

## End-of-year wishes, review of 2025 and outlook for 2026

Dear employees and students of the Department of Mathematics,

another year is (almost) behind us: once again, the year turned out very differently than we had imagined at the start of the year.

In 2025, we also learned and tested many new things and had to adapt to new framework conditions time and again. We managed to do this with the combined efforts of all groups in the Department.

**The dean's office would like to thank everyone involved!**

We have "managed" studies, teaching and examinations, research, administration, committee work and also the integration of new students and new employees together.

We saw each other on campus, but we were also able to continue taking advantage of digital meetings. We are already looking forward to our next meetings in the New Year!

The teaching staff - from the professors to the student assistants - used old and new techniques and tools (blackboard and chalk, videos, quizzes, campus AI...) and offered very good teaching with great commitment - we expected nothing less ;-)

Before and after the winter break, the current evaluation of the courses is underway. We will continue to evaluate in digital form, as the feedback is easier and quicker to obtain.

Surely we all need a breather now. Let's use the "company vacations" to relax and switch off!

Before that, we would like to take a brief look back at the year 2025 at the Department of Mathematics and give a preview at one point or another.

### **Industrial Mathematics, start in summer semester, accreditation, studium<sup>+</sup> and [Mathe]\_flex<sup>+</sup>plus ...**

We are constantly developing our degree programs:

Since fall 2023, the English-language degree program "**Industrial Mathematics**" has been available as part of the Master's program in Technomathematics; from the beginning of 2026, we expect to receive applications from all over the world for the fourth cohort.

[https://studieren.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/?page\\_id=1018](https://studieren.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/?page_id=1018)

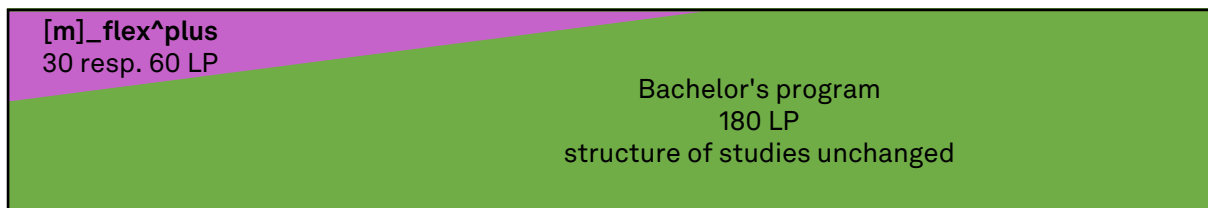
Since 2024, it has also been possible to start the bachelor's programs in Mathematics, Technomathematics, and Mathematics and Economics in the **summer semester**. The course structure for the summer semester is organized slightly differently than for the winter semester; overall, only Linear Algebra I/II is "doubled", and the module Discrete Mathematics is also offered as an elective module at the beginning of the program. Plans are already underway for the next summer start in April 2026.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/studium-lehre/start-sommersemester>

In 2026, the **accreditation** of the Math degree programs will once again be on the agenda: This is a good opportunity to take a closer look at the degree programs and revise them a little. We have been working on this since spring/summer 2025 – and this task will continue for a while in the new year. No major

changes are planned, but there will be a few revisions here and there ... The programming component in the three bachelor's degree programs is to be redesigned. This will be exciting again during the transition phase, when old cases and new structures will have to be "served" at the same time ... From fall 2026, there will be new examination regulations again, which will also reflect the interim innovations (e.g., summer start) and revisions.

In addition, there are plans for **study reform programs** that will enable new students to ease into their studies if it turns out at the beginning that there are still gaps in their knowledge or that working at the university is quite different from what they expected. Together with other departments, we are therefore working on 'studium+' and will further refine the ideas for [Math]\_flex^plus in the coming months. With this program, the six-semester bachelor's degree program can be extended to seven or eight semesters and enriched with additional offerings (bridge courses, supplementary tutorials, exam preparation, etc.). The bachelor's degree program itself remains unchanged (180 credit points); successfully completing an additional program may lead to an extended entitlement to Bafög (student loan). A type of "advanced mathematics zero" ("Höhere Mathematik null") is also planned for other STEM departments.



The **start of the academic year in winter 2026/2027** will also be exciting, as we are unable to estimate the numbers as accurately as in other years: Due to the change from G8 to G9 at high schools in North Rhine-Westphalia (once again 13 years until the Abitur), there will be no Abitur cohort in the summer of 2026 and thus no typically large group of new students. We therefore expect slightly lower numbers in 2026 (and also in subsequent years). High school graduates from other types of schools, from other federal states, from previous high school graduating classes, and international students will begin their studies in the winter of 2026/2027.

All groups within the department are invited to participate in the discussions and revisions.

**Pre-courses** in mathematics were held again in September 2025. Many new students were already there and got to know each other, the work at the university and their new life as students. As in the previous year, we offered a preliminary course for the mathematics teaching training (GS, HR, SP), which was very well received. This coming September, we will again be preparing new students for their studies in different preliminary courses. In addition to preliminary courses for natural sciences and engineering, the MATH preliminary course will prepare new students of mathematics, technomathematics, mathematics and economics and statistics as well as those studying to become teachers of mathematics at grammar schools and vocational colleges, and the LEHRAMT preliminary course will prepare new students studying to become teachers at elementary schools, secondary schools as well as those studying to become teachers of special needs education for the respective basic lectures in Linear Algebra, Analysis and Arithmetic and its Didactics.

**Preview:** The preliminary courses will take place from September 07 to 25, 2026. There will also be a preliminary course (in hybrid form or similar) for new students in the summer semester.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/lehre/services-themenseiten/vorkurs-mathematik>

We know that our student councils have once again done a good job (and this time twice as good) of supporting and guiding new students through their first steps at university with the **orientation phases** and "all around". We hope that everyone has settled in well by now.

Now we have all - and especially the "first semester students" - earned a semester break. The courses will **start again on January 05, 2026**.



**Preview:** Also on January 5, 2026, the needs assessment for teacher training courses in the 2026 summer semester will begin: students will register their needs for lectures, exercises, and seminars at the Institute for the Development and Research in Mathematics Education (IEEM), as well as for proseminars and seminars in teacher training for secondary school (LA GYM). After that, the offerings can be planned in more detail (parallel groups, etc.) (→ second registration phase, ...).

Halftime - In the second half of the first semester, there will be an information event on **January 8, 2026** for the "first semester students" in mathematics, technomathematics, mathematics and economics to explain the examination regulations etc.; the lecture is also part of the series "100 Days TU Dortmund".

From **January 23 to 25, 2026**, the learning journey for joint preparation for the first university exams (Analysis I, Linear Algebra I, Arithmetic and its Didactics I) will take place.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/meldungen/detail/primary=Bedarfsanmeldung-Lehramt-2025-12-19>

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/meldungen/detail/primary=Halbzeit-2025-12-03>

<https://fs-wima.tu-dortmund.de/details/lernfahrt-2026-58140/>

## Never-ending stories: Construction works ...

Fire safety modernization took taking place on all floors of the mathematics building since November 2023. In particular, the passages between stairwells and corridors as well as the ceilings within the corridors have been renovated in stages. This construction work was completed 1st year. All of the new doors (two per passage on the north and south side of each floor) have now been installed; the doors were made "smooth-running", especially as they are not equipped with electric door openers - as is the case on the third floor. As part of the construction work, the toilet facilities on the floors have also been "spruced up" (new paint, new ceilings, ...) - but not all of them are working yet ...

From the mathematics building, we have the best view of the large university library construction site: The university library moved out in the summer of 2023, and demolition of the building began in late fall 2020. After a good six months, the building was gone (see *time-lapse film*). Since then, preparations for the new building have been underway. Those who are not on site can continue to take a look at the construction site via the webcam, which will probably be with us for a few more years ...

<https://baublog.ub.tu-dortmund.de/index.php/abriss-der-bibliothek-das-wars/> (time-lapse film)

<https://baublog.ub.tu-dortmund.de/index.php/webcam-baustelle-bibliothek/>

## Colloquia and Conferences



In 2025, there were once again formal colloquia and conferences, to which we were able to welcome not only members of the department but also alumni and guests from Germany and abroad.

Before the 2025 summer semester began, the focus was on squares: from **March 31 to April 3, 2025**, the conference "Squares in Dortmund" took

place, which also served as a birthday colloquium for Detlev Hoffmann.

<https://wwwold.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/~dplauman//squares2025.html>

On **November 21, 2025**, Joachim Stöckler was honored with a festive colloquium on his retirement.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/meldungen/detail/primary=Festkolloquium-2025-10-21>



Among other events, the Institute for the Development and Research in Mathematics Education (IEEM) hosted the nationwide symposium "Math for Everyone" on **September 6, 2025**.

<https://wwwold.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/mathefueralle/>

## Annual celebration / graduation ceremony on April 26, 2024

Our annual celebration took place again in April. Many graduates from recent years were celebrated in the Audimax - after much applause in the Audimax, there was a small champagne reception in the foyer afterwards!



Bachelor's and Master's degrees for teachers in Mathematics / Mathematical Basic Education

Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mathematics, Technomathematics and Mathematics & Economics



Doctorates in Mathematics (Dr. rer. nat.) and Didactics of Mathematics (Dr. paed.)

Teaching Award of the Department 2024:  
Dr. Agnes Lamacz-Keymeling



Photos: Jakob Schütz

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/jahresfeier>



As always, the Department of Mathematics' **teaching award**, this time for the academic year 2023/2024, was also presented at the annual celebration. The announcement took place in December 2024; the celebration was held in April. Dr. Agnes Lamacz-Keymeling received the Teaching Award 2024 for her lectures in Advanced Mathematics for Natural sciences and engineering (Höhere Mathematik) und her pre-courses!

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/studium-lehre/services-themenseiten/lehrpreis-der-fakultaet-fuer-mathematik#lehrpreis-2024>

**Preview:** We are planning the next annual celebration and graduation ceremony on **April 24, 2026** (Friday).

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/jahresfeier>

### 16th stair run at the 39th campus run on June 4, 2025

The Math tower run also took place again as part of the campus run: 220 steps in the north staircase were once again conquered in record time - and various top places were once again taken by the Department of Mathematics. Many members of the department were also involved in the organization.

<https://hsp.tu-dortmund.de/wettkampf-events/campuslauf/ergebnisse/>

**Preview:** The next campus run and thus also the stair run are planned for **May 20, 2026**.

### Internships for school students

From **February 3 to 14, 2025**, and from **July 7 to 10, 2025**, two internships were offered for around 20 pupils each to give future students an insight into the various facets of mathematics at the university. The winter internship is attended by pupils in the 10th grade; in the summer short internship we invite pupils in the 11th/12th grade. Once again, we would like to thank all those involved from the department.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/lehre/services-themenseiten/schulpraktikum>

**Preview:** The next internship will take place from **February 2 to 13, 2026**.

### Summer parties

There was another summer party at TU Dortmund University (**July 10, 2025**). At the cocktail stand run by the mathematics student councils, the lines were once again very long and the cocktails very tasty ...

<https://www.tu-dortmund.de/landingpages/sommerfest/>

The department's summer party was supposed to take place the following week, but unfortunately the rainy weather threw a spanner in the works ... At short notice, the party to mark the end of the summer semester had to be canceled—and so there was no "table football" tournament (with real players) either. The party was then rescheduled for **October 15, 2025**, during the first week of lectures in the winter semester: There were conversations, barbecues, and drinks to kick off the semester on the lawn at the south exit of the mathematics building (... no mosquito bites, no rainy weather ...).

**Preview:** The TU Summer party 2026 is planned for **July 09, 2026**. The date of the department's summer party will be set later; since the joint start of the semester was also very well received, perhaps we could have both ...

### Alumni and Friends Association

On December 10, 2025, the Association of Friends of the Department of Mathematics at TU Dortmund University - our alumni and friends association - met for its annual general meeting.

<https://www.freunde.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/de/aktuelles.html>

The association welcomes new members. The amount of the annual membership fee is freely selectable. The association supports many activities in and around the department (annual celebration, summer party, workshops and colloquia, math weekend for students, ...).

The lecture series "Math! And then?" is a joint project of the association and the department.

### Math! And then?

The Friends of the Department and the Dean's Office have launched a new series of lectures to present mathematics careers and employers from the region (and beyond) with concrete examples.

The title "**Math! And then?**" is a continuation of the lecture series "*Abi! And then?*" (A-levels! And then?) for prospective students; this series addresses the next stage:

- What comes after graduation?
- What do mathematicians, technomathematicians, graduates of mathematics and economics, ... later in their careers?
- Where do they work?
- Which companies need and are looking for mathematicians?
- Which companies in the region have exciting tasks and fields of activity for mathematicians, technomathematicians and graduates of mathematics and economics?

In the meantime, mathematical fields of work have already been presented at Signal Iduna Versicherung, ISD Software und Systeme GmbH, Deloitte, d-fine, the Federal Office for Information Security (Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik, BSI), at Continentale Krankenversicherung a.G., at KPMG AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, at Consileon, at Finbridge. We welcome further ideas and offers for lectures.

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/studium-lehre/nach-dem-studium>

### Mathematical colloquium: Insights into the wonders and beauty of mathematics

The Mathematical Colloquium is being relaunched and will now take place on Wednesdays. Approximately three lectures per semester are planned. As a rule, there is an introduction to the lecture topic at 3 p.m. to give students in particular an overview; from 3:30 p.m. there is an "institute tea" before the actual lecture begins at 4:15 p.m.

**Preview:** The next lecture will take place on **February 4, 2026** (Wednesday). Nina Gantert (TU München) will give a talk on "*Consensus and disagreement in opinion dynamics*".

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/mathematisches-kolloquium>

In addition to the events that can be "tied" to dates, there were many other events and successes last year: exams passed and degrees completed, publications, prizes, newly acquired and extended third-party funded projects, new colleagues ...

You can also find some of it on our homepage.

### New websites, new information channels (Instagram etc.)

We are (still) working on new websites for the department.

The "Who is who" of the department can be found in the list of people:

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/personen/az-gruppiert>

The **calendar for 2026** also already has some entries:

[https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/list/class=\\*,year=2026](https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/list/class=*,year=2026)

You can also find the student councils and the alumni club online:

<https://fsmath.de>

<https://fs-wima.tu-dortmund.de>

<https://www.freunde.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de>

The department has its own Instagram channel since summer 2022, which we use to draw the attention of prospective students to our degree programs, among other things.

<https://www.instagram.com/mathematik.tudortmund/>

Just have a look ...

So much for a brief look back at 2025 and a big thank you for being there!

First of all, we wish you and all of us a peaceful winter break.

We look forward to working with you next year.

Stay healthy!

Best regards from the entire dean's office

Magdalena Thöne, assistant

Stefan Turek, dean

<https://www.mathematik.tu-dortmund.de/fakultaet/fakultaet/ansprechpartner#dekanat>

*... and thanks to DeepL for the help with the translation (MT)*

## Final nibbles



The library (UB) is being nibbled away ...



... and the math building is available to nibble on

*top: December 2024, bottom: December 2025*

