

## Fund for “Innovative Digital Teaching” at the University of Mannheim

### *Call for proposals for the spring semester 2023*

#### Objectives

The Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre funds innovative projects in teaching and learning. The project “Innovation ermöglichen und Transfer fördern: Strukturen für digitale Hochschullehre (InnoMA)” (Enabling innovation and fostering transfer: Structures for digital teaching at higher education institutions) that started in August 2021 and is going on for three years is one of them. The objective of InnoMA is well structured funding of sustainable development and transfer of high-quality digital teaching methods at the University of Mannheim. The fund is to enable teachers to test digital teaching formats while providing them with the necessary freedom to do so and offering them didactic and technical support. The Center for Teacher Education and Educational Innovation (ZLBI) monitors the projects. In accompanying research projects, researchers examine the efficiency of the implemented digital elements. The results are used to make recommendations for teachers of the University of Mannheim who are implementing digital teaching elements in their classes.

#### Project funds

Projects that receive funding are to empower teaching in higher education and (further) develop and try out new or proven digital elements in teaching. The projects are to harness the potentials of digitalization in teaching in order to benefit students and increase learning efficacy. The funding period is up to one year. The funding period begins on 1 June 2023 at the earliest and ends on 30 June 2024 at the latest. Funding for personnel, such as academic staff members and student assistants, and funding for material resources, such as software and hardware, can be requested. For the entire duration of the InnoMA project a sum of EUR 1.1 million is available. Individual projects can be funded with up to EUR 50,000 and joint projects of several teachers can be funded with up to EUR 75,000. Projects with a smaller funding amount are particularly welcome.

#### Focus areas

This call for proposals has three focus areas in digital teaching. Your proposal must refer to one of the three following focus areas. A combination of several areas is an option.

- **Focus 1: Development and implementation of self-study material conducive to learning (e.g. videos) in teaching**

Submissions with this focus deal with questions regarding the design of digital self-study material that is conducive to learning. The material can be used in particular classes or students can use it in general to further their learning. Please note that for this focus area you can use the existing infrastructure at the University of Mannheim. Included are for example the recording studio, the new video recording studio as well as the services of the Teaching and Learning Center and the University IT for the production of scripts and for filming the videos as well as for post-production.

- **Focus 2: Digital test, practice and feedback systems for students**

Submissions with this focus deal with questions regarding the implementation of digital test, practice and feedback systems that are conducive to learning in online study environments and/or in in-person teaching. Please do not hesitate to contact the InnoMA team to learn about the existing test and feedback systems that can also be used.

- **Focus 3: Transfer from existing InnoMA projects**

Do you want to transfer concepts and insights from [existing InnoMA projects](#) to your courses? If so, apply together with the project team of an existing (completed or ongoing) InnoMA project. Both project partners work together on transferring the teaching method and the insights from the project to the new context. The majority of the funds is to be used by the new project partner. The InnoMA team is happy to support you in finding project partners.

## Application Requirements

All teachers of the University of Mannheim can apply for funding from “Innovative Digital Teaching”. To support your project and to foster the transfer of your ideas, it is necessary that you and/or your project team...

- ... actively participate in regular talks (two to three times per semester) to discuss your experiences.
- ... actively participate in accompanying research activities by creating, for example, an evaluation concept for the digital teaching project with the InnoMA team or by collecting relevant data, while complying with data protection standards.
- ... talk to the InnoMA team before procuring any hardware, software or licenses.
- ... realistically plan the use of resources and talk to the InnoMA team if there are any changes to the schedule or the personnel or financing plan.
- ... agree to publish project results in the form of talks and publications in the context of meetings with partners and conferences, and notify the project team regarding your own publications on the project.
- ... actively participate in creating reports, patterns that can be transferred to other settings, open-access formats and open educational resources.

## Procedure

Proposals for funding from “Innovative Digital Teaching” can be submitted from 27 February until 20 March 2023. Please send the completed [form](#) via e-mail to [innoma@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:innoma@uni-mannheim.de).

A selection committee decides which projects will receive funding. The committee is made up of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Learning, the head of the Teaching and Learning Center, representatives from the schools, representatives of academic staff members and students. The quality of the didactic concept of the projects will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Quality of student-centered approach
- Adequacy of the methodology
- Transferability to other classes
- Potential for innovation - Evaluation based on the status quo at the respective department
- Level of further development of your own understanding of teaching
- Feasibility

Funding may be granted subject to a successful thorough evaluation of hardware, software or legal questions regarding data protection.

## Events and meetings

In preparation for the submission of the proposals the following [events](#) take place online.

Course	Date	Time	Language
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Consultation hour for administrative questions on the proposal (Marina Friedrich-Schieback)	Mondays as of 27 February	10 a.m. - 12 noon	German and English
Consultation hour for didactic and technical questions on the proposal (Ute Hager and Andreas Reitzig)	Tuesdays as of 28 February	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	German and English
General Information (recorded)	Friday, 3 March 2023	11 a.m. - 12 noon	German
“Explore – Create – Innovate” workshop on (further) developing of ideas	Tuesday, 7 March 2023	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	English
„Explore – Create – Innovate“ Workshop zur (Weiter-)Entwicklung von Ideen	Tuesday, 7 March 2023	10 a.m. - 12 noon	German

## Contact

Please find further information on InnoMA and the fund “Innovative Digital Teaching” [here](#). In case of any questions, please contact the InnoMA team via [innoma@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:innoma@uni-mannheim.de).