



Gymnasium Rahlstedt
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Short profile for the project „Traces of the past – education for the future”

The Gymnasium Rahlstedt is a “traditional” German highschool (Gymnasium) which aims to prepare its students for university education. Beyond this, however, we strive to foster social skills, to strengthen interest in the closer and further environment, including the local area, and to create a sense of awareness for the cultural heritage.

In future, the senior students at Hamburg’s highschools will have the possibility to choose among a variety of “profiles”, catering to different interests of the students. In addition to scientific and geographical profiles our school plans to provide the profile “Cultural Heritage”, which combines the subjects History, Art and Sciences and is relevant for practical action. This refers to the ongoing attempt by students to save from decay and restore the gothic village church in Müßelmow (in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern). Aspects to be considered are questions of history, art history, physics and chemistry of construction, as well as restoration techniques. For a number of years now we have been working together with other schools in Müßelmow.

Our school is situated on the eastern edge of Hamburg, it has 775 students and continues to grow. International exchange is part of our school programme. We have working exchanges with France, Sweden and Norway and have applied for cooperation with Norwegian, Latvian and Bulgarian schools within the COMENIUS framework of the European Union.

Our web address is www.gymnasium-rahlstedt.de

I initiated the Müßelmow project, and have supervised it for the last ten years. In cooperation with other teachers of our and other schools we participated in “denkmal-aktiv” [alternativ: in a restoration competition] two years running, also with a focus on Müßelmow.

At the moment we offer a 10-day Müßelmow project every year in September/October to 17-year-olds (11th grade). Our current goal is to rebuild the outer walls of a corn storage next to the church and to cover the roof beams of the church. At the same time 20 prospective restorators of wall paintings will be in Müßelmow, so that our students will have the opportunity for a first-hand experience of restoration techniques.

Volker Wolter, Headmaster