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# Welcome to UE: Who we are

The University of Europe for Applied Sciences, educates the designers and decision-makers of tomorrow.

The synergy of creativity, entrepreneurial digital thinking, and internationality enriches our faculties and leads to new perspectives in teaching and research. UE empowers you to take a proactive role in harnessing the tools we provide to develop new ways of working, learning, and living that will shape your well-being, and help you contribute as individuals to the betterment of the global community.

You are connected on all our campuses, through international projects, innovative digital learning formats (for example cross-border lectures), or in direct exchanges with international peers from over 90 countries.





### About us

At the University of Europe for Applied Sciences (UE), located in Berlin, Hamburg, Iserlohn, and UE Innovation Hub in Potsdam, you'll explore new paths. We offer you programs that prepare you for the demands of tomorrow's job market. Our global network embraces all cultures and continents, and serves as a gateway to an exciting career in a global, digitalised workplace — whether as a manager or in your own company.

We offer courses that combine entrepreneurial, creative, digital and international thinking under one roof — we provide important high demand skills in the contemporary world of work, whether for managers, consultants, entrepreneurs, designers or artists. Take advantage of this interdisciplinary exchange and be inspired.

## Academic calendar

### Summer semester

Semester dates

Lecture period

Deadline for study contract cancellation

Deadline to apply for a leave of absence ALBA deadline for cancellation or absence

Fxams

1 Mar – 31 Aug

Mar - Jul

31 Jan

31 Jan

JIJali

31 Dec

2 weeks after lectures

### Winter semester

Semester dates

Lecture period

Deadline for study contract cancellation Deadline to apply for a leave of absence

ALBA deadline for cancellation or absence

Exams

1 Sept — 28 Feb

Sept — Feb

31 Jul

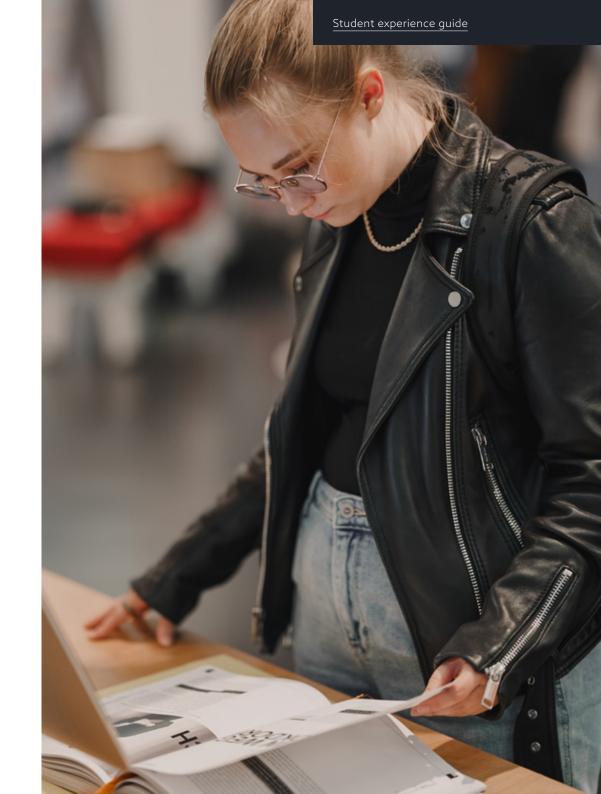
31 Jul

30 Jun

2 weeks after lectures

For exact dates, please visit:

www.ue-germany.com/study-with-us/important-info-for-students/semester-dates



### Studying with us



Our globally-oriented programs provide you the chance to learn in international classes and cross-border lectures as well as offering you opportunities to work on global projects. Enhance your intercultural skills while studying with students from over ninety countries! Our experienced lecturers provide you with the latest knowledge, keeping you up to date in your chosen field.

### Top quality

German universities offer excellent teaching and research, ranking among the best in the world. You will earn an internationally renowned state-accredited degree, giving you excellent prospects on the global labour market.

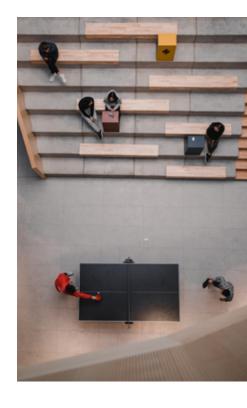




### Geared to practice

Many UE study programs link theory and practice to help you develop the competitive advantage you need. You will benefit from the interdisciplinary cooperation of all faculties. You will gain valuable practical experience through your participation in projects with our corporate partners from the worlds of business, media, politics, NGOs, the arts, and culture.





### Diversity of experiences

Discover the beauty and diversity Germany has to offer! When you take time off from your studies, there are 1001 ways of exploring your new campus home and other locations. Visit a museum, the cinema or theatre or enjoy the weather in a beer garden. If you love the outdoors, enjoy swimming in one of our many lakes, climbing a mountain, or visiting an old castle.





University experience

Student experience guide

## What to expect

### Responsibilities

- You are responsible for following your semester schedule.
- You have the freedom and responsibility to manage your time.
- You decide how to participate in co-curricular activities.
- You are expected to take responsibility for what you do or don't do.
- You are responsible for attending classes without being told.

### Improvement

- Sources of information must be cited using professional style guidelines such as APA, MLA.
- Finishing a project at the last minute is not an effective practice at university. You need time to check it over before submitting it.
- Mastery is often seen as the ability to apply what you learn to new situations or to solve problems.
- You need to study at least 2-3 hours each week for each class.
- Most course work takes place outside of class through reading, assignments, working with a group or meeting with the instructor.

### Grades

- You must learn strategies to overcome challenges in learning.
   Support is available but you must ask.
- A passing mark for assignments, modules or courses is 50 points out of 100.
- You can graduate only if you earn a CGPA of 4.0 or better.
- You must inform your instructors about absences.
- In case of serious illness or an extended absence, you must inform the University and may consider withdrawing officially.

### Assignments

- Exams may cover more material than covered in class. All aspects of a course, including lectures and readings may be on the exam.
- Instructors expect reports, papers and essays to be well structured and to include analysis backed by evidence.
- You can ask questions about assignments.

### Classes

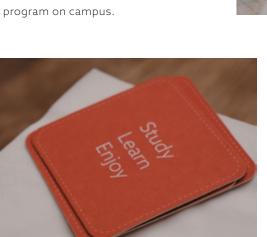
- Instructors often teach using PowerPoint slides on the screen.
- Group projects are common and assist you in applied learning, as well as developing critical skills involved in working in teams.
- Attendance is required and very important to your success.

## Student support

### First year

### Ersti week

Did you know that **Ersti** refers to first year students in the German language? This mandatory event is the place for you to learn about key information, make new connections, and find out how to succeed at UE. Taking place the week before classes begin, we offer a variety of sessions to connect you with faculty, staff, and UE students. You will be introduced to strategies, tools, connections, resources, and advice to ensure your smooth transition into your first semester. You will meet faculty, professional staff, the UE Tech team, career specialists, get answers to your immigration and financial questions, and meet with the faculty experts in your study program on campus.



### JumpStart

UE JumpStart is a mandatory micro-credential offered to all incoming Erstis. It consists of four mandatory workshops designed to assist you in developing and refining the skills, strategies, and study habits necessary to succeed in your study program. Jump-Start not only to introduces you to UE culture, but is a safe place where you can bring your questions and concerns about what it means to study, learn, and succeed at UE. Each week a new workshop introduces valuable academic skills. Students earn a badge for each of the 4 workshops after submitting competency based assignments.





### Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre is made up of the following academic supports:

- JumpStart micro-credential
- Study skill support & workshops
- Library
- Writing lab
- One-on-one support appointments

### Student Hub

Our Student Hub supports you with day-to-day administrative queries. Questions about your enrolment, residence permit, invoice and payment methods, course registration, exams, certificates, student jobs, internships, semesters abroad, as well as IT-related queries can be addressed by our Student Hub Advisors: service.center@ue-germany.de

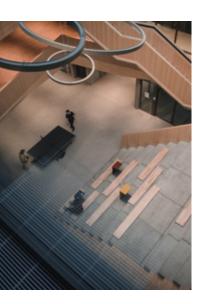




## Tips for success

### Set goals for yourself

Establish goals for each course, organize your time to include study time. Plan ahead to satisfy your academic assignments. Ask yourself what you want from your education. Recognise and use your strengths. Identify areas you need to improve and learn strategies for improving them.



### Academic

Get to know your instructors. They are your greatest resource. Make sure you have a strong academic plan that allows you to achieve your degree in good time. Consult early to ensure you have a good plan.

### Career preparation

Begin to prepare for your career in your first semester. Even if you are uncertain about what career you want, start developing your skills and experiences that will build your employability. Take advantage of our 'Launch Your Career' micro-credential workshops and one-on-one advising offered by the Career Development Centre.



### Learn skills

Learn the skills necessary to succeed in your courses especially for those you find challenging. Achieve your goals by taking advantage of the campus learning supports such as the UE Student Success Centre, our JumpStart micro-credential, library workshops, study skill supports, etc. Writing is an important way to show your knowledge of a subject. Seek out the Writing Lab to improve your writing assignments.

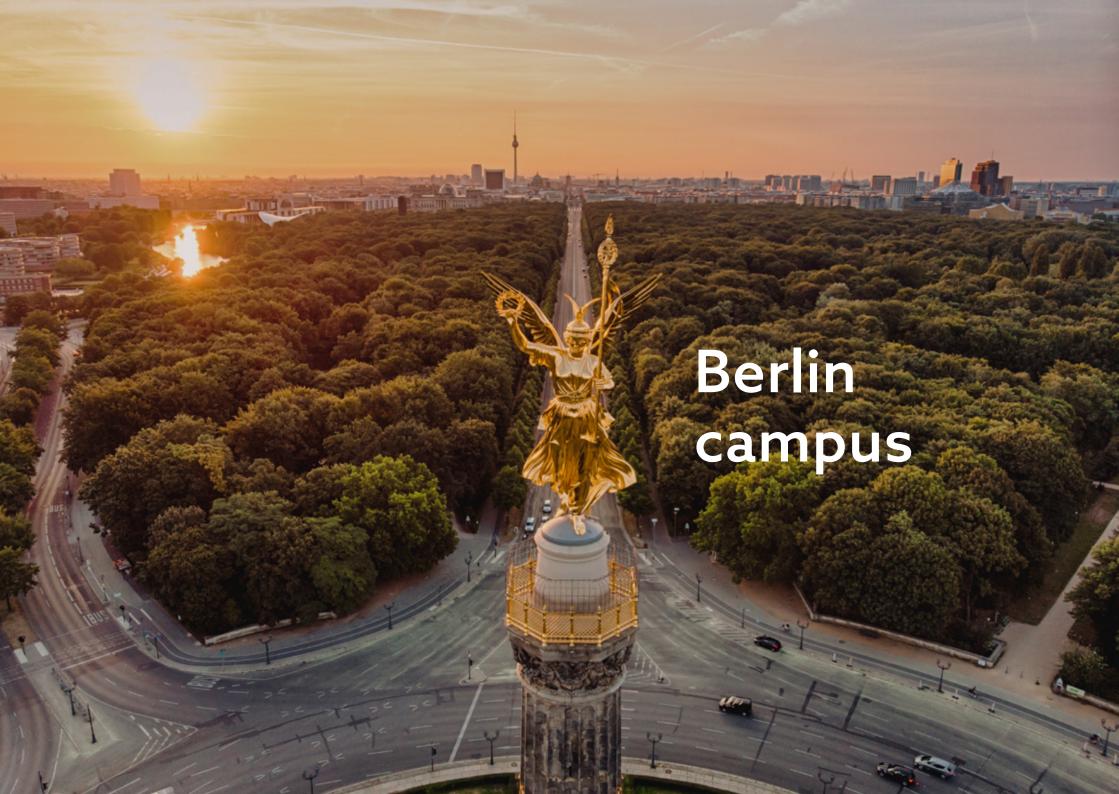
### Build your brand

There are many opportunities to learn inside and outside of the classroom. Our UE Peer Network Program where you can become a Peer Leader is one example! Getting involved is a very important part of the student experience! It helps you apply your learning to other contexts and develop important skills.

### Student involvement

Engaging in campus activities is a very important part of the student experience! Involve yourself in campus life and activities. Making connections with others in events such as First Year Fridays helps you form an important support network. Look for UE Connect online (@yammer.com) and start building your network. Getting involved in co-curricular experiences will assist you in acquiring the soft skills employers now say they value higher than hard skills.

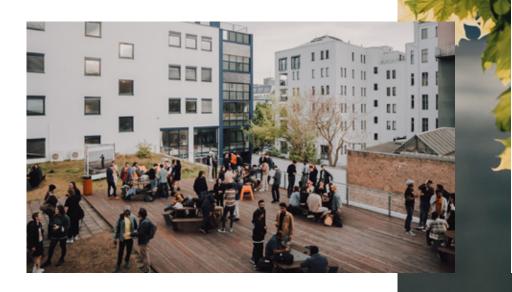




## Our campus location

The campus in Berlin is located a short walk away from Potsdamer Platz in the heart of Germany's capital. Berlin is one of the most fascinating and exciting cities for design, art, and culture worldwide. Almost 4 million people live in Berlin spread over several neighbourhoods including Schnonenberg, Wedding, Mitte, Kreuzberg and Friedrichshain.

For more information on the city, you can visit: www.visitberlin.de/en



### Campus facilities

### Labs

Printing
Eye tracking
2 screening labs (cinemas)
Workshop for woodworking
Scanlab filmscanner
3 editing suites
VR lab
3D printer

### Studios

3 photo studios Sound studio Animation studio Green screen studio Darkroom lab (for black white development)

### Gallery for exhibitions

Library

### Student Success Centre

Student experience guide

2 Mac pools 1 PC pool

### Co-working space

### Auditorium

seats up to 200 for events, conferences, readings

### Arsenal

media equipment rentals such as cameras, lightning kits etc.

### Big cafeteria

with meals, coffee and juice bar

Plenty of room for bicycles

### Berlin

[bɛaˈliːn]

Airport code: BER Currency: € Euro Timezone: CET

Official language: Deutsch / German Known as: "The grey city" / "Spree-Athen"

52° 31′ 0″ N. 13° 23′ 0″ E

Population of Berlin

3.7

million people

15.3% foreigners

residents from 190+ different countries **Television Tower** 



Tallest building in Germany and the fourth highest in Europe (368m)

2nd
most densely

populated city in the

Average highs

22-25°C (72-77°F

Average lows

Did you know?

The city has more doner/kebab shops than Istanbul.

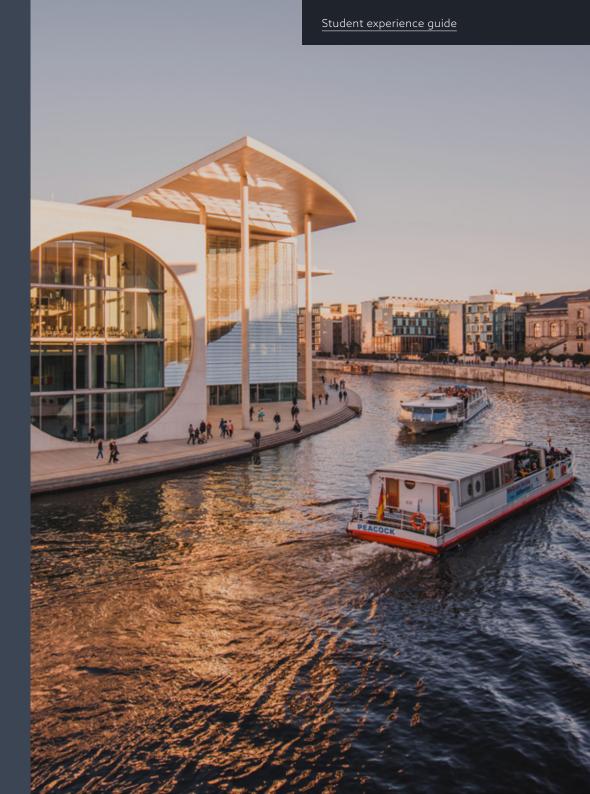
3<sup>rd</sup>

most loved travel destination in Europe

175

museums (more museums than 46%

of the city is made up of green area or water





Berlin has a continental climate with cold winters, hot summers, and mild springs and falls. Summer weather (June to August) in Berlin is pleasant and sunny with long days and high temperatures at an average of 23°C (73°F). However, summer months can also be unpredictable and the weather can rapidly change from sunshine to overcast. It can also be fairly humid in Berlin during the summer.

Berlin winter weather (December to February) averages 0°C (32°F) and is cold and damp, with plenty of snow and frosty days when temperatures hover at or just below freezing. Although snow falls between December and March, the snow seldom stays for long.

Rain can fall year round and it is always a good idea to keep an umbrella handy in Berlin, no matter the season. The wettest months are June and August, and the driest on average are October and February.



Berlin campus

Student experience guide

### Tourist attractions



After Germany's reunion, the **Brandenburg Gate** became a symbol of German unity.



Since 1990, the **Reichstag** building has been the seat of the German parliament, the Bundestag.



The East Side Gallery is a colorful 1.3-kilometer-long memorial to freedom and the largest open-air gallery in the world.



Spend a day (or more) exploring Museum Island.



The TV tower is the fourth tallest freestanding structure in Europe. To get a high-end experience you can dine in the rotating restaurant and see as far as 42 kilometers.



The Sanssouci Palace and its park is a great complex and destination just outside of Berlin. The name originates from the French expression "sans souci" translated as "without worries".



The Hamburger Bahnhof is a spectacular repository of contemporary art and part of the collection of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (National Museums in Berlin).



A nice way to explore the city is to see the city sights by bike. You can rent a bike or join a group to discover the urban landscape pre-marked: www.berlinonbike.de/en

Find more recommendations:

www.introducingberlin.com/map

www.berlin.de/en/attractions-and-sights

## Public transport

Berlin has different transportation options: S-Bahn, U-Bahn, buses, trams, and ferries. You need a valid ticket to use public transport in Berlin. The price depends on the tariff zone and the ticket's period of validity.

With your semester ticket you get access to all modes of transportation and zones. The tariff zones are divided into three zones: AB, BC and ABC. Tariff zone AB includes the urban area up to the city centre boundary. Zone ABC includes Berlin's surrounding areas and Potsdam Hauptbahnhof.

www.s-bahn-berlin.de/pdf/VBB-Liniennetz.pdf



## Language schools

To study in Germany and to manage your everyday life, it is helpful to learn German. Also, many of our degree programs are taught in German. There are several language schools around Berlin:

### GLS Sprachen Zentrum

www.gls-sprachenzentrum.de/en/gls\_language\_school.html

### Deutsch Akademie

www.deutschakademie.de/berlin-german-course

### Goethe

www.goethe.de/ins/de/en/kur/ang.html

### Berlitz

www.berlitz.com/en-de/languagecenters/berlin/mitte

### EF Education First

www.ef.de/contact/berlin

### Accommodation

Berlin is in the heart of Europe and full of history. Whether you are interested in history, food, art, nightlife, or culture — you will find exactly what you are looking for in Berlin.

The housing market in Berlin is highly competitive, especially in popular areas, such as Kreuzberg, Friedrichshain, and Mitte. Check out other areas as well, and try to learn about the "Kiez" (Berlin word for neighborhood) you might be moving to. For example, there are very nice and trendy areas in Moabit, Wedding, and Neukölln.



The average price for a room in a shared flat is 450 Euros. In order to give you an idea about living in Germany and what steps you need to take once you arrive, we have compiled this guide for you. Of course, it's not exhaustive, but it gives you a good idea of what to expect. It will also point you to other sources for further information and guidance.

### Monthly university tuition

For more information contact our Student Hub: service.center@ue-germany.com

### Monthly living costs

Housing	€ 300-600
Public health insurance	€ 110
Internet	€ 35
Cell phone	€ 35
Broadcasting fee	€ 18.36
Food	€ 200
Public transit	€ 63.80-77.50



Value for money. Highest living and study standards at budget prices. Living in the German capital costs:

17% less compared to Paris 43% less compared to London 54% less compared to New York

Source: 2022, www.expatistan.com

The amounts given above are estimates only and the monthly budget is, of course, variable and depends on the needs and living standards of each individual student.



Also, always be sure to carry your documents with you when visiting apartments. Carry a digital version as well as a printed set of documents. Landlords usually request:

- Copy of ID (min. validity of 6 months)
- Positive financial bank certification
- Confirmation from your previous landlord that you have a history of paying your rent on time (no rent arrears)
- Income statement for the last 3 months or parent's signature
- SCHUFA request (confidential information on a person's credit rating) for privately owned apartments. Once a year you can request a free copy called "Datenkopie (nach Art. 15 DS-GVO)": www.meineschufa.de



Take part in a Facebook group for people who have just moved to Berlin, or groups like "\*your nationality\* in Berlin". Don't be shy to post an ad! Get active. Do not only check listings, write your own ads and try to spread word as much as possible.

Student dorms often have waiting lists and it is highly recommended to submit your name months in advance. Shared flats (called WG in German from the word 'Wohngemeinschaft') often organise so-called "mass castings" where all applicants are invited at the same time and their preferred future flatmate is then selected. If you attend a mass casting, act natural and don't be shy. If you don't speak up at the casting, you might miss out on being selected. Another option is to be invited to a short, individual interview. Present yourself in the best way possible, but don't hide your true personality. If you are looking for an entire flat, the same two processes apply: mass viewings or individual appointments.



### Our partner UniPlaces



Uniplaces is an innovative service for students which takes a fresh approach to booking student accommodation online. It's fast to book, safe to pay, and lets you browse through thousands of trusted properties in Europe's best student cities. www.uniplaces.com/accommodation/berlin

### Advice for renting in Berlin:

www.settle-in-berlin.com/find-a-flat-in-berlin-apartement

It is common to pay a deposit equal to 1–3 months' rent, which is returned when terminating a rental contract if there is no damage to the flat. Be careful to make sure you have a signed contract first and have checked the background of the landlord before you pay the deposit.

Beware of fraud — as a rule, do not transfer any money to the landlord before you have met him/her in person, signed the contract, or before you have seen the apartment.

### Facebook groups

 WG, Zimmer, Wohnung
 www.facebook.com/groups/flatmate.berlin

 Neu
 www.facebook.com/groups/neuinberlin

 Wohnung frei
 www.facebook.com/wohnung.frei.berlin

### Short stays (for your first weeks or your visitors)

 Booking
 www.booking.com/city/de/berlin.en-gb.html

 Airbnb
 www.airbnb.com

 Three Little Pigs Hostel
 www.three-little-pigs.com

 Grand Hostel Berlin
 www.grandhostel-berlin.de

 Hostel World
 www.hostelworld.com



### Long-term accommodation

### Shared flats

Spotahomewww.spotahome.comWG-gesuchtwww.wg-gesucht.deBadiwww.badi.com

WG Liste Studenten www.wg-liste.de

HABYT www.habyt.com/cities/berlin

### Your own flat

 Immoscout 24
 www.immobilienscout24.de

 Wohnraumkarte
 www.wohnraumkarte.de

 Student Living
 www.student.com

 Nestpick
 www.nestpick.com

 Housing Anywhere
 www.housinganywhere.com

Immowelt www.indusinganywhere.

Immowelt www.immowelt.de www.immonet.de

Ebay Kleinanzeigen <u>www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de</u>

Crocodilian www.crocodilian.de

### Student housing

 ${\color{red} \textbf{B\"{u}rgermeister-Reuter-Stiftung}} \quad \underline{www.brst.de/en}$ 

 Neon Wood
 www.neonwood.com

 The Fizz
 www.the-fizz.com/en/home

 Studentendorf Schlachtensee
 www.studentendorf.berlin

Uniplaces www.studentendorf.be www.uniplaces.com

EBA51 www.howoge.de/wohnungsbau/neubauprojekte/

eba-berlin-eichbuschallee.html www.studentendorf.berlin/adlershof

Studentendorf Adlershof wv

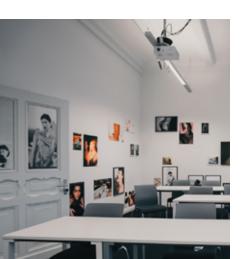
Studio-B www.studiob-berlin.com

Youniq www.youniq.de

Campus Viva www.campusviva.de/en



## Our campus location



The campus is located in Altona in one of the liveliest districts of Hamburg. From the outset, students find themselves at the heart of agencies and media, close to opportunities for professional application and real life.

Almost 2 million people live in Hamburg spread over several neighborhoods including Eimsbüttel, Ottensen, Sternschanze, St. Pauli, Wandsbek and Rotherbaum.

For more information on the city, you can visit: www.hamburg.com/visitors

Student experience guide Campus facilities Labs Student lounge Printing Screening labs Co-working space Photo lab Editing suites Auditorium seats up to 200 for events. Studios conferences, readings Photo studio Darkroom Arsenal Radio studio media equipment Green screen studio rentals such as cameras, Silkscreen studio lightning kits etc. TV studio Animation studio 2 Kitchens Fully equipped with coffee and snack machine Library ROPE 2 Mac pools Courtyard Mircosoft-Office 365 Adobe Creative Suite Plenty of room for bicycles

### Hamburg

['hambʊak]

Airport code: HAM Currency: € Euro Timezone: CET

Official language: Deutsch / German Known as: "Gateway to the world"



53° 33′ 3.906″ N. 9° 59′ 37.255″ E

Population of Hamburg

1.8 illion people

15.7% foreigners

residents from 190+ different countries **Television Tower** 



One of the **tallest buildings in Hamburg** (280m)

3nd largest

largest musical city Average highs

22-25°C (72-77°F)

**Average lows** -2-0°C (28-32°F)

Did you know?

The city has more bridges than Venice and Amsterdam combined (2500).

6 n tour

million tourists
per year — popular
destination in Europe

95

museums econd most in Germany 71.4%

of the city is made up of green area





Hamburg has an oceanic climate. It is a fairly wet and windy city, with prevailing westerly winds blowing moist air in from the North Sea. Summers are warm but rainy, with occasional dry, sunny spells. Winters are cold. The temperature sometimes chills to -2°C (28°F) in January, when the Elbe and lakes in the city centre have been known to freeze enough for ice-skating.

Snowfall is usually light and generally there is only one or two heavy snowfalls a year starting in early December. Icy sleet is the more common form of winter precipitation.

Spring is very pleasant when the city's thousands of trees come into bloom and the days start to warm up. Despite summer being the most popular period for tourism, spring is the best time to visit Hamburg because it is the season when the city's numerous parks and gardens show to their best advantage.



Hamburg campus

Student experience guide

## Tourist attractions



Since its opening on 11.01.2017, the **Elbphilharmonie** has been Hamburg's newest landmark. The concert hall is the tallest building in the city and offers spectacular views of the harbor.



The Hamburg City Hall (Hamburger Rathaus) is the seat of the citizenship and the senate of Hamburg.



The **Michel** is one of the most beautiful baroque churches in Northern Germany and impresses with a splendid interior.



The Hamburg fish market is known beyond German borders. Every Sunday from sunrise there are fresh fish, vegetables and other delicious special-ties from Hamburg.



The Hamburger Dom is held three times a year and is the biggest festival of its kind in the region, featuring countless carousels, roller coasters, beer tents and candyfloss stands.



**Speicherstadt**, an impressive complex of reservoirs, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015.



Germany's only private zoo, **Tierpark Hagenbeck**, attracts millions of visitors each year.



Known around the world, famous and notorious, you can celebrate at **St. Pauli & Reeperbahn** endlessly. The best nightclubs are next to the most famous bars, pubs and theaters.

Find more recommendations: www.hamburg.com/visitors

## Public transport

Hamburg has different transportation options: suburban railway, subway, railway and buses. You need a valid ticket to use public transport in Hamburg. The price depends on the tariff zone and the ticket's period of validity.

With your semester ticket you get access to all modes of transportation and zones. The tariff zones in Hamburg are divided in five zones: A, B, C, D and E. Tariff zone A and B includes the urban area to the city boundary. Zone C, D and E additionally includes Hamburg's surrounding areas.

www.hvv.de/resource/blob/22142/79d42a5dee-6a01d769384dbac8c50fa2/usar-plan-data.pdf



## Language schools

To study in Germany and to manage your everyday life, it is helpful to learn German. Also, many of our degree programs are taught in German. There are many language schools around Hamburg:

### Tandem Hamburg

www.tandem-hamburg.de/english/foreign\_languages/FSkurse\_en.php

### Deutschakademie

www.deutschakademie.de/hamburg-german-course

### Goethe

www.goethe.de/ins/de/en/kur/ort/ham/kur.htmlv

### Berlitz

www.berlitz.de/en/hamburg

### Accommodation

Hamburg is known as the Pearl of the North! Its beautiful inner city, individual neighborhoods, vibrant nightlife and diversity of attractions make this hanseatic city one of the most attractive places to live in Germany.

The housing market in Hamburg is highly competitive, especially in popular areas, such as Ottensen, Eimsbüttel or St. Pauli and Rotherbaum. For other opportunities check out other areas as well such as Barmbek, Wandsbek or Bahrenfeldl.



The average price for a room in a shared flat is 500 Euros. To give you an insight into what living in Germany will be like and what steps you need to take once you arrive, we have compiled this guide for you. Howver, the guide not exhaustive, but it offers you a good idea of what to expect.

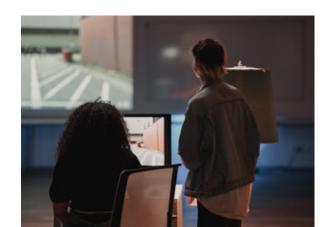
### Monthly university tuition

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### Monthly living costs

Housing	€ 500-800
Public health insurance	€ 110
Internet	€ 21
Cell phone	€ 35
Broadcasting fee	€ 18
Food	€ 200
Public transit	€ 69

The amounts provided above are estimates only and the monthly budget is, of course, variable depending on the needs and living standards of each student.





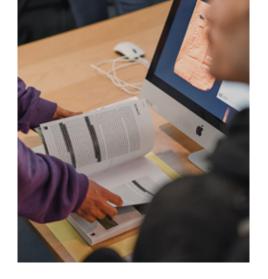
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- Confirmation from your previous landlord that you have a history of paying your rent on time (no rent arrears)
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- SCHUFA request (confidential information on a person's credit rating) for privately owned apartments. Once a year you can request a free copy called "Datenkopie (nach Art. 15 DS-GVO)": www.meineschufa.de



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Beware of fraud — as a rule, do not transfer any money to the landlord before you have met him/her in person, signed the contract, or before you have seen the apartment.

### Facebook groups

WG-Zimmer & Wohnungen www.facebook.com/WohnungenHH Neu www.facebook.com/Neu-in-Hamburg

Wohnung frei www.facebook.com/groups/wg.wohnung.hamburg

WG-Zimmer www.facebook.com/wohnung.frei.hamburg

### Short stays (for your first weeks or your visitors)

Airbnb Hostelsclub Backpackers St Pauli

Superbude Hostel

Hostel World

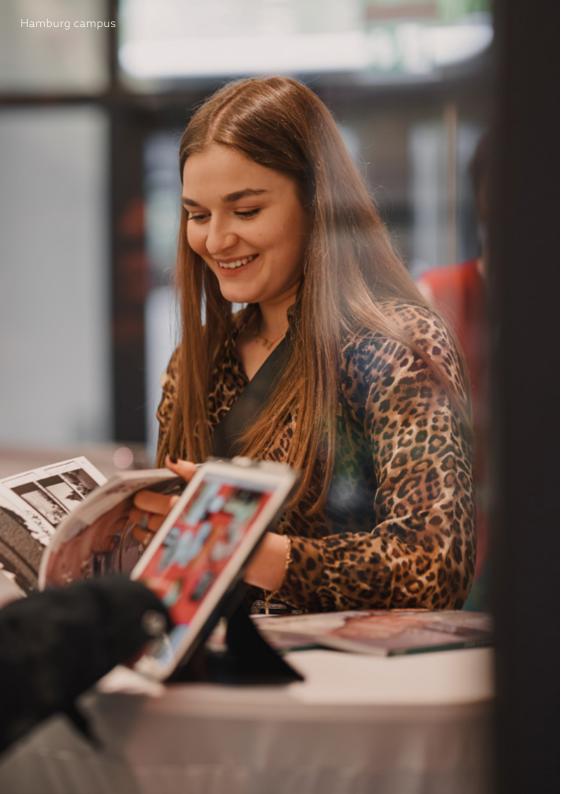
www.airbnb.com

www.hostelsclub.com/en/hostels/germany/hamburg

www.backpackers-stpauli.de

www.superbude.com

www.german.hostelworld.com



### Long-term accommodation

### Shared flats

WG-gesucht
WG Company
WG Liste Studenten
WG Studenten-Wohnung
www.wg-gesucht.de
www.wg-company.de
www.wg-liste.de
www.wg-liste.de

### Your own flat

 Immoscout 24
 www.immobilienscout24.de

 Wohnraumkarte
 www.wohnraumkarte.de

 Student Living
 www.student.com

 Nestpick
 www.nestpick.com

 Housing Anywhere
 www.housinganywhere.com

Immoweltwww.immowelt.deImmonetwww.immonet.de

**Ebay Kleinanzeigen** www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de

### Student housing

Stuart Apartments www.stua

Stuwo

Neon Wood

The Fizz

Uniplaces

www.stuart-apartments.com

www.stuwo.de/wohnheim-region/hamburg

www.neonwood.com

www.the-fizz.com/en/home

www.uniplaces.com



## Our campus location

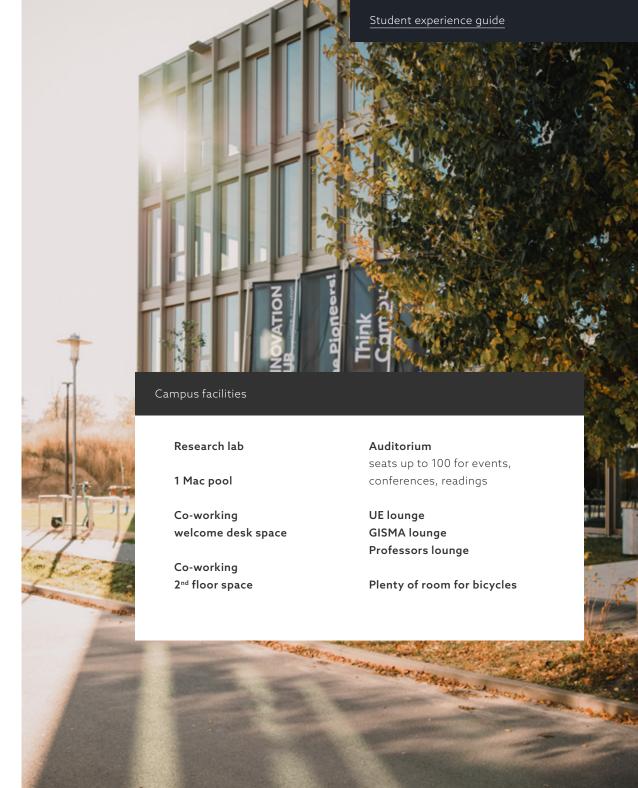




The Potsdam campus is located on the Think Campus neighbouring incubators such as SAP, Oracle and Tesla. The university location is therefore in close proximity to companies that are pioneers in the fields of technology, data and design.

Life in Potsdam is relaxed and the clocks tick a little slower than they do elsewhere. Students at the Innovation Hub have the choice of living in a relaxed atmosphere in Potsdam or in the vibrant German capital of Berlin. Depending on exact location and connections, the journey takes between 20 and 60 minutes.

For more information on the city, you can visit: www.visitberlin.de/en/potsdam-0



### Potsdam

['potsdam]

Airport code: BER Currency: € Euro Timezone: CET

Official language: Deutsch / German

Known as: "City of culture"



52° 23′ 55.90″ N. 13° 03′ 56.38″ E

Population of Potsdam
180+
thousand people

nearly 9% foreigners

residents from 14+ different countries Einsteinturm



Astrophysical observatory in the Albert Einstein Science Park, 4th tallest building in Potsdam.

1.4
million overnight stays
were registered

Average highs 23-24°C (73-75°F

> **Average lows** -1–3°C (30–37°F

Did you know?

the most beautiful and historic sites by National Geographic Traveler.

### Distances to nearest airports

Berlin — 50 km

Leipzig – 143 km

Dresden — 195 km

Szczecin – 258 km

75%

of the city consists of green, water and agricultural land





Potsdam summers are comfortable and partly cloudy and the winters are cold, windy, and mostly cloudy. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 29°F to 77°F and is rarely below 14°F or above 88°F.

The warm season lasts from May to September, with an average daily high above 69°F. The hottest month of the year in Potsdam is July, with an average high of 76°F and low of 58°F.

The cold season lasts from November to March, with an average daily high below 45°F. The coldest month of the year in Potsdam is January, with an average low of 29°F and high of 38°F.



Potsdam campus Student experience guide

## Tourist attractions



Potsdam's new art museum, Museum Barberini, presents international masterpieces in special exhibitions dealing with themes from the old masters to the present day.



Experience Potsdam's most beautiful view in the UNESCO World Heritage at Belvedere Pfingstberg, with its permanent exhibition and audio guides.



The Sanssouci Palace and its park is a great complex and destination just outside of Berlin. The name originates from the French expression "sans souci" translated as "without worries".



Permanent exhibition covering the film production process from the initial idea to the film premiere at Filmmuseum Potsdam. Special exhibitions and with international quests.



A lively and vibrant presentation of Potsdam's city history at **Potsdam Museum**. Including specialised art and cultural history exhibitions.



A trip in the tropics at **Biosphare Potsdam**, from the waterfall to a butterfly house all the way to the underwater world. 20,000 magnificent plants and 130 exotic animal species.



Small Museum Alexandrowka and Café
Uschakoff with large idyllic garden.



Regular services on the **Havel by boat**, with a fixed schedule.

Find more recommendations: www.potsdam-tourism.com/en/home

## Public transport

Both Potsdam & Berlin transportation network including buses, branch lines, trams, metro lines, as well as ferries are available to for travel to Berlin and elsewhere. The VBB website can help you find the fastest connection to all stops in Berlin and Brandenburg. An overview of Brandenburg regions and the Berlin network, can be found at:

Public Transportation in Potsdam (daytime connections)

www.uni-potsdam.de/fileadmin/projects/isc/2020\_ Daytime Tagesliniennetz Potsdam.pdf

Public Transportation in Berlin (daytime connections)

https://sbahn.berlin/en/route-map/





## Language schools

To study in Germany and to manage your everyday life, it is helpful to learn German. Also, many of our degree programs are taught in German. There are several language schools around Potsdam:

### Dama.Go

www.damago.de/de/city/potsdam-zentrum

Sprachschule von Klitzing

www.sprachkurse-potsdam.com

### Sprachschule Potsdam

https://sprachschulepotsdam.business.site

### Euro-Schulen Potsdam

www.euro-schulen.de/potsdam

### VHS Potsdam

https://vhs.potsdam.de/vhsneu/linke-sidebar/deutsch-als-fremdsprache

### Accommodation

The campus is in close proximity to companies that are pioneers in the fields of technology, data and design. Depending on exact location and connections, the journey takes 20–60 minutes.

The search for housing in Potsdam can be especially difficult in popular areas like the inner city, Babelsberg, Brandenburger Vorstadt and Jägervorstadt. So, you should definitely take look at other districts and try to learn something about the neighborhood to which you might be moving to.



The average price for a room in a shared flat is 500 Euros. To give you an insight into what living in Germany will be like and what steps you need to take once you arrive, we have compiled this guide for you. Howver, the guide not exhaustive, but it offers you a good idea of what to expect.

### Monthly university tuition

For additional information please contact our Student Hub: service.center@ue-germany.com

### Monthly living costs

Housing	€ 370-650
Public health insurance	€ 110
Internet	€ 41
Cell phone	€ 35
Broadcasting fee	€ 18
Food	€ 200
Public transit	€ 75

The amounts provided above are estimates only and the monthly budget is, of course, variable depending on the needs and living standards of each student.





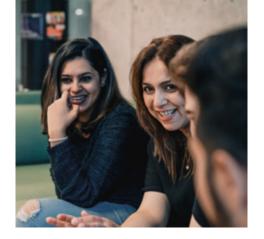
Also, always be sure to carry your documents with you when visiting apartments. Carry a digital version as well as a printed set of documents. Landlords usually request:

- Copy of ID (min. validity of 6 months)
- Positive financial bank certification
- Confirmation from your previous landlord that you have a history of paying your rent on time (no rent arrears)
- Income statement for the last 3 months or parent's signature
- SCHUFA request (confidential information on a person's credit rating) for privately owned apartments. Once a year you can request a free copy called "Datenkopie (nach Art. 15 DS-GVO)": www.meineschufa.de



Take part in a Facebook group for people who have just moved to Potsdam, or groups like "\*your nationality\* in Potsdam". Don't be shy to post an ad! Get active. Do not only check listings, write your own ads and try to spread word as much as possible.

Student dorms often have waiting lists and it is highly recommended to submit your name months in advance. Shared flats (called WG in German from the word 'Wohngemeinschaft') often organise so-called "mass castings" where all applicants are invited at the same time and their preferred future flatmate is then selected. If you attend a mass casting, act natural and don't be shy. If you don't speak up at the casting, you might miss out on being selected. Another option is to be invited to a short, individual interview. Present yourself in the best way possible, but don't hide your true personality. If you are looking for an entire flat, the same two processes apply: mass viewings or individual appointments.



#### Our partner UniPlaces



Uniplaces is an innovative service for students which takes a fresh approach to booking student accommodation online. It's fast to book, safe to pay, and lets you browse through thousands of trusted properties in Europe's best student cities. www.uniplaces.com/accommodation/potsdam

It is common to pay a deposit equal to 1–3 months' rent, which is returned when terminating a rental contract if there is no damage to the flat. Be careful to make sure you have a signed contract first and have checked the background of the landlord before you pay the deposit.

Beware of fraud — as a rule, do not transfer any money to the landlord before you have met him/her in person, signed the contract, or before you have seen the apartment.

#### Facebook groups

WG & Wohnungwww.facebook.com/groups/1649525051935113Neu in Potsdamm.facebook.com/groups/530841993737788/#\_=\_Wohnungen Freiwww.facebook.com/Wohnungen.frei.in.Potsdam

#### Short stays (for your first weeks or your visitors)

Bookingwww.booking.comAirbnbwww.airbnb.comHostel Worldwww.hostelworld.comPotsdam Youth Hostelwww.jugendherberge.de/en/youth-hostels/potsdamPension Sanssouciwww.pension-sanssouci.de

Quartier Potsdam Hostel www.potsdam-hostel.com/en www.potsdam-pension.de/en/u

www.potsdam-pension.de/en/uebersicht-english

Couchsurfing www.couchsurfing.com



## Long-term accommodation

#### Shared flats

WG-gesucht WG Liste Studenten  $\frac{\text{www.wg-gesucht.de}}{\text{www.wg-liste.de}}$ 

Wohnungsboerse www.wohnungsboerse.net

#### Your own flat

Immoscout 24

www.nestpick.com

Nestpick Housing Anywhere

www.housinganywhere.com

www.immobilienscout24.de

Immowelt Immonet www.immowelt.de www.immonet.de

Ebay Kleinanzeigen

www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de/s-immobilien/c195

www.basecampstudent.com/student/potsdam

#### Student housing

BaseCamp Filmpark

www.ferienwohnung-am-filmpark.de

The Twenty

https://the-twenty.de

The Iwent Younig

 $\frac{\text{https://youniq-living.com/location/berlin/wedding}}{\text{www.city-living-potsdam.de/apartment-mieten}}$ 

City-living

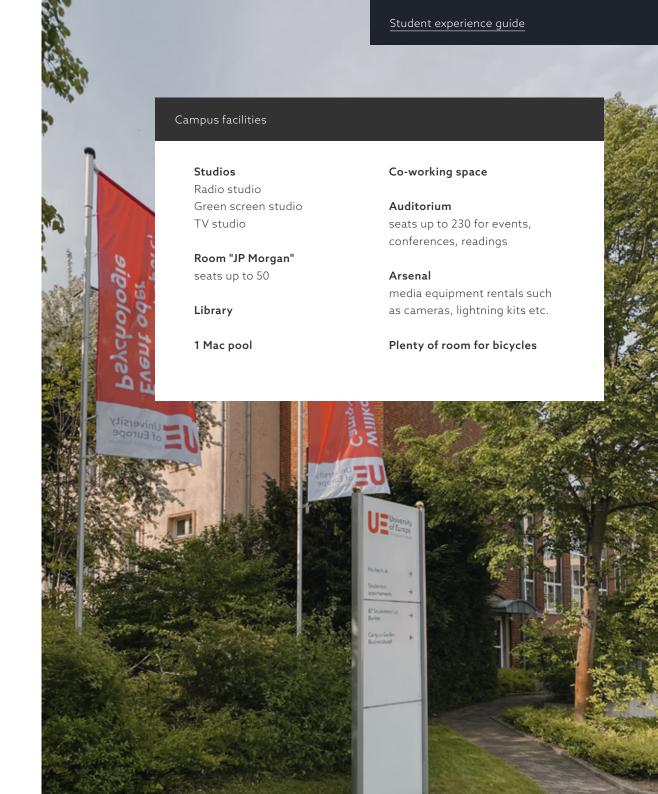


## Our campus location

Iserlohn was the first campus of University of Europe for Applied Sciences — here it all began! — The spirit of entrepreneurship and community at this location is lived by academics, administration and students. This special atmosphere of this university campus next to the Seilersee supports learning, socializing and knowledge about German culture and the German way of living and working.

For more information on the city, you can visit: www.iserlohn.de/stadtmarketing-tourismus





## Iserlohn

[iːzɐˈloːn ]

Airport code: DTM Currency: € Euro Timezone: CET

Official language: Deutsch / German

Known as: "The green city" / "The forest city"



51° 22' 31.69" N. 7° 42' 10.12" E

Population of Iserlohn

96

thousand peopl

12% foreigners

residents from 25+ different

countries

Danzturm



One of the most prominent landmarks in the area (384.5m)

150 world leaders in trade industry

Average highs

Average lows

Did you know?

Like the whole region, Iserlohn is very safe. There are no no-go areas in the city.

#### Distances to nearest airports

Dortmund — 22 km Paderborn/Lippstadt — 86 km Düsseldorf — 97 km Cologne — 103 km 70% of the city is made up of green area

or water



# Iserlohn weather

The weather in Iserlohn is very changeable. Iserlohn has a continental climate with sometimes cold winters, hot summers and mild springs and falls. During the year, the temperature usually ranges between -1 ° C and 29 ° C. Summer (June to August) weather in Iserlohn is pleasant and sunny, the days are long and temperatures average 18-20°C (64-68°F), particularly in July. However, the summer months are also unpredictable and the weather can rapidly change from sunshine to overcast. It can also be fairly humid in summer in Iserlohn.

Winter weather (December to February) in Iserlohn averages 0°C (32°F) and can be cold and damp, with snow and frosty days when temperatures hover at or just below snowing. Although snow falls between December and March, the city seldom stays coveredin snow for long. Rain can fall all year round and it is always a good idea to have an umbrella in Iserlohn, no matter what the season; the wettest month is December and the driest month is February.



Student experience guide

## Tourist attractions



The Cologne Cathedral is the landmark of Cologne and the center of the city. It is considered the second highest church in Germany.



The **Rhine Tower** is a television tower in Dusseldorf. It is the tallest building in the city and the tenth highest television tower in Germany.



The Signal Iduna Park Dortmund is one of the most famous football stadiums in Europe and is renowned for its atmosphere. It is Germany's largest football stadium.



**Winterberg** is a ski resort in the Sauerland and a winter sports paradise for skiers, sledders and snowboarders.



The **Seilersee** has its place next to the university. The area offers rowing and pedal boating, mini golf and swimming pools. People can walk on well-maintained paths around the lake.



The **Dechenhöhle** in Iserlohn is one of the most visited and beautiful stalactite caves in Germany.



The Danz tower is 28m high with a viewing platform, which gives a magnificent view over the Sauerland low mountain range. The Danzturm is located in the middle of the city forest.



The historic Maste-Barendorf factory complex is a cultural monument. A needle museum was set up to give an insight into Iserlohn's industrial needles manufacturing industry.

Find more recommendations:

www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g198462
Iserlohn North Rhine Westphalia-Vacations.html

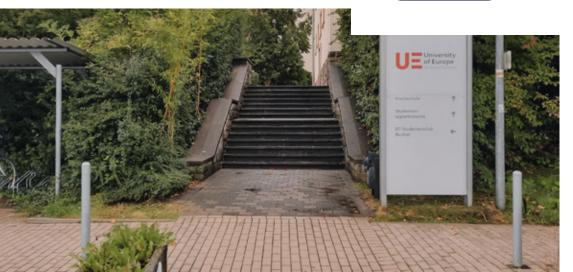
## Public transport

Iserlohn has the following transportation options: buses and trains. You need a valid ticket to use public transport in Iserlohn. The price depends on the tariff zone and the ticket's period of validity. The local transport system is mainly operated by buses of the regional transportation company MVG and VRR. Buses not only operate different routes within the city, but also go to neighbouring towns.

- Rail traffic of the DB Regio NRW and the Abellio Rail (NRW – 6 stations and stops)
- Very good transport links to the motorway (A46 driveway next to the campus)

www.mvg-online.de





## Language schools

To study in Germany and to manage your everyday life, it is helpful to learn German. Also, many of our degree programs are taught in German. There are some language schools around Iserlohn:

LSC Sprachschule

https://www.lsc-sprachen.de

Inlingua Iserlohn

www.inlingua-iserlohn.de/sprachkurse

## **Sports**

The city offers American football, ice-hockey, handball, basketball, football/soccer, (table-) tennis and swimming. Facilities are located at the campus as well as in town.

More information can be found here:

www.iserlohn.de/sport/sportarten-vereine

## Accommodation

For smaller towns Iserlohn is a metropolis, for other neighbouring cities the restful forestcity. Iserlohn combines urban life and nature in an ideal way.

The housing market in Iserlohn is easier compared to other big cities. For a good price you can rent a nice, spacious apartment.



The average price for a room in a shared flat is € 250-350. In order to give you an insight into what living in Germany will be like and what steps you need to take once you arrive, we have compiled this guide for you. Of course, it's not exhaustive, but it will give you a good idea of what to expect. Where it is necessary, you will be given other sources for further information and guidance.

#### Monthly university tuition

For more information please contact our Student Hub: service.center@ue-germany.com

#### Monthly living costs

Housing	€ 250-600
Public health insurance	€ 110
Internet	€ 37-41
Cell phone	€ 20
Broadcasting fee	€ 18
Food	€ 180
Study material	€ 30

The amounts provided above are estimates only and the monthly budget is, of course, variable depending on the needs and living standards of each student.





Also, always be sure to carry your documents with you when visiting apartments. Carry a digital version as well as a printed set of documents. Landlords usually request:

- Copy of ID (min. validity of 6 months)
- Positive financial bank certification
- Confirmation from your previous landlord that you have a history of paying your rent on time (no rent arrears)
- Income statement for the last 3 months or parent's signature
- SCHUFA request (confidential information on a person's credit rating) for privately owned apartments. Once a year you can request a free copy called "Datenkopie (nach Art. 15 DS-GVO)": www.meineschufa.de



Take part in a Facebook group for people who have just moved to Iserlohn, or groups like "Du bist Iserlohner, wenn...". Don't be shy to put your ad up! Get active. Do not only check listings, write your own ads and try to spread word as well as possible.

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Beware of fraud — as a rule, do not transfer any money to the landlord before you have met him/her in person, signed the contract, or before you have seen the apartment.

#### Facebook groups

BiTS Studenten www.facebook.com/groups/214329295329160/
Wohnungssuche www.facebook.com/groups/513729695325497/?ref=search in Iserlohn

in Iserlohn

 ${\bf Ebay\ Kleinanzeigen} \quad \underline{www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de/s-auf-zeit-wg/iserlohn/}$ 

#### Short stays (for your first weeks or your visitors)

Bookingwww.booking.comAirbnbwww.airbnb.comHome to gowww.hometogo.de

 ${\color{red} \textbf{Magicstay}} \qquad {\color{red} \underline{\textbf{www.magicstay.com/holiday-rental-short-term-rental-iserlohn}}$ 

**Couchsurfing** www.couchsurfing.com/places/europe/germany/iserlohn

Fewo Direkt www.fewo-direkt.de



## Long-term accommodation

#### Shared flats

WG-gesucht www.wg-gesucht.de/en/

wg-zimmer-in-Iserlohn.226.0.1.0.html

WG Liste www.wg-liste.de

Studentenwww.johanniter.de/johanniter-unfall-hilfe/Johanniter WGeinrichtung/wohngemeinschaft-wendezeit-1352/

Your own flat

Immoscout www.immobilienscout24.de

Meine Stadtwww.meinestadt.de/iserlohn/immobilien/wg-zimmerWohnungsboerswww.wohnungsboerse.net/lserlohn/mieten/wohnungen

 Immowelt
 www.immowelt.de

 Immonet
 www.immonet.de

**Ebay Kleinanzeigen** www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de/s-immobilien/

iserlohn/c195l1735

Rentola www.rentola.com/for-rent?location=iserlohn&rent

per=month

Mein Monteurzimmer

Deutschland Monteurzimmer

www.mein-monteurzimmer.de/pension-iserlohn

www.deutschland-monteurzimmer.de



## Before you arrive

## Step 1: Financial proof

You will most likely be required to obtain a visa to enter Germany. If you have an EU/EFTA nationality, visa regulations do not apply to you. However, most non-EU/EFTA citizens must apply for a student visa. Please check in advance whether a visa is required for you. The Federal Foreign Office offers an overview of visa requirements for Germany: <a href="www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/service/visa-und-aufenthalt/staatenliste-zur-visumpflicht/207820">www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/service/visa-und-aufenthalt/staatenliste-zur-visumpflicht/207820</a>

The visa application process can take several months and therefore we recommend that you make an appointment at the German diplomatic mission closest to you as early as possible. Beware of dubious online service providers who will charge you for making an appointment at these places: <a href="www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussen-politik/laenderinformationen">www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussen-politik/laenderinformationen</a>

The type of visa you need is for study/education, listed as a D visa (national visa). The study visa is typically valid for 90 days and can be converted into a long-term residence permit once you have arrived in Germany (more info in the "Shortly after arrival" section). If you are staying in Germany for less than 12 months (e.g. as an exchange student for one semester), you may ask the German diplomatic mission to issue a D visa for the entire duration of your stay. In this case you will not need to go to the Foreigners' Registration / Immigration Office in Germany.

**Please note:** Do not apply for a Schengen visa (C visa), because this is only valid for a maximum stay of 90 days and cannot be extended or converted into a long-term residence permit.

## Step 2: German Visa

When applying for a visa (and later when applying for your residence permit) you must prove that you have sufficient funding to support yourself during your studies. Visa applicants must prove they have approx. 10,332 EUR (861 EUR/month) available to cover living expenses. It is also required that you prove you have separate funds available to pay tuition. Examples include:

- Commitment declaration by a relative (from the German diplomatic mission)
- Notarized confirmation plus documents certifying your parents' income
- Blocked account
- Scholarship

In many cases, a German blocked bank account is required when applying for a visa. The most common (and visa approved) providers for a blocked account are Coracl, Deutsche Bank, Expatrio, and Fintiba. Please look at the website of the Federal Foreign Office for a list of accepted banks: <a href="www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/02-lernen-und-arbeiten/sperrkonto-seite">www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/02-lernen-und-arbeiten/sperrkonto-seite</a>

Please note that opening a bank account in Germany might take some time. You might need to have an Anmeldung / address registration in Berlin and residence permit beforehand. Try different banks, as regulations might differ. The process of opening a blocked account can take a few weeks and we recommend completing the application early. After your arrival in Germany, you need to make an appointment at the branch of your bank to start using it. Depending on the country, some international students may need to set up a German bank account.



Our partner Fintiba



Save time and open your Sutor Bank blocked account right now with our partner Fintiba. Online and within minutes: www.fintiba.com

### Step 3: Health insurance

Health insurance is mandatory in Germany and you will not be able to enrol at the university without sufficient health insurance.

#### European students

As a European citizen you should have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) which is also recognised in Germany. Once you have arrived in Germany, you can get your coverage approved by a statutory/public health insurance provider who will issue an insurance certificate. However, if you intend to take up a part-time job or an internship, German public health insurance is mandatory. Please ask your health insurance provider at home which documents you will need to take with you. If you are moving to Germany for a longer period of time, you might also require the S1 form prior to moving.

More information on the following website: www.ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp?langld=en

#### Non-European students

You can either apply for health insurance with one of the German statutory/public health insurance providers or with a private health insurance provider.

#### Statutory/public health insurance

German public health insurance at a reduced student rate is only available to students below the age of 30. Moreover, it can only be obtained if you were not previously insured as a student through a private health insurance provider. Students over the age of 30 are not eligible for the reduced student rate. A few exceptions might apply regarding the age limit. You can easily get in touch and/or apply for public health insurance online to ensure coverage from your first day in Germany. In case you still have questions or still need insurance, ask at the Student Hub



TK www.tk.de/en

Barmer www.barmer.de/en/students

AOK www.en.zuwanderer.aok.de/home

#### Private health insurance

Depending on your age and length of stay in Germany, you might decide to opt for private health insurance. In this case you will need a waiver, which confirms that you are exempt from compulsory insurance. This waiver can be obtained from any German public health insurance. Please ensure that your private insurance matches the coverage offered by German public health insurance, that it covers the complete length of your stay, and is suitable for studying in Germany.

**Important:** Once you sign up with a private health insurance provider and get the statutory waiver, you will not be able to change back to a statutory insurance provider for the duration of your academic studies. A private insurance does not cover you as comprehensively as a statutory coverage.

#### Travel health insurance

Some students prefer to obtain travel insurance that covers them during their first weeks in Germany — this is sufficient coverage while you are in the visa process. The minimum coverage of your travel health insurance must be 30,000 EUR. Please note that you must obtain proper long-term health insurance with either a private or public provider in Germany for enrolment.

## Step 4: Financial help

As a private university, we are not funded by the state but by tuition fees. That is why our fees differ from those at a public university. We invest in our students through high-quality equipment, experienced teaching staff, and a constantly growing network.

#### Scholarships

There are plenty of scholarship offers to study in Germany. Please understand that it is a time-consuming process and might require a lot of paperwork. Make sure to apply on time and submit all required documents. We usually recommend our students to consider local scholarships from your country. Nevertheless, you can look into the following German institutions who accept international students:



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst www.daad.de/en

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
www.kas.de/web/begabtenfoerderungundkultur/home

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung www.boell.de/en/foundation/scholarships

grant.at
www.grants.at/en

**topuniversities**www.topuniversities.com/student-info



As an international student and depending on your country of origin, your visa might permit you to work up to 20 hours per week. With a study visa you can work up to 120 full days or 240 half days per year. A few useful links:

www.jobmensa.de www.karriere.unicum.de www.connecticum.de/jobboerse www.jobteaser.com/en www.indeed.com www.glassdoor.de

https://ue-germany.jobteaser.com Students will be expected to register first and will then receive the access data once they have registered with their UE email.



Student experience guide

## Shortly after arrival

## Step 1: Address registration

Within 14 days after your arrival, you must register your address with the local authorities "Bürgeramt". We can help you register when you first arrive. If you don't want us to do it for you or you want to sign up earlier, you can book an appointment via the following website: www.service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/120686

You can register at any 'Bürgeramt' in Berlin. You will need to bring with you:

- Registration document 'Anmeldung bei der Meldebehörde' which you can download at the above website
- Confirmation from your landlord
- Your passport / ID





## Step 2: Bank account

Setting up a German bank account might make it easier for you to handle financial matters. For students with a study visa, a bank account is often required in order to show proof of finances when applying for their residence permit. A bank account is mostly free for students. Most banks require an 'Anmeldung' (registration of address) from you, together with a valid passport. The most common banks used by international students are: Santander, Sparkasse, Volksbank, Commerzbank, and Deutsche Bank. Popular online banks are N26, ING and DKB. Search for the bank online to find opening hours, and then make an appointment.

Remember to bring your Passport, UE Enrollment Certificate, and your Anmeldung to your appointment to open your account. When you have set up your account, you will get an EC/debit card to pay in or witdraw money and an online account. The respective bank will guide you through the process.

### Step 3: Residence permit

A visa in Germany is for entry into the country and short-term stays only. You will require a residence permit to study if your stay here is for more than 90 days. Residence permits are granted for a specific purpose and students usually apply for a residence permit for study (§16 of the Residence Act). Our International Affairs Office will help you with your application for a residence permit after your arrival in Germany.

#### Application documents

- Passport
- Copy of your health insurance
- Address registration / Anmeldung
- Tuition fees confirmation payment
- One biometrical passport photo (with name and date of birth on the back side)
- Completed application form "Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels" (only if it is your first application in this city)
- Copy of your enrollment / Immatrikulationsbescheinigung
- Proof of funding (e.g. blocked account, scholarship, bank statement, statement of earnings)
- Blocked account (The blocked account is aimed at foreign students and serves as proof of financial means for a stay in Germany. Proof of funding is one of the main criteria for the student visa.)

The Immigration Office (Ausländerbehörde) in Berlin is now issuing electronic residence permits — eAT (card). This process requires your fingerprints. For more information, please check the website of the Immigration Office (Ausländerbehörde) of your place of study.



## Step 4: Liability insurance

The liability insurance (Haftpflichtversicherung) is a form of insurance which can be taken out voluntarily. This covers you in situations where you might accidentally hurt someone or damage someone else's property. This insurance also required for students who wish to borrow equipment (e.g. laptops, cameras etc.) from the university.

### Step 5: Communications

Staying in touch with old friends and family is just as important as finding new contacts in Germany. You need a mobile phone for both that allows you to search online. Most people decide to purchase a prepaid SIM card for the first few weeks after arriving in Germany. Especially if you make lots of international calls, you may decide to purchase a free prepaid SIM that allows cheap international calls. If you intend to stay long-term in Germany, it is advisable to purchase a 2-year mobile phone contract. 2 years may sound like a long commitment, however the majority of Germans have 2-year plans because they are cheaper in the long run, and you given the latest smart phone on top of it.

#### Prepaid SIM cards

A pre-paid SIM card is convenient and cheap. It usually costs between 10-25 euros a month for internet, texts, and calls.

Blau www.blau.de (order your SIM card online)
Vodafone www.vodafone.de/freikarten/callya-special
(order one online or buy it on one of the many Vodafone shops around)
Lebara www.mobile.lebara.com/de/en

You can buy a SIM card in shops like LIDL, ALDI, or NETTO. They are usually cheap and simple to use. The SIM card provider will inform you about how to top-up etc. By law, all SIM cards need to be registered online before activation. Foreign addresses are usually not accepted so you will have to use your hotel address or your temporary residence address. Registration may take a few hours and in some cases you will have to sign a verification letter or make a verification at the post office.

## Studying in Germany

## Broadcasting licence fee

Every household in Germany must pay public broadcasting fees and have a licence fee account. Fees are also referred to as "Rundfunkgebühren" (broadcasting fees), and currently amount to 18,36 EUR per month (as of 2022). This ensures a diversity of programs available to you on television, radio and online. If you live in a shared flat or with your fa-mily, one monthly payment (i.e. one licence fee account) covers the entire household. It is not paid per person, but by each registered apartment/house.

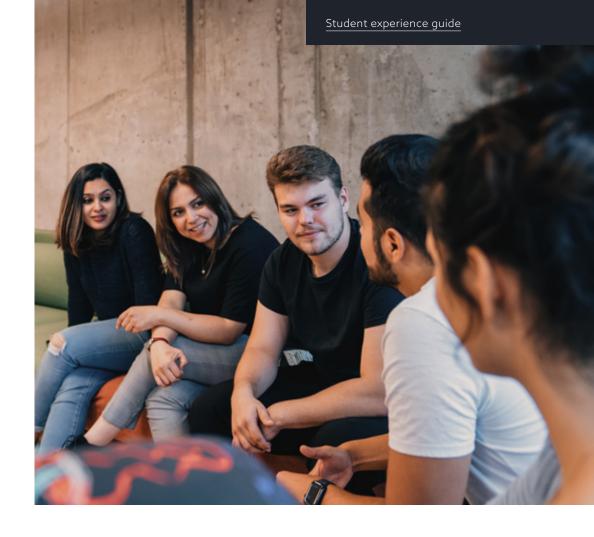


#### Who must register for a licence account?

Everyone who lives in Germany must pay a monthly fee for this public broadcast. You must pay it regardless of whether you actually have a TV, Internet access, or a radio. Many people think that the monthly fee is high and would prefer not want to pay it. If you do not pay your contribution, you will be fined.

To get more information visit:

www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/englisch/
index qer.html



## Social security

In order to be part of the social security system in Germany, you must obtain a social security card with a unique number. You are issued a German social security number issued once in your life. If you have lost your card or number, or you need to apply for a replacement; you can do this by contacting your public health insurance provider or going to the Rentenversicherung. If you want to apply for your German social security number (Sozialversicherungsnum-mer) you must be registered in Germany.

## Tax in Germany

Everyone who is employed or works as a freelancer in Germany must get a Tax ID from the Central Tax Office in Germany. Your employer will ask you to provide them with your Tax ID before your first working day. Applying for your tax ID is very simple. All you have to do is register your address at the local registration office. Based on the information you provide during the registration, the Central Tax Office will send you a letter with your unique tax identification number about one week after you have registered.





#### Income tax

In Germany, all tax payers are divided into so-called tax brackets (Lohnsteuerklassen) depending on their social situation, the amount of their income, and so on. Your tax bracket will determine the amount of income tax you need to pay in Germany. All taxpayers including expats are divided into the following tax brackets (Lohnsteuerklasse), which determines the amount of income tax you need to pay. If you are in tax bracket 3 or 5, or receive social indemnities, you are obliged to submit an income tax declaration.

#### Who must fill out the income tax declaration form?

Everyone who works in Germany is eligible to get a tax refund. Expats are obliged to file a tax declaration form, if they are in tax bracket 3 or 5, or if they received indemnities of more than 410 EUR (child benefit, unemployment benefit, etc).

#### Where to get income tax declaration form?

You can download the tax declaration form online (www.elster.de) or get a print version at your local tax office (Finanzamt). Bear in mind that the form only exists in German.



#### Find your tax bracket

#### Tax bracket 1

If you are single, permanently separated, or divorced, then you are in tax bracket 1.

#### Tax bracket 2

This tax bracket is for single parents who live alone and apply for tax relief.

#### Tax bracket 3

Employees who are married or in a civil partnership can choose this tax bracket if one of the spouses does not work or earns considerably less than the other. The spouse or partner that earns less income will fall under tax bracket 5. Note that if the two spouses or partners earn about the same amount, tax bracket 4 is the better option.

#### Tax bracket 4

Married couples/civil partners can apply annually for a factor to be applied. This considers the amount of income tax that is payable together under the income splitting system. Income splitting is a tax policy for fictionally attributing earned income of one spouse to the other spouse for the purposes of assessing personal income tax, thus reducing tax rates paid by the spouse who earns more and increasing rates paid by a spouse who earns less (or nothing).

#### Tax bracket 5

Jobholders who are married/in a civil partnership are in this tax bracket if their spouse or partner comes under tax bracket 3.

#### Tax bracket 6

This applies to all those who have a second job or additional income source

## Doctors and emergencies

The following are some typical expat questions regarding doctors and emergencies in Germany. Find out what to do if you feel sick on the weekend and why you have to call the fire department in order to get an ambulance in Germany.



### "What if I don't feel well on a Sunday or at night?"

Imagine: It's Sunday and all doctors are at home with their families. Where should you go? You are in urgent need of medical attention during the night or on the weekend? Then you can report to the Ambulanz or Notaufnahme ward (Accident and Emergency Room) at any hospital (Krankenhaus). To find one, just google "Krankenhaus + your city". There may also be weekend or emergency doctors who you can call at night. If it's very urgent call the emergency number 112. If it is not such a serious problem, you can call the nationwide 24-hour contact number 116117.

#### "Emergency! Who do I call?"

Emergency numbers in Germany are 110 (police) and 112 (fire brigade). In Germany you must call the fire department in case of health-related emergencies. They will ask you questions including where you are, what happened, and then forward your information to the nearest hospital. If there is a fire, you don't call the police, but also the fire department.

#### "My passport has been stolen!"

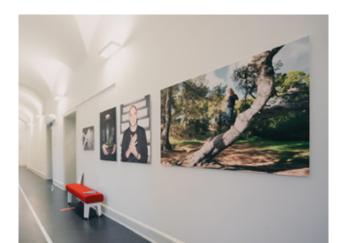
In case your passport has been stolen or lost, you must do the following:

- Report the theft or loss at the nearest police station. This link gives you the address of the police station in charge of your neighbourhood: www.personalausweisportal.de
- Apply for a new passport at your (country's) embassy: www.embassy-worldwide.com



#### Mental health

The Berliner Krisendienst provides professional assistance in cases of psycho-social crises and acute mental and psychiatric emergencies. Contact details and information about services is available at the Krisendienst website: www.berliner-krisendienst.de/en



#### Lawyers

Contact details for lawyers providing services in English in Germany are available at <a href="www.anwalt.de">www.anwalt.de</a>. Enter your city or state in the first search option, and then choose "Englisch" under "Sprache" (language) from the filtering options on the right. Embassies and consulates cannot provide legal advice, recommend individual lawyers, nor pay for legal consultations.

#### Embassies and diplomatic missions

You will find a list of the embassies and diplomatic missions in Berlin here: <a href="www.berlin.de/en/tourism/travel-information/2917712-2862820-embassies-in-berlin.en.html">www.berlin.de/en/tourism/travel-information/2917712-2862820-embassies-in-berlin.en.html</a>

## Electricity and waste

#### German electrical system

The standard voltage in Germany is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. If the standard voltage in your country is in between 220–240 V, you can use electrical appliances in Germany. If the voltage and frequency for your device is the same as in Germany, then you only need to worry about the physical plug. The small difference between 110V and 120V is supported by most electrical devices (likewise for 220V and 240V). If the voltage for your device is not 220v–240v, then you will need a transformer or converter to convert the voltage.

Giving a device a lower voltage than it was designed for is generally not dangerous, and the device may not work correctly, but no dramatic failure is likely. Giving any device a higher voltage than it was designed for is dangerous and will very likely damage the device. If you put 230 volts into a device designed for 110 it may melt, catch fire, or even explode.

For more information on electricity please refer to: www.wikitravel.org/en/electrical\_systems



#### Waste sorting

Germany is a highly innovative country in terms of waste separation and recycling, and has one of the highest recycling rates in the world. To protect the environment, you should also sort your household waste.

#### Glass

Glass bottles (wine, juice, cooking oil, etc.) or any other glass articles must be thrown into the bottle bank. Please do not dispose of any pottery or porcelain articles here. Bottle banks can be found in any district.

#### Paper

Newspapers, magazines, boxes, paper bags, books, or anything made of paper must be thrown into a paper container. Please do not dispose of dirty paper (e.g. pizza boxes, etc.), laminated carton, or any other paper treated with synthetics (e.g. milk cartons, etc.)

#### Residual waste

Cold ash, cigars, hygienic paper, dirty paper, and any organic waste must be thrown into the grey bin at your flat or house. Please do not put in special waste like broken electrical devices, batteries, or oil.



For detailed information on waste separation, please look here: www.bsr.de/die-berliner-stadtreinigung-in-englischer-sprache-26142.php

Berlin campus

Dessauer Str. 3-5 10963 Berlin Potsdam campus

Am Kanal 47 14467 Potsdam

Hamburg campus

22765 Hamburg

Iserlohn campus

58636 Iserlohn

Keep connnected

service.center@ue-germany.com www.ue-germany.com