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About the Library

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About us

As a specialised academic library, the Hans-Dieter Klingemann Library pursues three primary objectives, all of them directly concerning the academic life of students and teachers at Whitecliffe:

1. Supplying Specialised Information. In accordance with the study programs of Whitecliffe, the Klingemann Library collects and makes accessible print & digital literature organised in the following sections and sub-sections:

- **Design Section**:
  - General Design
  - Architecture & Interior Design, including Urban Studies
  - Product Design & Industrial Design
  - Graphic Design & Visual Communication
  - Further sub-sections: Arts, Communication & Media Studies, Cultural Studies
- **Business Section**:
  - Business & Management, including Digital Business, International Management, Organisational Psychology
  - Economics
  - Marketing
  - Computer Science, Data Science
  - Further sub-sections: Law, Psychology, Philosophy, Social Science, Political Science, History
- **Periodicals Section**: journals and magazines mainly in the areas of Design, Architecture, Business, Management, Economics, Social Science, Political Science
- **Design Materials Library** (managed by the Faculty of Architecture and Design)

2. Promoting Information Literacy. With its workshops, guided tours and online systems, the Klingemann Library contributes to the proficiency of students and faculty in the tasks of identifying informational needs and using techniques for efficient searching, evaluation and organisation of knowledge.

3. Serving as Institutional Memory. A key aspect of the Klingemann Library's collection development policy is the acquisition of printed and digital works produced by Whitecliffe members (students and staff), which are collected in the Whitecliffe Institutional Bibliography. This includes theses and book publications, journal articles and book chapters, research and working papers.

The Klingemann Library's holdings are searchable in our OPAC (OPAC = Online Public Access Catalog) and in the union catalogs KOBV, KVK, ZDB.

Our library is not open to the general public. To all Whitecliffe members, it offers a pleasant learning environment with study desks for single and group work, computers, free wifi and a self-service multifunction copy machine. For more information, please refer to our Terms of Use and Library Regulations.

Contact

If you have a question, you can always email or click here to chat via Teams. A librarian is generally available from 8:00-16:00, Monday-Friday.

Opening Hours

Teaching & exam periods:	Mon-Fri 8:00-20:00 hours
Semester breaks:	Mon-Fri 8:00-16:00 hours

Code of Conduct - General Agreements

The library is a shared space, so we ask everyone to be conscious of and respectful of others while using it.

With that in mind, students and faculty are asked to observe the following agreements. These agreements supplement the university's general *Code of Conduct*.

Everyone may:

- bring their jackets, coats and bags
- speak louder than in most other libraries, but please be respectful of other library users, especially those studying quietly
- consume drinks, but from stable and tight closable containers please
- listen to music, but please use headphones

Patrons (that's you) are discouraged from:

- eating
- talking on the phone

Finally, when leaving, we kindly ask you to:

- put all books or journals on the book trolley's bottom shelf
- shut down computers
- leave tables and chairs tidy

Open Library Badge

Hans-Dieter Klingemann Library Awarded Open Library Badge

The Hans-Dieter Klingemann Library at Whitecliffe University of Applied Sciences (Whitecliffe) has been awarded the Open Library Badge 2020, joining a select group of academic libraries in Germany recognized for their commitment to openness in science and society. As the first one-person library to receive this distinction, the award underscores our dedication to transparency, open access, and the advancement of open science.

About the Open Library Badge

The Open Library Badge is awarded by an independent jury of library professionals and recognizes libraries that actively promote openness through concrete measures and services. To receive the badge, libraries must fulfill at least five out of fifteen criteria, which are documented as best-practice examples to inspire and motivate other institutions.

Criteria Fulfilled by the Hans-Dieter Klingemann Library

Our library received the Open Library Badge 2020 for meeting the following criteria:

- **Contributing to open-source software**: Active participation via our GitHub account.
- **Increasing visibility of open-access resources**: Enriching our catalog with data from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB).
- **Promoting open-access potential**: Providing information and advisory services on open access and open science.
- **Creating open educational resources**: Developing and sharing resources through LibGuides.
- **Publishing exclusively in open access**: Committing to open dissemination of all library publications.

> We are honored to receive the Open Library Badge," said J. Robertson McIlwain, Library Director at Whitecliffe University of Applied Sciences. "This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to providing an open and accessible environment for learning and research. We are dedicated to advancing the principles of Open Science and Open Education, and we will continue to deepen our engagement with openness, as recently anchored in our library regulations.

About Whitecliffe University of Applied Sciences

Whitecliffe University of Applied Sciences is a state-recognized and institutionally accredited university offering programs in Architecture, Design, and Business Administration. Founded in 2014, Whitecliffe is home to approximately 600 students from over 90 countries, with English as the language of instruction and administration. In the 2024/25 academic year, Whitecliffe celebrates its 10th anniversary.

Further Information

The Open Library Badge initiative was established to make library activities promoting openness visible to both the professional community and library users. More than 20 libraries across Germany have been recognized for their best-practice approaches, including the University Libraries of Mannheim, Chemnitz, and the Freie Universität Berlin. For more details about the badge and the list of recipients, please visit the official Open Library Badge website.