

COLLECTIONS, MUSEUMS, AND
GARDENS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
GÖTTINGEN **IN PROFILE**



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

Welcome



Dear Visitors,

The University of Göttingen owns valuable collections, which in their extraordinary diversity and range constitute a unique heritage. We would like to preserve this historical treasure for research and teaching and also make it more accessible to you – a task that the Centre for Collection Development has been supporting since 2013. Through a variety of measures which we have been able to implement with funds from the State of Lower Saxony, the collections are already in a much better state today than they were just five years ago.

Beginning in 2020, we will be displaying objects from all collections in various exhibitions at the University's new museum: the Forum Wissen, and in doing so, provide insight and context into the way knowledge has arisen and continues to be created. With the Forum Wissen we will also create a space for exchange between students and researchers to gain insights from these objects through interdisciplinary research and education.

This booklet is intended to give you a quick overview of the world of the collections. I wish you a lot of enjoyment with our treasures and, from 2020, at the Forum Wissen.

Professor Ulrike Beisiegel
President of the University of Göttingen



Plaster cast of the Artemis of Versailles, Roman copy based on the Greek original, circa 330 B.C.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

Introduction



The University of Göttingen holds more than 40 collections situated at over 30 locations throughout the campus. They consist of several million objects from all parts of the world and from different eras in history. They form a fascinating spectrum of objects that are used extensively for research and teaching.

To make the broad range of our collections better known, we have been publishing the »Collection Guide« since 2013, which you can purchase as a book or access online (www.uni-goettingen.de/collectionguide). The Göttingen collection portal (sammlungen.uni-goettingen.de) is actively involved in the continuous cataloguing and processing of the collections and provides up-to-date insights into the diverse inventory of objects.

With this Collection Profile booklet, we now also have a handy brochure, which offers a brief overview covering the highlights of the collections of the University.

I hope you will enjoy browsing through these pages.

Dr Marie Luisa Allemeyer
Director of the Centre for Collection Development

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Amphora by the Swing-Painter
(Athens, circa 540 B.C.).
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

Centre for Collection Development

01



The **Centre for Collection Development**: Door opener to the collections.
Photo: Stefanie Rüter

- Hub between the collections, museums and gardens of the University of Göttingen
- Founded in 2013
- The Centre for Collection Development is not a collection, but one of the central institutions of the University
- It promotes the use of the academic collections both for the purpose of research and teaching and to present the University to the public
- It programmatically connects three fields of action: collection management, knowledge research and exhibitions
- In select cases, the centre acts as provisional custodian of orphaned collections

Address: Centre for Collection Development • University of Göttingen • Weender Landstr. 2 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/collection-development

Contact: Dr Marie Luisa Allemeyer +49 551 39-26690
kustodie@uni-goettingen.de

02 Art Collection



A glimpse into the **art collection depository**. Photo: Stephan Eckhardt

- Oldest German university art collection
- Founded in 1770
- Number of objects: about 28,000
- Subcollections: about 300 paintings, 17,500 prints, 100 sculptures, 10,000 photos and video art
- Significance inter alia due to the valuable portfolio of original drawings; prints by Albrecht Dürer, Lucas Cranach the Elder and Rembrandt
- Focus: German, Dutch and Flemish drawings, prints and paintings of the 15th–18th century
- Students work on the objects and conceive exhibitions

Opening hours: Sun 10 am – 4 pm, guided tours every first Sun on the »Artwork of the Month« and every third Sun of the month at 11.30 am or by appointment

Address: Art Collection • University of Göttingen
Weender Landstraße 2 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/art-collection

Contact: Dr Anne-Katrin Sors +49 551 39-25093, -25092, -25098
kuns@gwgd.de

Collection of Pre-Columbian Objects

03



Footed bowl with geometric decor and amphora-like vessel.

Photos: Lena Hoppe

- Pottery, sculptures, stone and shell necklaces from the time between 350 B.C. and 1600 A.D. from the territory of today's state of Colombia
- Founded in 1968
- Number of objects: 291
- Area of focus: about 140 figures and figure fragments from the Tumaco/La Tolita culture and 55 pottery objects from the Nariño culture
- Of note: The highly glossy surface of many pottery objects results from the polishing of the vessels shortly before they were fired
- From the private collection of Erich Carl Raddatz (1924–2010), by bequest to the University of Göttingen, 2016

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-raddatz

Contact: Centre for Collection Development • Christine Nawa
+49 551 39-26696 • nawa@kustodie.uni-goettingen.de

Collection at the Seminar of Egyptology and Coptic Studies



Faience amulet of a cat. Photo: Louis Falkenstein

- Egyptian culture from the middle of the 2nd millennium B.C. and later
- Founded in 1924
- Number of objects: about 100
- Johann Friedrich Blumenbach acquired some objects for the Academic Museum as early as the 18th century
- Objects: amulets, scarabs, shabtis and ceramics; these are predominantly permanent loans from the Ethnological Collection
- More Aegyptiaca can be found in the collections of the Institutes of Archaeology, Anthropology, Anatomy and Ethnology

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-aegyptologie

Contact: Prof Heike Behlmer +49 551 39-24400
aegypten@uni-goettingen.de

Cast Collection of Antique Sculptures



Laokoon group, original 1st century B.C., plaster cast 1906.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- The oldest university cast collection in the world
- Founded in 1765
- Number of objects: about 2,000
- True-to-size reproductions of sculptures in the round and reliefs, predominantly from the Greek and Roman world, as well as from Egypt, the ancient Orient and Byzantium
- One of the largest collections of its kind in the world
- Eleven showrooms; all statues on mobile pedestals and thus optimally suited for variable use in teaching
- Focus on antique portraits; reconstructions of coloured sculptures

Opening hours: Sun 10 am – 4 pm, guided tours every
Sun 11.15 am and by appointment

Address: Institute of Archaeology • University of Göttingen
Nikolausberger Weg 15 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/archaeology-collection

Contact: Dr Daniel Graepler +49 551 39-27502, -27497
sekretariat.archinst@phil.uni-goettingen.de

06 Antiquities Collection



Drinking cup of the Palazzolo painter from Athens, 560 B.C.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Teaching by means of original archaeological objects
- Founded in 1839
- Number of objects: about 4,000
- Marble sculptures, small bronzes, vases, clay figurines, gems, glass objects, comprehensive sherd collection (for example from Heinrich Schliemann's excavations in Troy)
- The Wallmoden Collection, founded in 1765, is affiliated to the collection, with 50 original Roman marble sculptures and several imitations of antiques from the 18th century; long term loan from H.R.H. the Hereditary Prince Ernst August of Hanover (exhibited here since 1979)

Opening hours: by appointment, Wallmoden collection
Sun 10 am – 4 pm

Address: Institute of Archaeology • University of Göttingen
Nikolausberger Weg 15 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/originalsammlung

Contact: Dr Daniel Graepler +49 551 39-27502, -27497
sekretariat.archinst@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Numismatic Collection

07



Foundation Medal of the University of Göttingen, 1736, silver.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Third largest academic numismatic cabinet in Germany (after the university collections of Leipzig and Tübingen)
- Founded in 1773
- Number of objects: about 43,000
- Of which: 5,900 Greek, 10,000 Roman, 950 Byzantine, 3,900 oriental, 2,100 medieval, 15,600 modern coins, 1,700 medals and plaques, 4,000 tin and lead copies of modern coins, numerous coin casts
- Use in research and teaching of different disciplines such as history, archaeology, history of art, Arabic and Asian studies

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/muenzkabinett, www.kenom.de

Contact: Dr Daniel Graepler +49 551 39-27502, -27497
sekretariat.archinst@phil.uni-goettingen.de

08 Teaching Collection for Pre- and Protohistory



Coloured true-to-form plaster replica of a wisent, original 13000 B.C., Altamira Cave. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Insights into the pre- and protohistory of Central Europe
- Founded in 1929
- Number of objects: about 8,500
- Original inventory from the Göttingen Royal Academic Museum, permanent loans from the Provinzialmuseum in Hanover, and the Braunschweigisches Landesmuseum Wolfenbüttel
- Objects: funerary vessels, weapons, jewellery, settlement pottery, tools, equipment
- Special features: casts of various house and face urns, amber artefacts, replica of a lure, bronze objects from Lower Saxony

Opening hours: no public exhibition, guided tours by appointment

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/pre-and-protohistory-collection

Contact: Dr Immo Heske +49 551 39-25080 • iheske@gwdg.de

Ancient History Film Archive: Stern Collection

09



Three generations of data storage media: 16mm film reel, VHS-cassette and DVD with online content. Photo: Klara Wagner

- The cinematic documentation of prehistoric, archaeological and ancient historical topics, as a historico-cultural phenomenon
- Founded in 2017
- Number of objects: about 800 films, 1,500 books and magazines and 100 other objects ranging from festival posters to film or projectors
- Acquisition from the estate of the film scholar, archaeologist and museum pedagogue Tom Stern (1958–2016)
- Media: from original film reels to DVDs, 1920s until about 2010
- Teaching and learning archive for all disciplines studying prehistory, archaeology, ancient history and their respective perceptions; research archive for University and external users

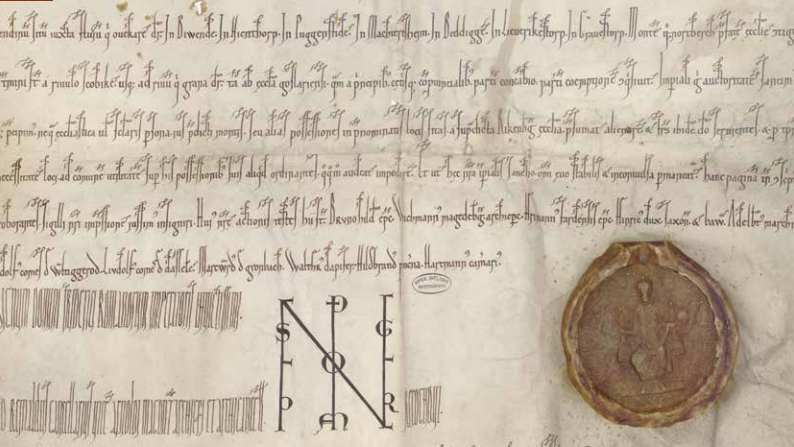
Opening hours: by appointment

Address: Department of Ancient History • University of Göttingen
Humboldtallee 21 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sterncollection

Contact: Dr Martin Lindner +49 551 39-24719
sammlungstern@uni-goettingen.de

10 Diplomatic Apparatus



Imperial document issued by Friedrich Barbarossa (1157).
Photo: Martin Liebethuth

- A collection of original written records created for teaching auxiliary sciences of history, in particular the scholarly discipline centred on the analysis of charters (diploma)
- Founded in 1759 as a »Diplomatic Cabinet«
- Number of objects: about 1,600
- Charters, fragments of manuscripts and seals from late antiquity, the Middle Ages and the early modern period
- Largest apparatus diplomaticus that is still used for teaching in Germany
- The repertory and the facsimilia – among others a privilege of Emperor Friedrich I (Barbarossa) from 1157 – can be viewed online at www.monasterium.net

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/diplomatic-apparatus

Contact: Prof Hedwig Röckelein +49 551 39-24669
hroecke@gwdg.de

Ethnographic Collection

11



Feathered image of the war god kuka'ilimoku. Hawaii, 18th century.
Photo: Harry Haase

- Ethnographic objects from five continents, with a focus on Africa (about 5,000), America (about 5,000), Oceania (about 4,300) and Asia (about 2,700)
- Founded in 1773
- Number of objects: about 18,000, including Europe and museum education
- Significant items: Oceania, Cook/Forster Collection of the three voyages around the world by James Cook 1768–1780; Asia, America, Baron von Asch Collection, 18th century
- Special objects: Feathered image of the war god kuka'ilimoku from Hawaii, shaman's garment of the Evenks, hat of a seal hunter from Alaska

Opening hours: currently no public exhibition due to renovation

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/ethnographic-collection

Contact: Dr Michael Kraus +49 551 39-27894
mkraus@gwdg.de

Collection of Musical Instruments



Lamellophone Mbira, Zimbabwe. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Musical instruments of all types and from all over the world, mainly from Europe, Asia and Africa
- Founded in 1964 by Heinrich Husmann
- Number of objects: 2,121
- Subcollections: 15 larger, private and research collections, drawing attention to historical developments and transcultural interconnections
- Permanent exhibition: 900 objects
- Special pieces: ancient Egyptian bow harp (2700–2200 B.C.), »Coptic lute« (3rd–8th century), Göttingen recorder (14th century)

Opening hours: Sun 10 am – 4 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: Department of Musicology • University of Göttingen
Kurze Geismarstrasse 1 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/musical-instruments-collection

Contact: Dr Klaus-Peter Brenner +49 551 39-25075
k.p.brenner@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Collection of Historical Children's and Youth Literature

13



Anonym, **Der rote Wunderschirm**. Eine neue Erzählung für Kinder (Neu-Ruppin 1890). Photo: Martin Liebethuth

- Children's and youth literature from the Early Enlightenment to today
- Founded in the 1960s
- Number of objects: about 35,000
- Subcollections: Karl Vordemann (about 1,000); Jürgen Seifert (about 11,500); Sigrid Wehner (18,000), Malte Dahrendorf research library (3,000)
- Focus: picture books, fairy tales, National Socialist children's and youth literature, fables, songs, poems, sagas, non-fiction books, games, and anti-fascist books
- Cultural history research and teaching, rare pop-up books, enchanting illustrations

Opening hours: see website, no public exhibition, guided tours by appointment

Address: Department of German Philology
Waldweg 26 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/young-library

Contact: Prof Christoph Bräuer +49 551 39-21469
Hartmut Hombrecher +49 551 39-27514
Library +49 551 39-25980 • bibliothek.kjl@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Heinz Kirchhoff Collection »Symbols of the Feminine«



Mère et enfant, Auguste Rodin (1870–1917). Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Presentation of the various facets of the feminine
- Founded in 1958
- Number of objects: about 650, originals and replicas
- Founder and collector: Professor Heinz Kirchhoff (1905–1997)
- Collection spectrum: objects and statuettes from all times and cultures, artistic implementation of the topics of women, goddess, fertility, motherhood, spirituality, power, strength, beauty
- Special objects: Venus of Willendorf 28,000 B.C. (replica), Black Venus by Niki de St. Phalle (20th century)

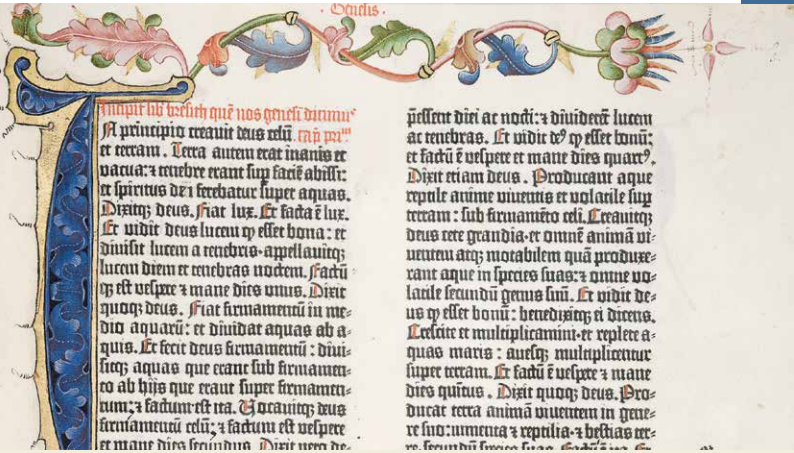
Opening hours: all day, with limited public access, guided tours by appointment

Address: University of Göttingen • Waldweg 26
37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.kirchhoff-sammlung.de

Contact: Dr Anita Schmidt-Jochheim
info@kirchhoff-sammlung.de

Collections of the Göttingen State and University Library



The Göttingen copy of the **Gutenberg Bible**. Photo: Martin Liebethuth

- Research library of international significance since the 18th century
- Founded in 1734
- Number of objects: 8 million media units, including 5.9 million printed books
- Special collections: collection of manuscripts, incunables, literary estates, fragments, portraits and maps, collection of German prints of the 18th century, central archive of literary estates of German mathematicians
- Special features: Gutenberg bible (world heritage document of UNESCO), Göttingen model book, Fulda sacramentary, bequests and autographs of important scholars, Schlözer foundation, Asch collection, Grun seal collection

Opening hours: see website, guided tours of the historical buildings every last Thursday of the month and upon request, alternating exhibitions see website

Addresses: Historical building: Papendiek 14 • 37073 Göttingen Germany • Central library: Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/en

Contact: Dr Christian Fieseler +49 551 39-25280
christian.fieseler@sub.uni-goettingen.de

University Archives



University archives, **view of the stacks** of the Pauliner church.
Photo: Ulrich Hunger

- Memory of the Georgia Augusta: archiving of the University records
- Founded in 1925
- Number of objects: about 2,500 linear metres of archival documents
- Holdings: files of the central university authorities since 1734 (»Kuratorium«, Secretariat, Rectorate) and the faculties, examination and personnel files, matriculation register. Special documents: university foundation deeds, files on the »Göttingen Seven« (1837), academic careers of the Göttingen professors
- Preservation, development and utilization of the archival documents

Opening hours: Mon to Fri 10 am – 7 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: University Archives Göttingen • Papendiek 14
37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.archiv.uni-goettingen.de

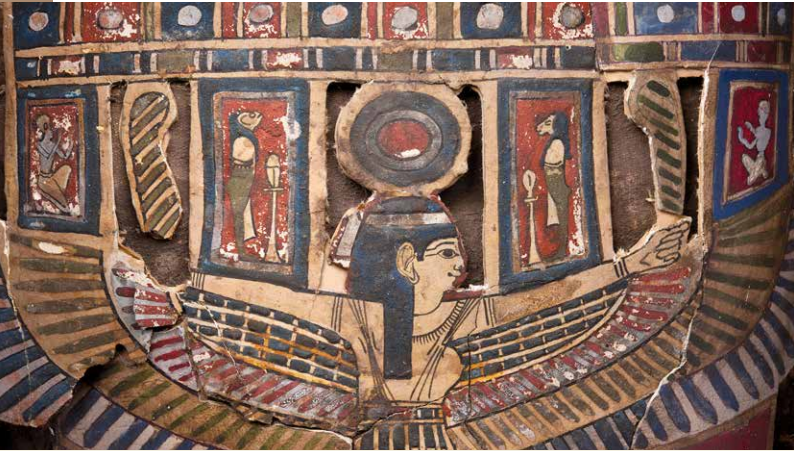
Contact: Dr Holger Berwinkel +49 551 39-25309
archiv@sub.uni-goettingen.de



Egyptian mummy from the natural history collection of Johann Friedrich Blumenbach.

Photo: Stephan Eckardt

17 Anthropological Collection



Breastplate of the **Egyptian Mummy** from Johann Friedrich Blumenbach's Natural History Collection. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Collection for the investigation of the living conditions of pre-historical populations and use for method development and evaluation
- Founded in the 1950s
- Number of objects: about 3,500
- Seven subcollections: historical skeleton series, histological preparations of the bone microstructure, mummies of various cultures, skull collection of worldwide populations, pathological preparations, primate skulls and primate skeletons, hominid cast collection
- Special features: a Guanche mummy from Tenerife, Bronze Age genetic archive

Opening hours: no public exhibition
guided tours by appointment

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-anthropologie

Contact: Dr Birgit Großkopf +49 551 39-23649
birgit.grosskopf@biologie.uni-goettingen.de

Blumenbach Skull Collection

18



Demonstration skull employed for phrenology demonstrations, a theory developed by Viennese physician Franz Joseph Gall (1758–1828). Photo: Tanja R. Stegemann

- Oldest preserved university skull collection worldwide
- Founded in 1773
- Number of objects: about 840 skulls and casts
- Founded by Johann Friedrich Blumenbach (1752–1840), Director of the Göttingen Royal Academic Museum (1773–1840)
- Special features: original skulls of the five main varieties collected by Blumenbach; demonstration skull of the physician Gall; various scientific, ethnological, anthropological, anatomical, pathological, forensically interesting skulls

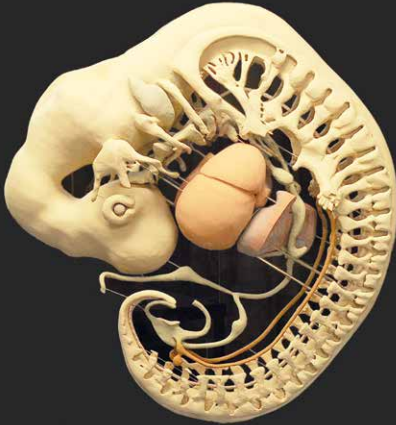
Opening hours: Mon to Fri 8 am – 6 pm
guided tours by appointment

Address: University Medical Center Göttingen
Kreuzberggring 36 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/blumenbach-collection

Contact: Prof Michael Schultz +49 551 39-67000
mschult1@gwdg.de

Blechsmidt Collection of Human Embryology



Replica of a 6.3 mm embryo (fifth week of development).
Photo: Jörg Männer, Hans-Georg Sydow

- Collection for research and documentation of the developmental anatomy of the human embryo
- Founded about 1949
- Number of objects: 65
- Founded by the then director of the Anatomical Institute, Erich Blechsmidt (1904–1992)
- Objects: 50 to 200 times enlarged 3-D replicas of human embryos from the first eight weeks of development (embryonic phase)
- This exhibition of enlarged replicas is unique worldwide.

Opening hours: Mon to Fri 8 am – 6 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: University Medical Center Göttingen
Kreuzberggring 36 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/human-embryology-collection

Contact: PD Dr Jörg Männer +49 551 39-67032
jmaenne@gwdg.de

Forensic Medicine Collection

20



Skullcap, rear view, pierced by a shot. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Established for teaching and further training in the field of forensic medicine
- Founded in 1906
- Number of objects: about 440
- Founded and designed by forensic physician Theodor Lochte (1864–1953)
- Foci: thanatology (science of death, dying and burial), natural as well as non-natural deaths caused by accident, suicide, blunt or sharp force injuries, including use of weapons and effects of toxic substances
- Currently the collection is in storage.

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/legal-medicine

Contact: Prof Wolfgang Grellner +49 551 39-65555
grellner@med.uni-goettingen.de

Collection on the History of Obstetrics



Children's heads (wood) for practising on a manikin. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Collection of probably the world's first University Clinic for Obstetrics
- Founded in 1791
- Number of objects: about 1,200
- Johann Heinrich Fischer (1759–1814) formed the basis of the specimen collection, significant expansion of the collection by Friedrich Benjamin Osiander (1759–1822) and Eduard Kaspar Jakob von Siebold (1801–1861)
- Objects: models for birthing chairs and beds, obstetric instruments such as birth forceps and levers, demonstration models, utensils for postnatal care
- Special feature: inventory lists and birth diaries from the 18th century still preserved today

Opening hours: see website, guided tours by appointment

Address: University Medical Center Göttingen
Humboldtallee 36 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/obstetrics-collection

Contact: Kornelia Drost-Siemon +49 551 39-69006, -69007
kdrost@gwdg.de

Collection of Medical Moulages

22



Moulage Arthritis, 1913. Collection Professor Riecke. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Moulages are accurate detailed wax impressions of pathologically altered body regions and skin parts
- Founded in 1917
- Number of objects: about 80
- Founder: Erhard Riecke (1869–1939), director of the dermatological clinic
- Manufacture: in the first third of the 20th century, partly by internationally renowned mouleurs
- The three-dimensional casts were taken directly from the patients

Opening hours: see website, guided tours by appointment

Address: University Medical Center Göttingen
Humboldtallee 36 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/moulages-collection

Contact: Kornelia Drost-Siemon +49 551 39-69006, -69007
kdrost@gwdg.de

23 Old Botanical Garden



A beautiful plant from tropical South America: *Aphelandra aurantiaca*.
Photo: Michael Schwerdtfeger

- Founded by Albrecht von Haller and in existence for a quarter of a millennium in the same place
- Founded in 1736
- Number of objects: about 12,000
- Living plants in the garden and the greenhouses
- Charming historical »window to nature« in the middle of the city
- Old Botanical Garden, Experimental Botanical Garden and Forest Botanical Garden work hand in hand
- Resource for research and teaching, actively involved in plant exchange with other botanical gardens

Opening hours: March to October daily 8 am – 6:30 pm, November to February daily 8 am – 4 pm, limited access in wintry weather, for guided tours see website

Address: Old Botanical Garden • University of Göttingen
Untere Karspüle 2 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.altgart.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Michael Schwerdtfeger +49 551 39-25755
mschwer@gwdg.de

Forest Botanical Garden and Phytogeographical Arboretum



The view over the central part of the **Forest Botanical Garden**. Photo: Volker Meng

- One of the largest and most biodiverse collections of trees and shrubs in the German-speaking area
- Founded in 1973
- Number of objects: more than 2,000 woody species on about 40 hectares
- Focus on wild species of defined origins; considerable diversity of wild flowers, insects, reptiles, small mammals and birds
- Highlights of the garden year: spring blossom, herb meadows and Indian summer
- Use in research and teaching in various subject areas, conservation of plant biodiversity, areas are partly protected as designated national conservation collections

Opening hours: Mon to Sun, guided tours by appointment

Address: Forest Botanical Garden and Phytogeographical Arboretum of the University of Göttingen • Büsgenweg 2
37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/forstbotanischer-garten

Contact: Prof Andrea Polle +49 551 39-23482 • apolle@gwdg.de
Dipl. Ing. Volker Meng +49 551 39-23492 • vmeng@gwdg.de

25 Experimental Botanical Garden



View of the **Experimental Botanical Garden**. Photo: Rolf Callauch

- Scientific experimental garden of the University
- Founded in 1967
- Number of objects: about 3,000
- Living plants in the garden and the greenhouses
- Special geo-beds demonstrate the relationship between soil substrate and plant growth
- With its laboratories and cultivation facilities, it provides the infrastructure for experimental plant-ecological research
- Cultivates, cares for and provides plant material for research and teaching

Opening hours: Mon to Sun, guided tours by appointment

Address: Experimental Botanical Garden Göttingen • University of Göttingen • Grisebachstraße 1a • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.ebg.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Lars Köhler +49 551 39-25725 • lkoehle@gwdg.de
Nicole Barke +49 551 39-25713 • nbarke@gwdg.de

University Herbarium

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Fern from the Georg Forster collection, 18th century. Photo: Herbarium Göttingen

- One of the largest and most important university herbariums in Germany
- Founded in 1832
- Number of objects: 800,000
- Dried and archived plants from all over the world
- Special feature: more than 12,000 type specimens. These are the specimens that the initial scientific description of a species is based upon
- Active use of the research collection, e.g. for research contributions on floras and for molecular investigations that pursue evolutionary and biogeographical issues

Opening hours: no public exhibition, guided tours by appointment

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/herbarium

Contact: Dr Marc Appelhans +49 551 39-28220
 Marc.Appelhans@biologie.uni-goettingen.de

27 Pharmacognostic Collection



Historical coffee samples. Photo: Stefan Eckardt

- Raw materials for the preparation of medicinal products
- Founded in 1836
- Number of objects: about 8,500
- Mainly parts of dried plants (flowers, leaves, seeds), but also zoological and mineral preparations in glass cylinders and cardboard boxes
- The objects were used for the training of prospective pharmacists. By means of observation and chemical analysis, real drugs were to be distinguished from fake drugs and their active ingredient contents to be determined
- Consumer goods such as coffee are also part of the collection, since they contain medicinally active ingredients

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-pharmakognosie

Contact: Centre for Collection Development • Christine Nawa
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Botanical Spirit Collection

28



Various varieties of the **great snapdragon**. Photo: Egon Heinz

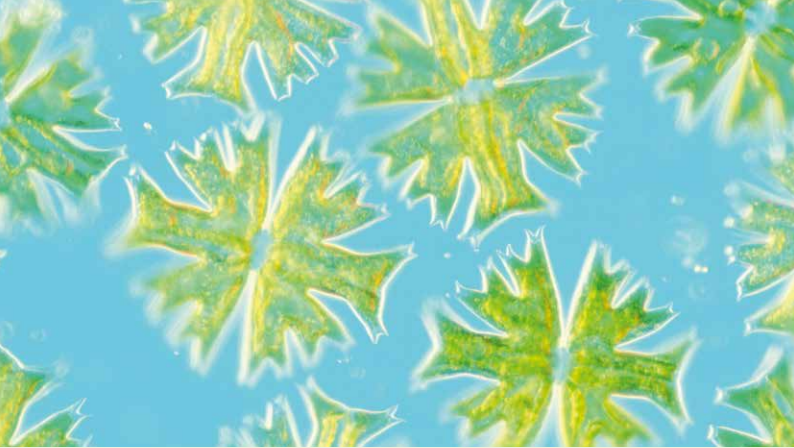
- Since the 19th century the collection has been part of a comprehensive didactic system for the training of prospective botanists.
- Founded in the 19th century
- Number of objects: about 2,950
- Plants, parts of plants and fruit, in alcohol or formalin solutions
- The prepared plants form filigree structures of a high aesthetic appeal
- The morphological part of the teaching collection emphasizes the structure and form of the plants; the systematic part focuses on the common characteristics necessary for the determination and designation of the plants

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/botanische-nasspraeparate

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29 Göttingen Culture Collection of Algae



Decorative algae *Micrasterias crux-melitensis* SAG 153.80. Cell diameter about 0.1 mm. Photo: Thomas Friedl

- One of the world's largest and oldest collections of living cultures of microscopic algae
- Founded in 1954
- Number of objects: about 2,900
- Research at its finest: living freshwater algae in test tubes
- Highlight: one fifth of the algal isolates deposited in Göttingen are type strains
- The Göttingen holdings serve as valuable reference material for the identification of microalgae and cyanobacteria
- The collection is accessible to scientific, biotechnological and educational communities worldwide.

Opening hours: no public exhibition, guided tours by appointment

Web: www.epsag.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Maike Lorenz +49 551 39-27870, -25740
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Collections of the Department of Palynology and Climate Dynamics

30



Bronze Age **sample material**. Photo: Egon Heinz, Karsten Heck, Linda Schröder

- Three collections under one roof: comparative collection of extant pollen, spores and macro remains; collection of extant and subfossil woods; palaeo-ethnobotanical Willerding collection
- Founded in 1948
- Number of objects: more than 26,000
- More than 7,500 types of pollen, spores and macro remains from four continents
- More than 20,000 wood specimens dated to the exact year using dendrochronology (some dated as far back as almost 9300 B.C.)
- Botanical material from archaeological excavations at over 230 sites

Opening hours: no public exhibition, use for researchers by appointment

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-palynologie

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J.Christiansen@biologie.uni-goettingen.de

31 Museum of Zoology



Graphium antheus, East Africa, 2011 Photo: Christian Fischer

- Since 1877, this collection has been housed in a specially constructed museum building
- Founded in 1773
- Number of objects: about 150,000
- From worm to whale: prepared animals of all sizes and from all over the world in jars, boxes and cabinets
- Special features: evidence of newly discovered species (holotypes), rare and now extinct species
- Used for research and teaching since its foundation; exhibitions offer visitors an overview of the local wildlife
- From 2020 in the new rooms of the historic building

Opening hours: from December 2018 small exhibition at the Gutshof Besenhausen – former hand-weaving mill, opening hours are the same as those of the Hof Café

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/zoology-museum

Contact: Dr Gert Tröster +49 551 39-25524 • gtroest@gwdg.de

Collection of the Department of Animal Sciences



Short-tailed **German heath**. Photo: Karina Heepe

- Everything in connection with livestock
- Founded in the 19th century
- Number of objects: more than 5,000
- Objects: 100 dry preparations and 60 animal models, including partial and complete preparations, skulls, animal trophies and about 50 skeletons (sheep, cattle, pigs, horses); in addition, wool samples, hides, feed raw materials, archive books, measuring instruments, glass plate positives, and wet preparations
- Special feature: plaster figurines true to scale and detail by the artist Max Landsberg

Opening hours: no public exhibition, guided tours by appointment

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-nutztierwissenschaften

Contact: Dr Ute Margan +49 551 39-25524 • umargan@gwdg.de
Dipl. Ing. agr. Erwin Tönges +49 551 39-25615 • etoenge@gwdg.de

33 Agronomy Collection



Storage and demonstration container with **original seeds**, 1900.
Photo: Martin Liebethuth

- Agronomy is the teaching and research of the cultivation, care and harvest of agricultural crops
- Founded in 2010
- Collector: Wolfgang Böhm (*1936)
- Number of objects: about 250
- Objects: storage and demonstration containers with original seeds (1900); about 100 large-format, hand-made teaching posters from the end of the 1950s; about 80 weed posters by Emil Korsmo from the 1930s
- Johann Beckmann, a cameral scientist teaching in Göttingen, introduced the term »Pflanzenbau« (crop production, agronomy) into the German language in 1767

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/agronomy-collection

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 awrobel@uni-goettingen.de

Wood Science Teaching Collection

34



Model of a roof truss, ca. 1900. Photo: archives wood biology

- Göttingen wood research began with the founding of the Prussian Forestry Academy Hannoversch Münden in 1868
- Founded in the middle of the 19th century
- Number of objects: more than 1,000
- Objects made of wood and derived timber products for teaching purposes; wood samples made of about 100 different types of wood as practice objects; wood products such as articles of daily use, sports equipment, wooden models
- International reputation of the institute in the field of wood preservation, wood modification, derived timber products and the use of little-known wood species

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/woodscienceteaching-collection

Contact: Dr Gerhard Büttner +49 551 39-23737
gbuettn@gwdg.de

Forest Zoology Collection



Native songbird: the **robin**. Photo: Richard Schütz

- The basic stock of the collection originates from the Prussian Forestry Academy Hannoversch Münden founded in 1868
- Founded in the middle of the 19th century
- Number of objects: bird collection about 700, insect collection about 35,000
- The bird collection displays a large part of the native bird species of Lower Saxony
- It is used, for example, in the lecture »Wildlife Biology and Hunting Science«; Students use it to prepare themselves for examinations in wildlife biology
- The insect collection is used for research purposes

Opening hours: bird collection by appointment, insect collection currently only open for teaching and research

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/forest-zoological-collection

Contact: Dr Bernhard Weißbecker +49 551 39-23687
 bweissb@gwdg.de

Wildlife Science Collection

36



On the move in urban habitats: the **raccoon**. Photo: Gerrit Holighaus

- The origins of the collection can be traced back to the research and teaching activities in wildlife biology of the Prussian Forestry Academy Hannoversch Münden
- Founded in the middle of the 19th century
- Number of objects: about 3,000
- Exhibits of native and exotic wildlife; focus: antlers and horns of mammals; in addition, also traps and hunting weapons
- Rarity: antlers of now extinct deer species
- Teaching and research material, e.g. on the variability of the shapes of antlers or for the identification of wild animals by their tracks

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-wildtierwissenschaften

Contact: Ines Mahlmann +49 551 39-24954
ines.mahlmann@forst.uni-goettingen.de

37 Geoscience Museum



Larva of an owlfly in Baltic amber. Photo: Tanja R. Stegemann

- Collections from the fields of palaeontology, mineralogy, geology and meteorite science
- Founded in 1773
- Number of objects: about 4 million
- Exhibition areas on earth history and mineralogy
- Special attention is given to finds from Lower Saxony
- Special features: excellently preserved finds of the fossil deposit Willershausen and excellent mineral specimens from more than 250 years of collecting
- A vast and diverse resource for research, teaching and public relations

Opening hours: Mon to Fri 9 am – 5 pm, Sun 10 am – 4 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: Geoscience Centre, GZG • University of Göttingen
Goldschmidtstraße 1–5 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.geomuseum.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Alexander Gehler +49 551 39-27998
geomuseum@gwdg.de

Geopark

38



Volcanic bombs dating from the Quaternary. Photo: Gerhard Hundertmark

- Park-like complex with geological and artistic objects as well as trees and shrubs that already existed in the geological past
- Founded in 1990
- Number of objects: about 200 on an area of five hectares
- More than 20 different thematic groups with the main focus on sedimentary, plutonic and volcanic rocks. Fossil saurian tracks and impact rocks are also displayed
- Earth history becomes tangible and comprehensible here!
- The Geopark is integrated into the teaching and public relations work of the Faculty of Geosciences and Geography

Opening hours: Mon to Sun (at your own risk), guided tours by appointment

Address: Geoscience Centre, GZG • University of Göttingen
Goldschmidtstraße 1–5 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.geomuseum.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Alexander Gehler +49 551 39-27998
geomuseum@gwdg.de

Museum of Göttingen Chemistry



Pulfrich refractometer, 1895. photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Historical objects and documents on the history of the Chemistry Department at the University of Göttingen since its foundation in 1737
- Founded in 1979
- Number of objects: about 1,000
- Scientific instruments and devices from renowned manufacturers from Göttingen and the world, books, documents, preparations, busts of important chemists, pictures and documents
- The Göttingen chemistry department has produced four Nobel Prize winners
- The visitor's book of the museum boasts guests from all over the world

Opening hours: by appointment, guided tours upon request

Address: Faculty of Chemistry • University of Göttingen
Tammannstraße 4 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.museum.chemie.uni-goettingen.de

Contact: Dr Ulrich Schmitt +49 551 39-23114
uschmit@gwdg.de

Collection of Historical Physics Instruments »Physicalisches Cabinet«

40



Vice-heliotrope for deflecting sunlight, developed in 1821 by Carl Friedrich Gauss. Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Originated from the private collection of the physicist and aphorist Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742–1799)
- Founded in 1778
- Number of objects: about 1,000
- Physics instruments from the 18th to the 20th century, including equipment by Georg Christoph Lichtenberg, Carl Friedrich Gauss and Wilhelm Weber
- Experimental culture in aesthetic perfection
- Formerly objects of cutting-edge research. Today, artefacts of the history and didactics of physics

Opening hours: during lecture time Mon 4 pm – 4.30 pm, and by appointment

Address: I. Physics Institute of the University of Göttingen
Friedrich-Hund-Platz 1 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/physics-collection

Contact: Dr Daniel Steil +49 551 39-27602
physik1@uni-goettingen.de

41 Royal Model Chamber



Model of a pumping station. Photo: Oliver Zauzig

- Illustrative material for the training of senior civil servants
- Founded in 1763
- Number of objects: 25 (of originally 150)
- Models for engineering and mining, agriculture and hydraulic engineering
- The model as a knowledge mediator fitted in seamlessly with the reform concept of the young Göttingen University
- Used in the teaching of national surveying, astronomy and technology as well as for preparing excursions, which were designed to give students their first practical insights into mining and manufacturing

Opening hours: no public exhibition

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/beckmann-collection

Contact: Centre for Collection Development • Christine Nawa
+49 551 39-26696 • nawa@kustodie.uni-goettingen.de

Collection of Historical Objects at the Institute of Geophysics

42



Theodolite by Reichenbach and Ertel, acquired by Gauss in 1820.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- On 2 July 1898, the world's first institute of geophysics was founded in Göttingen
- Founded in 1997
- Number of objects: about 50
- Equipment and apparatus for geodetic and geomagnetic measurements from the 19th and early 20th centuries such as a Borda repeating circle and various theodolites
- Some of the first-class measuring instruments were used in the Hannover land surveying or topographic measurement in the 19th century
- The collection includes equipment of the Göttingen association Wiechert'sche Erdbebenwarte [Wiechert's Earthquake Observatory] Göttingen e.V.

Opening hours: by appointment, guided tours upon request

Address: Institute of Geophysics • University of Göttingen
Friedrich-Hund-Platz 1 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/sammlung-geophysik

Contact: Dr Martin Leven +49 551 39-27480
martin.leven@phys.uni-goettingen.de

Collection of Historical Objects at the Institute of Astrophysics



Extendable **pocket telescope** belonging to Carl Friedrich Gauss, 1815.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- The collection goes back to the first Göttingen observatory
- Founded in 1748
- Number of objects: about 300
- The holdings document the work of outstanding Göttingen scientists such as Tobias Mayer, Carl Friedrich Gauss and Karl Schwarzschild
- Objects: Astronomical equipment and instruments from the 17th to 20th centuries, including angle measuring instruments, chronometers, telescopes and auxiliary instruments
- Objects for astronomical and geodetic measurements as well as for other scientific investigations

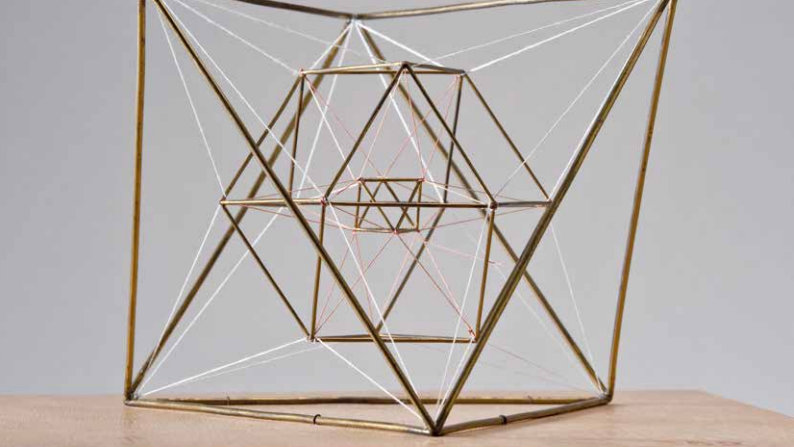
Opening hours: by appointment, public guided tours about once a month and upon request

Address: Institute for Astrophysics • University of Göttingen
Friedrich-Hund-Platz 1 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/astrophysics-collection

Contact: Dr Klaus Reinsch +49 551 39-24037
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Collection of Mathematical Models and Instruments



Projection of the regular 4-dimensional 24-cell into 3-dimensional space.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

- Visualization of abstract mathematical structures
- Founded in 1881
- Number of objects: about 1,000
- Geometric models made of plaster, wood, cardboard, textile or metal. Calculating machines, drawing instruments, integragraphs, kinematic and mechanical models, slides
- The collection and the showcases are an integral part of the original interior design of the institute building inaugurated in 1929
- Mathematical research and research related to the history of science, mathematical didactics, inspiration for artists

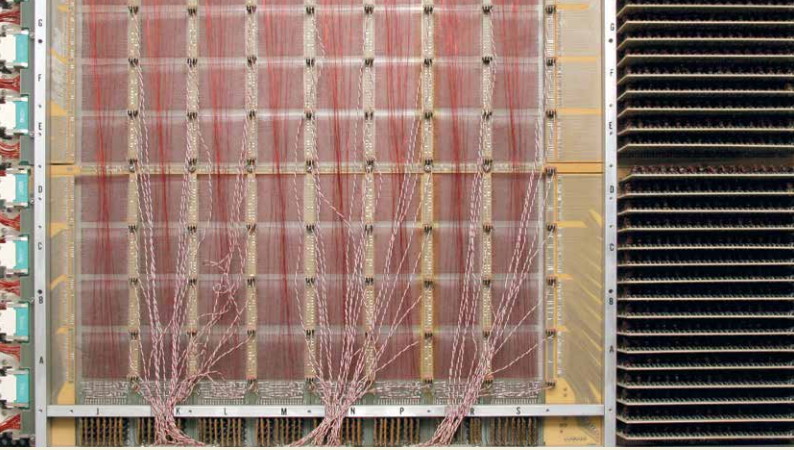
Opening hours: Mon to Fri 8 am – 8 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: Mathematical Institute • University of Göttingen
Bunsenstrasse 3–5 • 37073 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/mathematics-collection

Contact: Prof Laurent Bartholdi
modellsammlung@uni-goettingen.de

Computer Museum of the GWDG



Magnetic core memory module of the main memory of the UNIVAC 1108 computer system, 1965. Photo: Uwe Nolte

- Comprehensive overview of the development history of computer technology and data processing since the 1950s
- Founded in 1980
- Number of objects: about 500
- Complete computer systems and storage systems, components from computer systems, accessories such as storage media, components of input and output peripherals, computational aids such as desk and pocket calculators of many eras
- Popular destination for computer science courses and technology fans

Opening hours: Mon to Fri 7 am – 9 pm Sat and Sun 10 am – 6 pm, guided tours by appointment

Address: Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Datenverarbeitung mbH Göttingen • Am Faßberg 11 • 37077 Göttingen • Germany

Web: www.uni-goettingen.de/computer-museum

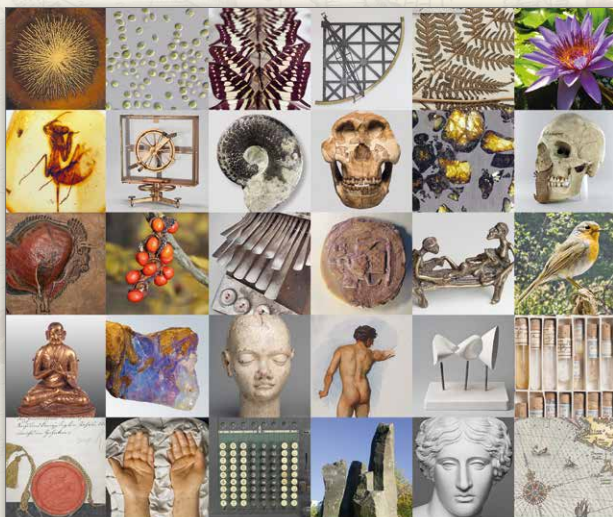
Contact: Dr Thomas Otto +49 551 201-1828
thomas.otto@gwdg.de



Theodolite by Reichenbach and Ertel, acquired by Gauss in 1820.
Photo: Stephan Eckardt

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The University collections are primarily used for research and teaching, but are also open to interested visitors via various events.

Every day, the botanical gardens and the geopark offer a pleasant environment for strolls. Every Sunday, as part of the Sunday walks, the geoscience museum, the collection of musical instruments, the art collection and the cast collection of antique sculptures open their doors. Many institute buildings have regular opening hours, during which you can take a look at additional collections.

At the same time, the collections offer a rich and diverse programme: The spectrum ranges from guided tours to children's activities, readings, concerts and theatre performances.

You will find information on the events on the individual websites of the collections, museums and gardens. You may also reach us via www.uni-goettingen.de/collection-development and our social media channels.



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www.kustodie.uni-goettingen.de

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