

Curriculum Vitae Dr. Sebastian Opitz



1

Personal Data

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Date (place) of birth: August 14th, 1985 (Giessen/Germany)

Languages: German (native)
English (fluent in speech and writing)
French (basic everyday conversation)
Latin (basic)

Training, Experience & Skills

Research Management & Cooperation

- Planning and conducting large-scale quantitative assessment studies
- Cooperation with software developers to design learning tools
- Cooperative research projects with scientists from a broad range of disciplinary backgrounds
- Strong collaboration with teachers in curriculum development/enactments – coordination between teachers and researchers
- Experience with various methods of data sampling, e.g., Open-ended & closed assessment items, ThinkAloud protocol interviews, cognitive pretesting interviews for item development, interviews about instances, structured exploratory interviews, classroom observations, artifact collection
- Supervision/tutoring for master and bachelor thesis projects
- Participation in multiple workshops on career planning, presenting, and scholarly publishing

Methodological training

- Experience with a broad range of quantitative and qualitative research methods
- Graduate school courses on classical and probabilistic statistics, as well as on qualitative research
- Frequent application of statistics software, e.g., SPSS, Mplus, Conquest, MS Excel, R
- *Employed quantitative analyses*: Scale-building statistics, exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses (EFA/CFA), ANOVA, ANCOVA, Repeated Measures ANOVA, regression models, Rasch modeling, DIF-tests, structural equation modeling (SEM)
- *Employed qualitative analyses*: Inter-rater reliabilities, categorization and evaluation of qualitative audio and video data using MAXQDA and STUDIOCODE software, qualitative content analysis (Mayring, 2010)

Research communication

National and international conferences: Posters, oral presentations and symposia participation/organization, e.g., ERIDOB 2012, NARST 2013, ERIDOB 2014, ESERA Summer School 2014, NARST 2015, NARST 2017

Publication experience: see below

3 Professional Activity

- 07/2017–
Research Scientist at IPN – Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics
Education at Kiel University, Department of Biology Education
Legal Seat of the International Biology Olympiad
- 05/2016–
06/2017
Research associate
CREATE for STEM Institute, Michigan State University, USA
(Work group of Prof. Joseph Krajcik)
- 10/2014–
01/2015
Visiting scholar
Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel
(Work group of Prof. David Fortus)
- 10/2011–
04/2016
PhD program, see below

4 Education

- 10/2011–
04/2016
PhD program in science education,
IPN - Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education at Kiel
University, Germany
Work group of Prof. Dr. Ute Harms (biology education)
(Degree received: July 2016, “magna cum laude”)
- 09/2008–
07/2009
Study abroad program, Studies in Biology and English
University of Aberdeen, UK
Erasmus scholarship by the European Union
- 10/2006–
07/2011
Degree for middle and high school teaching in Biology and English
University of Kiel, Germany
(Degree: 1st State Diploma, equivalent to Master's degree, July 2011)
- 10/2005–
09/2006
Law studies at Kiel University and Jena University, Germany
- 08/1996–
04/2005
Middle and High School
Jürgen-Fuhlendorf Gymnasium, Bad Bramstedt, Germany and
German School of Tokyo/Yokohama, Japan
(“Abitur”, high school diploma, received 04/2005, Point average: 1.9)

5 International experiences

- 2016/2017
Post-doc position, USA (14 months)
- 2014/2015
Research visit, Israel (3 months)

2008/2009	Study-abroad program, Scotland (10 months)
2005	Internship, New Zealand (1 month)
2004/2005	High school and internships, Japan (13 months)
2001	Student exchange, Canada (4 months)

6 Publications

Peer-review – published & in press

Opitz, S., Harms, U., Neumann, K., Bernholt, S. (2017). How Do Students Understand Energy in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics? Development and Validation of an Assessment Instrument. *EURASIA Journal of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education*, 13(7), 3019–3042. <https://doi.org/10.12973/eurasia.2017.00703a>

Opitz, S., Harms, U., Neumann, K., Bernholt, S. (2017, in press). Students' progressing energy understanding across contexts from biology, chemistry, and physics. *Research in Science Education*

Opitz, S., Blankenstein, A., Harms, U. (2016, online first). Student Conceptions about Energy in Biological Contexts. *Journal of Biological Education*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00219266.2016.1257504>

Opitz, S., Harms, U., Neumann, K., Kowalzik, K., Frank, A. (2015). Students' Energy Concepts at the Transition between Primary and Secondary School. *Research in Science Education*, 49(5), 691-715. doi 10.1007/s11165-014-9444-8

Appelhans, Y., Thomsen, J., **Opitz, S.**, Pansch, C., Melzner, F., & Wahl, M. (2014). Juvenile sea stars exposed to acidification decrease feeding and growth with no acclimation potential. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 509, 227–239. doi: 10.3354/meps10884

Editorial review, published

Opitz, S., & Opitz, M.-T. (2016). Winterschlaf: Energiesparen als Überlebensstrategie [Hibernation: Energy Saving as a Survival Strategy]. *Unterricht Biologie*, 40(411), 18-23.

Kelpe, M., Damaschun, A., Gutsche, S., Harms, U., **Opitz, S.**, Pareigis, J., Schmidt, S., Sommer, C., Wakilzadeh, G., and Weigt, I. (2016). Kompetenzorientierung im Sachunterricht [Competence-oriented science education]. In: *Entwicklung kompetenzorientierten Unterrichts in Zusammenarbeit von Forschung und Schulpraxis*. Waxmann: Muenster, Germany, pp.185-204.

Monographs

Opitz, S. (2016). *Students' Progressing Understanding of the Energy Concept: An analysis of Learning in Biological and Cross-Disciplinary Contexts*. Doctoral thesis, Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education, Kiel University, Germany. 358 pages

Available online at: http://macau.uni-kiel.de/receive/dissertation_diss_00019005;jsessionid=9F309527200977059C43051620591841?lang=en

Opitz, S. (2011). *Vergleichende Untersuchungen über den Einfluss von erhöhtem Seewasser $p\text{CO}_2$ auf den gemeinen Seestern *Asterias rubens* L. in der Ostsee* [Comparative Analysis on the Influence of Increased Sea Water $p\text{CO}_2$ on the Common Starfish, *Asterias rubes* L. in the Baltic Sea], Staatsexamensarbeit [Master thesis equivalent], Helmholtz Center for Ocean Research Kiel/Germany, 112 pages.

Available online at: <http://oceanrep.geomar.de/12620/>