of interest, and UQE brings in methodological competences. Furthermore, a Workshop Café can be initiated by the Rectorate, who is then involved in the clarification of the agreement on the procedure accordingly. The organisation and design of the student discussion is carried out by UQE, who is also responsible for analysing the discussion and finally making the results available. The participants in the discussion are exclusively students, and full participation of all students in the group of courses that shall be discussed is the aim.

### How is a Workshop Café implemented?

If an organisational unit decides to hold a Workshop Café, the first step is to determine topics or questions on which the students' experiences, views and concerns shall be gathered.

For the student discussion in the framework of approximately three hours, the Unit for Quality Enhancement provides a confidential as well as structured setting outside of the normal teaching and learning context. This ensures the independence and neutrality of the collection of student feedback and of the subsequent presentation of results. The participating students remain anonymous with their contributions to the discussion, so that the best possible conditions are created for the students' openness and willingness to participate.

UQE takes care of the documentation of the discussion, carries out analysis in line with social scientific standards, and provides the results in the form of a written report to the organisational unit, in order to serve as a basis for its further reflections and developmental steps.

► Details on the process and individual steps of a Workshop Café can be obtained from UQE.