Collections
MUSEUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN MUT

www.unimuseum.de
The wide open doors of the cabinet in the title picture invite you to discover the collections of the University of Tübingen. In addition, the many display cabinets symbolize the concept of the MUT as the umbrella organization of Tübingen University’s collections in a single cabinet.

© Peter Neumann
The University of Tübingen, founded in 1477, holds a wealth of outstanding items in its research, teaching and exhibition collections. The treasures in over 70 collections are not merely distinguished by their age and universal diversity, but also because one can find outstanding individual pieces of worldwide importance in this multi-subject university collection, one of the largest in all of Europe.

Opportunities emerge from this rich heritage, but also obligations for the university. These include organizing the care of the collected pieces in a reasonable manner. They should be available for research, preserved for generations to come, and last but not least be at the disposal of the university for teaching purposes. The Museum of the University of Tübingen MUT is committed to making the collections more accessible to the general public.

While some collections have been maintained and cared for for many years by museum curators, others have often been neglected and nearly forgotten. As a consequence, the university founded the MUT in 2006 as the umbrella organization for all the collections and thus created the framework for systematically cataloguing and exhibiting its collections. Since 2010, project seminars of the MUT have also contributed to taking stock of and exhibiting neglected collections. Finally, in 2016, the master profile class “Museums + Collections” was established.

With this brochure, the university wishes to inform its members as well as the general public of the enormous diversity of the collections. Let us invite you to an exciting journey through the world of science and cultural history; visit the collections or participate in one of our guided tours and enjoy the wide range of events offered by the MUT!

Prof. Dr. Ernst Seidl
Director of the Museum of the University of Tübingen MUT
Overview of the Collections of the University (map)  

PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS
Ancient Cultures – Collections at Hohentübingen Castle  
Oldest Art – Collection of Early Prehistory  
Pile Dwellings + Celts – Collection of Late Prehistory  
Cuneiform Scripts – Ancient Oriental Collection  
Gods + Graves – Ancient Egyptian Collection  
Ancient Art – Classical Archaeology: Collection of Originals  
Ancient Coins – Classical Archaeology: Numismatic Collection  
Ancient Sculptures – Plaster Cast Collection  
WorldCultures – Ethnological Collection  
Castle Laboratory Tübingen – Cradle of Biochemistry  
Castle Barrel Tübingen – Oldest Giant Barrel of the World  
CastleObservatory – Bohnenberg Observatory  
PhotoInventory – Painting Collection of the University  
Alma Mater – Collection of the University Archives  
Biblical Everyday Life – Collection of Biblical Archaeology  
ElectronicBrains – Computer Collection  
Evolution – Palaeontological Collection  
Roll the Film – Media Library of the Center of Media Literacy  
MindThings – Psychological Collection  
HumanBodies – Anatomical Collection  
PlantDiversity – Botanical Garden with Collections  
3-D-Models – Mathematical Model Collection  

CONTENTS
OPEN ON REQUEST

Marked – Collection of Ethics and History of Medicine 40
EverydayCulture – Collection of Historical and Cultural Anthropology 41
AncientPhotos – Classical Archaeology: Photographic Collection 42
BookArt – Book Art Collection Heidtmann 43
Distillery + Centrifuge – Biochemical Apparatus Collection 44
ExperimentalEquipment – Physical Collection 45
Conversations – Arno-Ruoff-Archives: Conversations 46
Islamic Coins – Collection of Islamic Numismatics 47
MapWorld – Geographic Maps Collection 48
SoundBodies – Musical Instrument Collection 49
BoneAnimals – Zooarchaeological Collection 50
Cristals – Mineralogical Collection 51
Art on Paper – Graphic Art Collection 52
ArtPhotos – Photographic Collection of the Art History Institute 53
LifeSaver – Medical Technology Collection 54
Forms of Suffering – Pathological Collection 55
Painting – Kölle Painting Collection 57
HumanSediments – Geoarcheological Collection 58
Music – State Music Archives 59
Mouth + Jaw – Dental Health Collection 61
PlantKingdom – Herbarium Tubingense 62
Professor Gallery – Collection of Academical Paintings 63
Preparations – Biochemical Preparations Collection 65
Seeds + Fruit – Archaeobotanical Collection 66
Castle Church – Collection of the Protestant Preachers 67
Skeletons – Osteological Collection 68
ClayStonesShards – Pottery Collection of Medieval Archaeology 69

NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CastingMolds – Halbritter Collection: Moldings 72
Inorganic – Collection of the Inorganic Chemistry 73
Machines – History of Science Collection 74
Doctor’s Cutlery – Collection of Medical Instruments 75
EyeTechnology – Ophthalmological Collection 76
Measuring + Calculating – Mathematical Instruments Collection 77
Newborn – Collection of Neonatology Institute 78
AnimalPreparations – Zoological Collection 79
Safe – Silver Treasure of the University 80
Turkmen Carpets – Schmalzriedt Collection: Turkmen Carpets 81
WaxBodies – Moulage Collections 82
OuterSpace – Astrophysical Collection 83

ALSO OPEN

Rara + Fundus – Collections of the University Library 85

Imprint 88
PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS
UNESCO-WELTKULTURERBE
EISZEITKUNST
Experience the oldest artworks of humankind: the Ice Age figurines from the caves of the Swabian Alb. On 9th July, 2017, these caves received the UNESCO World Heritage Site status (“Caves and Ice Age Art in the Swabian Jura”). 16 original mammoth ivory figurines, jewellery and stone tools from the Swabian Alb caves are presented in the museum, as well as the oldest music instrument in the world: a 40,000-year-old flute made out of griffon bone.

Learn more about the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps”, the Egyptian sacrificial chamber of Seschemnefer III., the “Tübingen Waffenläufer” – a bronze statuette of a hoplite runner, and the plaster casts of classical sculptures in the beautiful Rittersaal. These world renowned archaeological collections of the University of Tübingen are open to the public in Hohentübingen Castle. Over 4,000 objects are on display on 2,000m². Regular special exhibitions as well as countless events further expand the offer of the Museum Ancient Cultures. More information on www.unimuseum.de

ADDRESS
Museum Alte Kulturen | Schloss Hohentübingen
Burgsteige 11, 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm
Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm

GUIDED TOURS
“Sundays at 3”
Groups and school classes anytime on request

CONTACT
museum@uni-tuebingen.de | 07071-2977579
museum@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2977384
The collection of early prehistory is comprised of significant finds from the beginning of human history. Special emphasis is put on objects from the Old Stone Age, found in the caves of the Swabian Alb. The excavations of the caves were conducted by Gustav Riek in 1931. They rendered numerous ivory figurines out of the 40,000 year old rock layers. These figurines are among the oldest known artworks worldwide. A second focal point of the collection is Ludwig Kohl-Larsen’s finds (1930s) from the Mumba Cave, located in today’s Tanzania. This incredibly rich series of artifacts provides an important insight into the archaeology of the oldest Homo sapiens in Africa. A part of the Kohl-Larsen finds are also significant hominid remains, such as the upper jaw of an *Australopithecus afarensis* (Garusi) and the worldwide oldest human remains of a *Homo sapiens* (Eyasi).
The Prehistory Research Institute’s collection was set up by the former director Robert Rudolf Schmidt (1882–1950) at the beginning of the 20th century. The most important criterion for the selection of the collection’s pieces was the education of the students. In addition, the collection is home to cultural-historical finds of national importance. They are on display and are described in the context of the history of research. The exhibition mainly deals with New Stone Age and Late Bronze Age finds from waterlogged settlements on the Federsee, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites “Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps”. Additionally, fortified Iron Age settlements such as Heuneburg on the upper Danube and Heidengraben near Grabenstetten on the Swabian Alb are also presented.
This collection of Mesopotamian cuneiform texts, only created after WWII, covers the entire range of ancient oriental developments in writing from the 3rd to the 1st millennia BC. It is therefore possible to follow the gradual changes in writing styles over this long time span. The texts offer an insight into the diverse genres of ancient oriental literature, such as official documents, letters, lexical lists and royal inscriptions. Craft objects, such as original seals and replicas of ancient oriental sculptures and reliefs, complement the collection.

A medal reminds us of George Friedrich Grotefend (1775–1853), one of the pioneers of Ancient Oriental Studies as well as one of the first to decode ancient cuneiform writing.

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“Sundays at 3”
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CURATOR
Prof. Dr. Andreas Fuchs
andreas.fuchs@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2976758
The Egyptian collection includes the time period from Egyptian Prehistory, which began around 5,500 BC, up to the Christian period in the 7th century AD. It contains objects and artifacts testifying to everyday life and to the Egyptians’ belief in an afterlife.

With ceramics, earthenware pots, bronze votive offerings and funerary goods, the collection represents an impressive spectrum of Egyptian memorial culture which enables an in-depth introduction to the Egypt of the pharaohs.

Among the popular as well as scientific highlights are the sacrificial chamber of Seschemnefer III of Giza (photo) and the coffin of Idi of Assiut. The coffin’s lid is of special quality. Inside, it bears the very rarely preserved decoration of a star clock.
Ancient Art
CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: COLLECTION OF ORIGINALS

The collection of antique originals, dating back to 1798, contains approximately 10,000 objects from the Mediterranean Basin. The bulk of the collection consists of earthenware vessels, small bronzes, and terracotta from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. The majority of pieces come from bourgeois collections, enhanced by finds from the institute’s own digs. The most famous piece is the “Tübingen Waffenläufer” (photo).

It is the bronze statuette of a hoplite runner posed in a starting position at the beginning of the hoplitodromos (a prestigious race) and was created around 490 BC. Although the origins of the hoplitodromos were in military training, the runners were civilian athletes.
The coin collection with roots stretching as far back as 1798 is, with its ca. 20,000 pieces, one of the biggest and most important university collections of its kind in Germany. At the heart of the collection are approximately 8,000 Greek and 6,000 Roman coins, along with 2,000 medieval and early modern coins as well as 3,000 medals. Particularly striking examples are a silver coin from the settlement of Kaulonia in Southern Italy (photo), and the famous tetradrachma of Athens from the middle of the 5th century BC. Together with the Coin Collection of the Islamic Numismatic (p. 47), the University of Tübingen possesses the best and most diverse university coin collection in Germany.
The collection of plaster casts which the Institute for Classical Archaeology has been assembling since the beginning of the 19th century numbers around 370. The casts of famous, mostly life size, statues from various European museums and of reliefs and architectural fragments offer a fascinating tour of the antique art history from its beginnings until the time of the Roman emperors. Amongst the oldest casts of the collection is the Laocoon Group (photo). The marble original was found in Rome in 1506 and is now located in the Vatican Museum. The Apollo of Belvedere, Diana of Versailles, the Discus Thrower of Myron, and the Winged Victory (Nike) of Samothrace (photo) are particularly impressive casts.

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Museum Alte Kulturen | Schloss Hohentübingen
Burgsteige 11, 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm
Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm

GUIDED TOURS
“Sundays at 3”
Groups and school classes anytime on request

CURATOR
Dr. Alexander Heinemann
alexander.heinemann@uni-tuebingen.de | 07071-2972379
The collection dates back to the second half of the 19th century. Today, it belongs to the Ethnology Department of the Asia Orient Institute. It is composed of about 4,000 pieces of ethnographica, 2,500 black and white positive slides from the years 1890 to 1910 as well as a collection of around 250 watercolours and sketches. The permanent exhibition in the castle’s “pentagon tower” shows a representative selection, focusing on the South Seas and the Amazon Basin. Among the highlights of the exhibition are earthenware vessels of the Shipibo-Conibos of Peru. The peak of the ethnological collection is waiting to be put on display: a wall panel – Poupou – with Maori (New Zealand) ancestral depictions (photo). The panel was brought to Europe by James Cook (1728–1779) after his first voyage to the South Sea (1768–1771). Because of its unparalleled uniqueness, it is still kept under lock and key.
In the early 19th century, the university installed a chemistry lab in the former kitchens of Hohentübingen Castle. Today, it is a pre-eminent site for the history of science. In 1818, the first German biochemist Georg Carl Ludwig (1784–1864) Sigwart began his work here. In this room, Felix Hoppe-Seyler (1825–1895) examined the red blood pigment and named it “Hämoglobin” (hemoglobin). And in 1869, Friedrich Miescher (1844–1895) discovered nucleic acid here, the building block of the genetic materials DNA and RNA. In 2015, thanks to the financial support of the Tübingen biopharmaceutical company CureVac AG, the university was able to create a permanent interactive exhibition depicting the history of biochemistry in Tübingen in the historic castle laboratory. The focal point of the exhibition is the original test tube holding nucleic acid used by Friedrich Miescher in his experiments. Also on display are historical lab equipment and compounds.

ADDRESS
Schlosslabor | Schloss Hohentübingen
Burgsteige 11, 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm
Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm

GUIDED TOURS
Groups and school classes anytime on request

CONTACT | BOOKING
07071-2977579
Underneath the beautiful knights’ hall (Rittersaal) of the Museum Ancient Cultures, the oldest preserved giant wine barrel of the world is located in the cellar of Hohentübingen Castle. In 1546, Duke Ulrich (1487–1550) had this barrel built by a young cooper. The barrel, however, was never sealed. From 1991, the oldest giant barrel was not allowed to be visited anymore because a colony of mouse-eared bats lived in the back area of the castle cellar. Finally, the visitation of this superlative was approved again in 2018. Visitations, however, are only possible as part of guided tours in the winter months. More information on www.unimuseum.de.
The historically significant observatory by Johann G. F. Bohnenberger (1765–1831) at Hohentübingen Castle was built especially for the so-called “Reichenbach’sche Doppelkreis” – which means “Reichenbach Double Circle” – in 1814. This special device only exists three more times in the world (Florence, Milan, Paris). However, the unique whole ensemble consisting of the historical device and the specifically built observatory only exists in Tübingen. On the occasion of the 200 year anniversary of the Württemberg State Survey (württembergische Landesvermessung) which took its starting point in this exact location, the observatory was renovated by the Baden Württemberg Property and Construction Office (Amt für Vermögen und Bau Baden-Württemberg) in 2018. Since then, it can be viewed again.
In this inventory, a likewise outstanding as well as impressive work by the Offenburg astronomical photographer and painter Julius Grimm (1842–1906) from the year 1895 exists: “The „View of the Full Moon“. Today, the oil painting hangs publicly accessible in the knights’ hall (Rittersaal) of Hohentübingen Castle (photo) and captivates by its size and almost photorealistic picturesque quality (page 89). With the help of three-dimensional models based on his own photographs, Grimm created his view of the moon. It is unclear, how the large Tübingen version got to the university. It is certain that the geologist Wolf von Engelhardt (1910–2008), made aware by the pedels, found the painting in the attic of the new auditorium (Neue Aula) in the year 1986.
The university archive is entrusted not only with archival evidence of the University of Tübingen’s history. It also possesses additional collections of completely different types, such as flyers from the 1968 student movements, or students’ paraphernalia (graphic art, silhouettes, pipe bowls, bands, caps) of the 19th century.

The spectrum of museum objects ranges from the early modern money chest to an iron lung from the mid-20th century. Among the pieces of particular significance are the founding documents of the University of Tübingen from 1477 and the seals (Typare) of the old university and its faculties.
The collection of the Institute for Biblical Archaeology has existed since the founding of the institute in 1960. It consists of ca. 430 objects, primarily ceramic vessels, but also coins, seals and models from the Early Bronze Age (from 3500 BC) to Late Antiquity. In numerous display cabinets, we find the collection’s pieces thematically presented. In this fashion, both a general insight into the contemporary world of the Israelites of the 1st millennium BC as well as information about more particular topics such as the development of the oil lamp, is provided. A special feature of the collection is the reproduction of a 5,000-year-old shaft grave from the Dead Sea.
The Computer Collection of the Wilhelm Schickard Institute focuses on the documentation of two revolutions in computer technology. In 1957, Kenneth Olsen (1926–2011) and Harlan Anderson (1929–2019) founded the Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) with the goal of constructing a small computer suitable for laboratory and office use without the need of a service personnel or cooling fans. 1960 saw the launch of their PDP1 (Programmed Data Processor) on the market, revolutionizing the concept of computers. Instead of enormous machines costing millions of dollars, the PDPs found their way into universities, laboratories and factories. Soon after, the need for hobby computers arose: Apple, Tandy Radio Shack, Commodore and others. The computer collection shows a number of these exhibits from the world of PCs.
The Palaeontological Collection of the University of Tübingen was founded in the early 18th century for research and educational purposes. Since then, the first priority has been to allow the international scientific community access to often unique material. On top of this, the palaeontological collection is committed to providing students with access to fossil finds. Last but not least, it offers a wealth of material for numerous student research projects.

To mediate knowledge about the earth’s past to a wider public, these outstanding and often unique finds are accessible in the institute’s museum to all who are interested.

ADDRESS
Paläontologische Sammlung | Fachbereich Geowissenschaften
Sigwartstraße 10, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

GUIDED TOURS
Groups and school classes anytime on request:
museum@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2977384

CURATOR
Dr. Ingmar Werneburg
+49-(0)7071-2973068
The Media Library of the Center for Media Literacy has a comprehensive collection of nearly 1,500 international films from all genres and in all formats. The selection ranges from the classics to current blockbusters, from prize-winning documentaries to arthouse movies, and from animated films to television series. The films are mainly available on DVD and Blu-ray, and may be viewed on site. With a current university identification card, students and faculties are allowed to rent the films for research and educational purposes. Access is also granted to the VHS Archive of the ZFM upon inquiry. The VHS Archive encompasses over 14,000 TV recordings from the past 40 years which are currently being digitalized.

ADDRESS
Zentrum für Medienkompetenz | Mediathek (Brechtbau)
Wilhelmstraße 50, 72074 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2 pm to 4 pm
Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am to 12 am

CURATOR
Maristel Alves dos Santos M.A.
maristel.alves-dos-santos@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2975411
Human experience continually reveals itself as particularly deceptive. That the focus of experimental psychology is the perception of things is therefore obvious. Through the five senses, humans experience information which is then processed cognitively, allowing the production of “mind things”.

In the permanent exhibition “Mind|Things”, historical equipment and tests from the psychology collection are presented. Intelligence and competence tests, optical illusions, haptic phenomena (communication through touch), precision work, and the history of the discipline are explained illustratively.

ADDRESS
Psychologische Sammlung | Fachbereich Psychologie
Schleichstraße 4, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6.30 pm

GUIDED TOURS
Groups and school classes anytime on request:
museum@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2977384

CURATOR
Stefan Ellsässer
stefan.ellsaesser@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2972980
The main purpose of this collection is to assist medical and dental training. Along with historical apparatus, such as the microscope of the Berlin company Bénèche & Wasserlein (1850), it contains a number of anatomic and embryonic models and preparations. Reconstructed from microscopic sections, wax models illustrate the development of individual organs in the embryo. Highlights of the collection are a wax model showing the interior of the human body by the famous Parisian atelier Tramond (around 1888) as well as the historical skull collection adapted from that of Franz Joseph Gall (1758–1828). The collection is located at the Österberg, near Lustnau Gate (Lustnauer Tor).
Among the many university collections, the botanical garden holds a very special position since it consists invariably of living “objects”. Nearly 10,000 species of plants from all over the world are found on an area of ten hectares. Their natural habitat conditions have been recreated outdoors as well as in the various greenhouses. The botanical garden’s plant collections are divided according to the geographic, ecological, and relational context and complemented by thematic elements such as the pharmacist and farmer’s garden, and the flowering perennial beds. Therefore, the visitor does not only become familiar with exotic plant life, but also with the native, definitely not less fascinating flora. The Swabian Alb section of the garden reflects the typical plant companions found on the Alb. In the extensive alpine garden hundreds of tons of stones and rock faces provide a suitable location for alpine flora that has adapted to such extreme conditions. Another focus of the collection are the rhododendrons, which encompass about 75 hybrid and over 170 wild species. They are situated in a valley cut by a natural stream, providing favorable living conditions for these plants. The systematic sectioning of the botanical garden continues over terraces located below the tropicarium. This part of the garden, in which flowering plants are depicted according to their family relationships, plays a key educative role.
at the university. The arboretum is located on five hectares just above the Tübingen Nordring Road. It is systematically segmented and highlights the woody plant collection of the botanical garden.

The greenhouses present the subtropical and tropical plant world on over 3,000 square metres. Beside the tropical rainforest which is depicted in the emblematic tropicarium, the greenhouses also depict desert vegetation, subtropical humid forests and the Canary Islands. The botanical garden, a vital part of the university’s academic life – a place of research and science – is also a place of education, encounters, and recreation.

ADDRESS
Botanischer Garten Tübingen
Hartmeyerstraße 123, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday, 7.30 am to 4.45 pm (greenhouses from 8 am)
Weekends and bank holidays, 8 am to 4.45 pm (greenhouses 10 am to 4.30 pm)

GUIDED TOURS
“Sundays at 2” (on every second Sunday of the month at 2 pm);
Group tours on request

CURATOR
Dr. Alexandra Kehl
alexandra.kehl@botgarten.uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2976161
The mathematical model collection consists of over 400 objects. It was founded by Alexander Brill (1842–1935) in 1885. Most of the models are made out of plaster. Cord constructions and models made from cardboard, wood or wire also belong to the inventory. Amongst the many models, of which most stem from the Darmstadt publisher Ludwig Brill or the Leipzig publisher Martin Schilling, older objects also stem from the Tübingen Observatory as well as from craftsmen and artists. Alexander Brill who founded the first German model cabinet with his colleague Felix Klein (1849–1925) at the TU Munich, coined a new generation of mathematicians and engineers such as Max Planck (1858–1947) and Rudolf Diesel (1858–1913). Brill received many master models from his students and colleagues. These pieces are a unique selling proposition of the Tübingen Collection.
The Museum of the University of Tübingen MUT is also active online with all its collections and museums.

Visit us:

www.unimuseum.de

Follow us on:
OPEN ON REQUEST
Initiated by Hans Fleischhacker (1912–1992) in 1943, this disturbing collection mainly consists of more than 600 hand-, foot-, and fingerprints of mostly Jewish inmates of the Ghetto Litzmannstadt (near Łódź, Poland). Strongly influenced by racial biology, it was the anthropologists aim to use this collection for attesting the supposed morphological differences between the palms of Jews and non-Jews. It is the only collection of its kind, and testimony to the terrifying abuse of scientific methods in the time of National Socialism.

ADDRESS
Sammlung Ethik und Geschichte der Medizin | Bereich Geschichte der Medizin
Goethestraße 6, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
On request

CURATOR
PD Dr. Henning Tümmers
henning.tuemmers@medizin.uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071 2975216
The archive of everyday culture encompasses the numerous collections of the institute since the 1930s: everyday objects, political emblems, books and journals, clothing, masks, wall decorations, postcards and advertising images, toys and films, photos and albums, autobiographical writings and files documenting the history of historical and cultural anthropology at Tübingen University. In addition, there are the collections of the photo archive, the slide library, the newspaper archive, and the archive of popular writing culture as well as the archive of former exhibitions and student projects. Since the end of the 1960s, the collection’s canon of traditional European ethnology (accoutrements used in traditional rites, house models, costumes, pottery) has deliberately been enlarged with products of mass culture. The archive serves teaching and research purposes, lends out pieces to exhibitions, and is open to external researchers.

ADDRESS
Archiv der Altagskulturen | Ludwig-Uhland-Institut
Burgsteige 11, 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
On request

CURATOR
Dr. Karin Bürkert
karin.buerkert@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2972375
The Photographic Collection of the Institute for Classical Archaeology was created in the 20th century. It encompasses photographs taken of places important in antiquity as well as of excavation sites. Many of the photos have become historical records because the antique sculptures or photos of antiques featured in exhibition rooms from the beginning of the 20th century have been altered since having been taken. The comprehensive collection of black and white photographs offers an important addition not only for tours and walks around the museum, but also for research and educational purposes, whereby the aesthetic intrinsic value of the photographs also plays an increasingly important role.
The Heidtmann Book Art Collection of the University of Tübingen consists of several examples of folded book art. In this specialized field, the books themselves become aesthetic objects through the artful folding of their pages. The folds mostly allude to the content of the books, creating singular sculptures of the books themselves as well as forming fascinating interplays between function and structure. As a passionate artist, the library scientist Prof. emeritus Dr. Frank Heidtmann (born 1937) quite literally transformed his objects of study into book art. The folding of everyday reading material, such as catalogues, dictionaries and encyclopedias, thick volumes of reference works, and novels into book objects lends a completely new perspective on the book as a medium which is now being presented in a new aesthetic form.
The biochemical apparatus collection houses historical laboratory equipment of what was formerly known as the subject of physiological chemistry. An iron retort, several crucibles, and a balance, among other items, belong to the preserved objects dating back to the time of the castle laboratory (before 1886). Other special instruments, such as those used in the research on haemoglobin, date back to the time of the Physiological Chemistry Institute which was located in the Gmelinstraße (1886–1964). The largest part of the collection is located in the Interfaculty Institute for Biochemistry (IFIB). A selection of noteworthy objects can be viewed in the permanent exhibition “Castle Laboratory Tübingen – Cradle of Biochemistry” (page 20) in Hohentübingen Castle.
The Physics Institute of the University of Tübingen has a diverse teaching collection of historical apparatus and equipment at its disposal, such as measuring equipment, polarization apparatus, and a diffraction grating. It also encompasses the electrostatic potential multiplier according to Albert Einstein (1879–1955) from the year 1910 which was acquired by the then director of the institute, Fritz Paschen (...), in 1920. In addition, the collection holds letters by the lawyer and specialist in German studies, Felix Genzmer (1878–1959), and the physicist Albert Einstein as well as a curious tin cat with an adjoining miniature bicycle. This so-called “social object” was used as part of a student exam ritual and played a role as such in the “Integration of Expert Teams” until the early 1980s.
The “Arno-Ruoff-Archive” consists of over 2,000 tape recordings of conversations which the linguist Arno Ruoff (1930–2010) carried out, beginning in the 1950s, with the initial help of Hermann Bausinger (born 1926). The recordings were all carried out in the German speaking south-west. The recordings stored in the archive are unprepared, free-flowing conversations. They give an insight into the everyday life of the people of Baden-Württemberg, Bavarian Swabia, Vorarlberg, and Liechtenstein from ca. 1880 to 2000. All recordings are now available on CD. A large part has already been transcribed. The archive serves the university as resource for teaching and research. On request, individual recordings and transcripts can be listened to and viewed for research purposes. More detailed information regarding where the recordings were taken can be found on the webpage of the Ludwig-Uhland-Institute’s research group Language in Southwest Germany (Tübinger Arbeitsstelle Sprache in Südwestdeutschland).

ADDRESS
Arno-Ruoff-Archiv | Tübinger Arbeitsstelle Sprache in Südwestdeutschland
Ob dem Himmelreich 7, 72074 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
On request

CURATOR
Prof. Dr. Hubert Klausmann
hubert.klausmann@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2977308
The founder of Swabian Ethnology, Ernst Meier (1813–1866), Professor in Tübingen for Oriental Languages, collected Arabic coins which were purchased by the university after his death. Through the acquisition of the Stephen Album Collection in 1988 and through donations and the founding of the research unit for Islamic numismatics, this core collection has grown into one of the four worldwide largest and most important collections of Islamic coins from the Middle Ages and early Modern period.

Over 75,000 coins provide an archive of the political, religious and economical history of an area stretching from Spain to Afghanistan. Together with the Coin Collection of the Department of Classical Archaeology (page 17), the University of Tübingen possesses the best and most diverse university coin collection in Germany.
The Geographical Map Collection of the University of Tübingen is both a historical and an educational collection. It consists of contemporary maps from all over the world as well as historical rarities of the 19th century.

A part of the collection which focuses on Southern Germany was able to be taken over by the Technical University of Stuttgart. With the help of old maps, it is possible to trace the cultural, industrial and environmental development of landscapes. Historical maps also document the respective state of the science of land surveying and are important cultural testimonies. Further important parts of the geographic maps collection are the wall map collection, the aerial photography collection, the field map collection, the atlas collections, and the atlas archive.

ADDRESS
Geographische Kartensammlung | Bodenkunde und Geomorphologie
Rümelinstraße 19–23 (Raum H601), 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
On request

CURATOR
Dr. Joachim Eberle
joachim.eberle@uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2973943
In 1999, the Institute of Musicology was presented with a collection of historical wind instruments by Dr. h.c. Karl Ventzke (1933–2005). Opened in May 2000 and constantly being expanded, it now contains approximately 200 instruments, making it one of the most significant musical instrument collections at any German university. The dominating themes are the woodwind instruments of the symphony orchestra at the end of the 19th century, the development of the flute from 1800–1925, the bassoon from Savary (1824) to Heckel (around 1910), oboes, clarinets, saxophones, horns, trumpets and trombones. The collection documents the tumultuous technological development in instrument making in the 19th century. It features spectacular objects such as the early heckelphone no 18, a tárogató, a “Stuttgart bassoon” or an alto flute from Theobald Boehm’s (1794–1881) own workshop.

ADDRESS
Musikinstrumentensammlung | Musikwissenschaftliches Institut (Pfleghof)
Schulberg 2, 72070 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
On request

GUIDED TOURS
On request

CURATOR
Andreas Wolfgang Flad M.A.
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Having an extensive collection of modern comparative faunal remains is essential to zooarchaeological research and teaching. The Zooarchaeological Collection in Tübingen is one of the largest collections of its kind in Europe. The collection houses nearly 1,500 mammal skeletons which range in size from mice all the way up to an elephant. In addition to this, there are skeletons and individual bones of approximately 800 birds and 500 fish as well as reptiles and amphibians. The collection includes animals native to Europe, Africa, and the Arabian Peninsula. New comparative objects are constantly added to the collection which the institute receives from zoological gardens and hunters. Additionally, the Institute for Scientific Archaeology (Institut für Naturwissenschaftliche Archäologie, INA) houses over one hundred individual collections dating back from the earlier Paleolithic to the Middle Ages.
The mineralogical collection presents minerals and ores in addition to precious stones from all over the world through which light is shed on our understanding of “Planet Earth” and our everyday lives. In the exhibition room behind the Lothar-Meyer-Bau, the following themes are presented in over 40 display cases: The diversity of minerals, ores and their deposits, applied mineralogy, fluorescence, mineral properties, jewelry and precious stones, mineral salts and “mineral water” as well as minerals in everyday life. Significant and rare meteorites – the majority from the 19th century – give the collection a great historical value and international acclaim.
Since 1897, the Graphic Art Collection at the Institute of Art History (Department of Prints and Drawings) has served educational purposes as teaching and art collection for the practical instruction of students, whilst also being at the disposal for those of the public also interested in art. Visitors may – on request – view originals in the study hall (Studiensaal). During the semester, there are also themed exhibitions to be seen there. The collection spans art on paper from 1500 to the present and has greatly profited from important private donations. Among them are the Max Kade Collection (New York), the Rieth Collection with artists’ self portraits, the collection of Heide & Wolfgang Voelter (Tübingen), graphic reproductions of the “Sprayer of Zurich”, Harald Naegeli, and donations of contemporary art from the Tübingen Art History Society (Tübinger Kunsthistorische Gesellschaft).
Since the 1920s, the photographic collection’s largest part is the archive of the art historian and professor Georg Weise (1888–1978). Content-wise, it is particularly linked to his research interests in Spanish and French architecture and sculpture of the Middle Ages. However, it also contains photos of the regional art history of Swabia. In addition, there are also old photographs based on hand drawings and paintings by old masters from the former possession of the Royal Copperplate Engraving Cabinet Stuttgart (Königliches Kupferstichkabinett Stuttgart) and from individual private donations.
The collection of the Service Centre for Medical Technology houses various historical apparatus which were used in the university hospital in the 1950s and 1960s. The collection focuses on laboratory equipment, ECG recording devices, defibrillators, blood sugar meters, and devices from infusion technology.
General pathology plays an important role in medical care and represents a substantial part of clinical medicine. The structural makeup of tissue is made visible using various types of staining techniques which create differing representations of the tissue. With specific molecular pathological methods, the diagnosis of disorders and illnesses is carried out. However, as a consequence predictable assertions are also made which in turn allow the clinics to implement patient tailored, individualized therapies. The Pathological Collection of the University of Tübingen encompasses nearly 40 exhibits fixed in formalin. They stem from the years 1950 to 1980 and primarily consist of malformed fetuses and uteri.
The Kölle Painting Collection consists of the legacy of the Stuttgart-born Württemberg diplomat, journalist, and political scientist Christoph Friedrich Karl von Kölle (1781–1848). During a stay of several years in Rome and Paris, Christoph Friedrich Karl von Kölle amassed over 50 paintings of the 15th to the 19th century. After King Wilhelm I of Württemberg (1781–1864) declined the offer to buy them, the collector bequeathed his paintings to the University of Tübingen in 1848. It is the only surviving testimony of private collecting in Württemberg from the 19th century. As a result, the painting collection is protected by the Federal State Preservation of Historic Monuments Act. One painting by Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472–1553, picture right) is on permanent loan to the State Gallery (Staatsgalerie) of Stuttgart.
On loan from the Tübingen University Collection to the State Gallery of Stuttgart
Photo: State Gallery of Stuttgart
The geoarchaeological collection is based on a donation by the geoarchaeologist Paul Goldberg who collected these sediment samples for decades. It contains over 7,000 examples, including thin sections, indurated blocks, and sediment peels of archaeological deposits and profiles, making it one of the worldwide largest collections of its kind. The materials come from all habitable continents and nearly all time periods. In addition to the archaeological materials, the collection also contains a large number of recent sediment references. Because many of the original sites and profiles are no longer available or difficult to access, the collection represents an inestimable value for research on the human past and the evolution of our species.
With its ca. thirty closed inventories from parishes and former monasteries of today’s Württemberg and Upper Swabia, the Swabian State Music Archive (Schwäbisches Landesmusikarchiv, LMA) at the Institute of Musicology houses a significant treasure of historical music from the 18th and 19th century. One can find works from more than a hundred composers here, amongst others from representatives of the Upper Swabian monastery music. As a whole, the collection reflects a coherent picture of the Swabian and South German musical heritage of the time. It also offers numerous discoveries, including several volumes of cantatas by Georg Eberhard Duntz (1705–1775) who worked as a chapel boy, violinist and chamber musician in Stuttgart as well as the mass compositions by the Mannheim court cellist Anton Fils (1733–1760).
The Center for Dentistry, Oral Medicine and Maxillofacial Surgery’s extensive collection (ZZMK) is located on the ground floor of the hospital building. It contains diverse dental and dental technical instruments, including exhibits from the fields of surgery, conservative dentistry, prosthetic dentistry and radiology. Several exhibits date back to the 16th century. The Rottweil barber-surgeon “Doctor Gruesome’s” (“Dr. Grausams”) instrument case for tooth extractions from the 18th century proves to be an extremely rare example. Pliers and dental keys (photo), used to “lever out” pain, at first mostly caused the exact opposite. In order to replace the extracted teeth, the patient’s own teeth or ceramic teeth were partly used as tooth replacement. After being refurbished by the MUT and the dental clinic in 2020, the collection can be viewed on request.

ADDRESS
Zahnmedizinische Sammlung | Zentrum für Zahn-, Mund- und Kieferheilkunde
Osianderstraße 2–8, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
It can be viewed on request from 2020 onwards.

CURATOR
Dr. Andreas Prutscher ZA
andreas.prutscher@med.uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2983461
The collecting and archiving of plants and fungi has a history of over 200 years in Tübingen. By the beginning of the 19th century, a botanical collection already existed at Hohentübingen Castle. In 1837, Professor Hugo von Mohl (1805–1872) founded the Herbarium Tubingense. The Herbarium Tubingense has been situated at the Botanical Institute on the Morgenstelle since 1968/69. It contains further collections and bundles such as the pharmacological collection or the so-called “Collection Gärtner” by Karl Friedrich von Gärtner. Today, the Herbarium Tubingense (TUB) contains around half a million plant and fungi varieties from different regions of the world. Among these plant collections, numerous “type specimen” can be found i.e. material used for the first determination of new plant types.
The professor gallery encompasses more than 300 paintings of former principals, chancellors, professors and other functionaries of the University of Tübingen from 1578 to date. Because of its complete chronology and its scientific-historical value, the collection is protected by the Federal State Preservation of Historic Monuments Act. The professor gallery is spread out across the university and housed in various buildings. Larger portions are presented in the senate chambers of the main building of the university – the new auditorium (Neue Aula) – and in the royal chambers of Hohentübingen Castle.
The Biochemical Preparations Collection of the former Physiological Chemical Institute of Tübingen is situated in today’s Interfaculty Institute for Biochemistry of the University of Tübingen (IFIB). A part of it is presented in the permanent exhibition “Castle Laboratory Tübingen – Cradle of Biochemistry” in Hohentübingen Castle (page 20). The objects of the collection mainly stem from the time between 1886 and 1964, when the institute was located in the Gmelinstraße. The more than 30 preparations which were formed in the castle laboratory before 1886 also include a test tube with a handwritten label by the physician Friedrich Miescher, the discoverer of nucleic acid. It contains nucleic from salmon DNA and was fabricated around 1871.
The Archaeobotanical Collection at the Institute for Scientific Archaeology (INA) is built up of recent seeds and fruits from botanical gardens and intensive collecting activities in Europe and the Middle East since the 1970s. Around 6,000 plant species in particular serve the archaeobotanical specialists as comparatives for the identification of floral finds from archaeological excavations. These old objects are also part of the collection, including crops and wild plant finds from famous Middle Eastern excavations, such as Troy (Turkey) or Qatna (Syria), but also the wood charcoal from the Palaeolithic caves in Southwest Germany, which all provide information on the environment, agriculture, and the diet of the people back then.
The Preachers Institute of the Protestant Theology Faculty has maintained its seat in the Castle Church of Hohentübingen Castle since its foundation in 1815. The Theology Professor Johann Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774–1841) first prepared theology candidates for their sermon, service, and teaching practice in a new seminaristic-conservational style in the chapel and sacristy. At the interface of university, church and society, the “spiritual polyclinic” was meant to provide an all-encompassing practical-theological education to future preachers and religion teachers. To date, lectures from the Institute for Practical Theology take place there. The Collection of the Protestant Preachers Institute consists of paintings from the 18th century and of a liturgical device which is also used in worship services.
Skeletons
OSTEOLOGICAL COLLECTION

The collection is primarily built up as research collection, but is also used for teaching. Aside from an extensive collection of human fossil plaster casts, it also consists of skeletal remains from around 10,000 individuals from the Paleolithic to the beginning of the 20th century, the majority of which being from Baden-Württemberg. Some of the more unusual pieces are finds from the Stone Age, such as the “nest of skulls” from the caves of Hohlenstein-Stadel (photo), the endocast of a plague victim from the time between 1275 and 1550 from the interior of St Dionysius Church in Esslingen, and a collection of Egyptian mummies. A small exhibition from the field of anatomy and changes to bones caused by diseases serve the training of students. Currently, the inventory of the collection is being digitalized with the help of 3D and CT scans.
The comparison and analysis of ceramics is an important criteria for the chronological, geographical, and sociological classification of past cultures. Numerous discovery-site-unknown shards of the Kley Collection and a not exactly assignable committee of the Tübingen Office of Historical State Monuments served as basis for the Pottery Collection which was established by the Medieval Archaeology Department. As part of a seminar, the collection was organized and made partially available online in the winter semester of 2008/09. The collection offers a comprehensive overview of the development of ceramic objects in Southwest Germany, from the migration period to the early Modern period. The collection is open to students of the university and to outside parties on request.
In 2009, the MUT acquired clay models and casting molds from the estate of the Tübingen sculptor, illustrator, and graphic designer Gerhard Richard Halbritter (1908–2002) who was born in Mühlhausen/Thuringia. The acquisitions thereby encompass a selection of artist originals, such as drafts or models of portrait reliefs of representatives and crests of the University of Tübingen. Original negatives of faculty placards as well as university medals made by the artist are also part of the inventory. Halbritter especially became famous for his death masks of Ernst Bloch or of the members of the Red Army Fraction (RAF), Gudrun Ensslin, Andreas Baader and Jan-Carl Raspe.
The collection of experimental preparation of inorganic chemistry mainly consists of objects which were utilized by Wilhelm Schlenk. Wilhelm Johann Schlenk (1879–1943) was a German chemist who started teaching at the University of Tübingen in 1935. The objects stored in the collection are strongly characterized by a technique developed by Schlenk, the so-called “Schlenk technique”. It denotes a chemical working process in which air or moisture sensitive substances are deprived of oxygen and humidity and can thus be processed safely. A few old Schlenk vessels still holding substances from that time were found during the renovation of the facilities. Furthermore, the experimental preparation of inorganic chemistry possesses a comprehensive collection of chemicals which are preserved in historic glass bottles and are put on display.
The history of science collection was primarily created thanks to the commitment of the Tübingen biologist PD Dr. Alfons Renz. It consists of about 300 technical devices and instruments of scientific and historical significance, mainly from the subjects chemistry and physics, but also from the Hygiene Institute, the Eye Clinic and other disciplines. They testify to the material culture of various scientific disciplines in general and the contribution of Tübingen researchers in particular. The oldest apparatus, often built by Tübingen University mechanics, originate in the 19th century. Further components of the collection are teaching materials, microscopic slides and the accompanying documents.
The collection of medical-historical instruments consists of two sub-collections. Firstly, from the practice of the doctor Dr. Georg Kolb who practiced medicine in the Tübingen and Reutlingen counties from 1934 to 1964. Dozens of historical-medical instruments from the 20th century are found in an about 70-year-old leather doctor’s bag. These metal instruments are mainly cutlery for minor surgical procedures. The collection also contains everyday utensils of a rural medical practice which was not specialized in any specific field. More specialized tools, such as trepanation instruments, enrich the collection. The medical collection from general medical practitioner and former Chairman of the Doctors’ Association Dr. Jörg G. Vogel, who studied in Tübingen in the 1960s, is represented by an independent but complementary bundle.
The eye clinic houses 50 historical eye examination devices, among other things. These rare objects, most of them originating in the years 1890 to 1910, reflect the development of ophthalmology at this time. It was not until the second half of the 19th century that eye care established itself as a distinct university subject. These objects serve primarily to illustrate and to give an optical explanation of the history of ophthalmologic research which is studied in Tübingen in the research field “history of eye care”. The examination devices are located in a display cabinet in the hallway of the university’s eye clinic.
The Institute of Mathematics possesses a collection of devices and instruments from the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century which were employed for the practical experiments in geodesy, descriptive geometry, and for graphic as well as numerical methods. It hereby consists of theodolites (photo), measuring rods, special drawing instruments, integrimeters, and mechanical calculators, amongst others. Until around 1960, practical experiments in geodesy – also in the field – and descriptive geometry for those learning to be teachers majoring in mathematics were compulsory.
For centuries, children were treated as “small adults.” It was not until 120 years ago that a well-founded paediatric medicine was developed. However, neonatology which deals with the treatment of premature and sick newborns only really took off and developed rapidly in the second half of the 20th century. Thus, the implementation of specific techniques and technologies which are dependent on corresponding devices and instruments noticeably contributed to increased survival rates of infants as well as increased quality of life. Whereas 95 percent of all children weighing less than 1,000 grams at birth died in 1960, at least 95 percent of these children survive today. Since 2001, a collection exists that documents this development of neonatology from the late 1960s to date in the used devices and instruments.
The largest part of the collection is kept at the Morgenstelle, whilst a smaller display collection is located in the Sigwartstraße. On the top floor of the latter, an extensive presentation of several vertebrates and insect groups of Central Europe is displayed. The ground floor is dedicated to the exotic creatures of Africa, Asia, Australia and America. The oldest preparations are about 160 years old and partly stem from donations by the Royal House of Württemberg. Many of the animals on display are since either extinct or are threatened with extinction. Another special feature is the currently inaccessible collection of 32 teaching glass models of marine invertebrates by the glassblowers Leopold (1822–1895) and Rudolf Blaschka (1857–1939), of whose works only 100 examples still exist in Germany.
The silver treasure encompasses centre-pieces, showy goblets, the rector’s chain and two scepters from the founding faculties of the university — the Artist Faculty and the Theology Faculty (1477 catholic) — dating back to the late Middle Ages as well as the rectorate staff from 1812. The objects represent significant evidence of the representative practice of the University of Tübingen. Over the course of the centuries, additional pieces were donated by the Württemberg Ducal Family, by wealthy private patrons or by former students as anniversary gifts. Among these gifts is the lidded goblet (1915) from Countess von der Linden, an aunt of the first female student of the Tübingen University (1892–1895). The first knowledge of such donations can be found in documents from the year 1550.
Turkmen Carpets
SCHMALZRIEDT AND LESSING COLLECTION: TURKMEN CARPETS

The Schmalzriedt Collection consists of 95 Turkmen carpets from the 19th and early 20th century. They come from the Turkmen tribes of the Yomud and Tekke. Alongside the carpets, the collection also consists of bags, horse blankets, tent entrances and tent borders, amongst others. The weave which, on account of its decoration, allows us to pinpoint the precise region and history of the individual pieces, is of particular interest. The private collection of Professor Egidius Schmalzriedt (1935–2003) was donated to the university from his estate in 2010.

ADDRESS
Museum der Universität Tübingen MUT | Depot
Auf dem Sand 5, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
It is currently not possible to view the collection.

CURATOR
Dr. Lutz Ilisch
lutz.ilisch@uni-tuebingen.de
Tübingen University’s Dermatological Clinic houses its own Moulage Collection. In 1905, Paul Linser (1871–1963) began to train prospective doctors in Tübingen. Many generations of physicians were trained and tested on such wax models. The collection mainly consists of wax representations of sick or malformed areas of skin and sexual organs which were recreated based on real life patients. The current collection is made up of two individual collections: the Dermatological Collection by the University Dermatological Clinic, and the Tropical Medicine Collection by the German Institute for Medical Mission (Deutsches Institut für Ärztliche Mission e. V., Difäm). Prominent objects are the reproductions of the end stages of illnesses which are rarely seen today, such as lupus and syphilis (photo), the pest and smallpox.

**ADDRESS**
Universitäts-Hautklinik
Liebermeisterstraße 25, 72076 Tübingen

**OPENING HOURS**
It is currently not possible to view the collection.

**CURATORS**
Prof. Dr. Anke Strölin
anke.stroelin@med.uni-tuebingen.de | +49-(0)7071-2985763
The collection of the Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics possesses the first cast-iron quadrant, acquired in 1752. It was used to ascertain the position of the stars. Furthermore, instruments acquired one hundred years later, such as a portable meridian circle or a parallactically mounted telescope, can be viewed, with which significantly more precise measurements could be made.

More recent scientific activities are demonstrated by instruments which were built in the institute beginning in the mid-1960s. These instruments, including the Aries space mirror, were developed, built and installed in space telescopes. With these, it is possible to observe rays emitted from objects in the cosmos which is not measurable from the earth’s surface. The only space telescope that left the earth twice and returned intact is the most valuable piece of the collection (photo).

ADDRESS
Institut für Astronomie und Astrophysik | Abteilung Astronomie und HEA
Sand 1, 72076 Tübingen

OPENING HOURS
It is currently not possible to view the collection.

CURATOR
Dipl. Phys. Thomas Schanz
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Since its establishment at the end of the 15th century, the university library has acquired literature from all fields of study. Today, it has an inventory of about four million volumes. The historical inventories are of great value. These include original manuscripts from India and the Near East, about 350 manuscripts from the Middle Ages and 3,000 from the Modern era, 2,200 incunable, and nearly 12,000 prints from the 16th century. All in all, the Rara Collection encompasses about 90,000 volumes, in particular printed books predating 1700, first editions or other valuable works. Additionally, the collections of the university library contain individual fundus objects, such as furnishings from the construction period of the Bonatzbau (1910–1912). The university library also preserves an extensive record collection and a cannonball from the siege of Hohentübingen Castle in the 17th century.
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Julius Grimm (1842–1906): View of the Full Moon, 1895, 220 x 220 cm, Oil/Canv., Hohentübingen Castle (Rittersaal)
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