

New Studies Course: Natural Science and Engineering

**KIT Trains Teachers of Natural Science and Engineering at Secondary Schools –
Objective: Enthusing More Pupils for Technical and Scientific Issues**



*A new KIT studies course prepares teachers for natural science and engineering lessons.
(Photo: KIT)*

In the subject of natural science and engineering, secondary schools in Baden-Württemberg convey knowledge and relationships of natural sciences and engineering. Karlsruhe Institute of Technology helps them arousing the interest of pupils of classes 5 to 7 in these fields of research. From the 2010/11 winter semester, KIT will train the prospective teachers.

Students can choose the studies course for teaching natural science and engineering as a major or minor subject with unrestricted admittance. They can combine this course with a natural science or mathematics. The application deadline is September 30, 2010.

The studies course is intended to prepare the teachers for conveying the contents of the project-oriented secondary school subject "Natural Science and Engineering" to pupils of classes 5 to 7. The subject covers systems of the observable world, of animated and unanimated nature, and engineering. Studies will focus on the net-

**Dr. Elisabeth Zuber-Knost
Press Officer**

Kaiserstraße 12
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
Phone: +49 721 608-7414
Fax: +49 721 608-3658

**For further information,
please contact:**

Klaus Rümmele
Public Relations and
Marketing (PKM)
Phone: +49 721 608-8153
Fax: +49 721 608-5681
E-mail: klaus.ruemmele@kit.edu

working, transfer of mass and energy, stability, and the formation and destruction of such systems. The studies course is intended to convey to the teachers new methods to facilitate project-oriented teaching at schools.

Lecturers from four engineering disciplines at KIT are responsible for the technical contents: Civil engineering, geo- and environmental sciences; chemical engineering and process engineering; electrical engineering and information technology; and mechanical engineering. The lecturers cooperate with the Departments of Chemistry and Biosciences and of Physics that are already highly experienced in training teachers. "This combination will give teachers a great chance of designing an ambitious and, at the same time, attractive, project-oriented education in the middle and upper levels of secondary schools," says Professor Jürgen Becker, who is responsible for teaching at KIT. This holistic approach is also supposed to make more women decide in favor of engineering studies. With a number of courses tailored to the subject of natural science and engineering, "KIT wishes to motivate a maximum number of pupils interested in natural science and engineering to start studies at KIT in the medium term."

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation and state institution of Baden-Württemberg, Germany. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. KIT focuses on a knowledge triangle that links the tasks of research, teaching, and innovation.

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