



Fact Sheet

Academic Year 2025/2026

International Office
Wilhelmstrasse 9
72074 Tübingen
Germany





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Office dealing with study abroad/exchange matters:	International Office	
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Email address exchange applicants can direct their enquiries to	incoming@zv.uni-tuebingen.de	
Website for exchange-related information	https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/90781	
Erasmus Code / OID	DTUBINGE01 / OID (E10209486)	



General Information

General information	Innovative. Interdisciplinary. International. Since 1477. These have been the University of Tübingen's guiding principles in research and teaching ever since it was founded. With this long tradition, the University of Tübingen is one of the most respected universities in Germany. Its institutional strategy was successfully selected for funding in the Excellence Initiative sponsored by the German federal and state governments, making Tübingen one of Germany's eleven universities distinguished with that title of excellence. Tübingen has also proven its status as a leading research university in many national and international competitions – in key rankings Tübingen is listed among the best universities for the Humanities and Social Sciences as well as for Science and Medicine. With its broad spectrum of subjects, the University of Tübingen provides a wealth of opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. And such close cooperation on research extends beyond the University and around the world. The University of Tübingen has joint research projects at all levels with other institutions of higher education, with research institutes and with industry. The University's excellence in research offers optimal study conditions to students who come to Tübingen, combined with the opportunity to emphasize individual interests along the way. The attractive study environment is reinforced by many additional services, such as the Language Center, interdisciplinary lectures in the Studium Generale and the state-of-the-art University Library. The University motto speaks for itself: attempto – I dare!
Academic calendar	In general: Classes in the summer and winter semester start on the Monday of April (summer semester) or October (winter semester) which is closest to the 15th of that month. Classes end on the Sunday 13 weeks after the term starts (summer semester) and 18 weeks after the term starts in the winter semester. Dates for the Winter Semester 2025/2026: Lectures: Oct. 13, 2025 - Feb. 7, 2026 + exam period of 2-3 weeks no lectures on November 1, Dec. 22, 2025 - Jan. 6, 2026 Dates for the Summer Semester 2026: April 13, 2026 - July 25, 2026 + exam period of 2-3 weeks no lectures on May 1, May 14; May 25-30 (except Medical Faculty), June 4, 2026 Most exams take place in the last week of the lecture period up to 3 weeks of the lecture-free period. However, the exact exam period depends on the departments or faculties.
Number of credits or units that students are recommended to complete in one semester/term	Two lectures and two seminars per semester are recommended. In addition, students can attend courses in the area of German as a foreign language or other transdisciplinary classes. We <u>recommend</u> as guideline a workload which does not exceed 30 ECTS / semester.

Course and Language Information

Language of instruction – Are courses taught in English available?	The main language of instruction at the University of Tübingen is German. The University is, however, constantly increasing the number of courses taught in English: Please see our list of English taught classes (available ca 2 months before semester start) or contact the applicable academic advisor .
Language requirements	We expect our partners to nominate students who are on a B2 / with a completed B1 level of German (in case they would like to take German-taught classes at one of the faculties) or on a B2 level / with a completed B1 level of English (in case they would like to take English-taught classes). The levels refer to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). We do not require proof of language proficiency, <u>unless</u>: • Law studies (all levels), ethnology (B.A. level), Chemistry/ Biochemistry (B.Sc. level), a proof of German completed B1/ on B2 by <u>all</u> exchange students • Biology / Molecular Medicine / Pharmacy (B.Sc. level). Nursing (all levels): a proof of German completed B1/on B2 for students <u>from overseas</u> (no language proof needed for Erasmus or CIVIS students)
Course Information	• General course information and list of English taught classes • Online Course Catalogue ALMA (course catalogue for all courses in German and English) • German language and Culture classes at the German as a Foreign Language and Intercultural Programs Department, see below. • TÜ-VIP (Tübingen Virtual Intercultural Program) A 10-week, free online program offering intercultural and language courses. Students can collect ECTS even before their exchange stay has started in Tübingen.
Are there any special language courses for exchange students before or during the semester ?	Yes, more than 50 different courses per semester. You will find them on the website of the Division German as a Foreign Language and Intercultural Programs. Participants do not have to pay any fees, only course material, field trips etc. We offer free beginner's courses in German for exchange students (A1/A2 level), but please be aware that spaces are limited and we cannot guarantee any spaces. In addition to pre-semester intensive languages courses, students can take up to three classes during the semester with German as a Foreign Language and Intercultural Programs.

Exchange-Related Information

Level	Undergraduate / Graduate
Number of exchange students admitted per year	About 800 students
Duration of exchange	One or two semesters

Mandatory fee for exchange students	Exchange students will be required to pay a non-waivable student services fee (currently around € 120 per semester) to the Studierendenswerk (governmental student service organization of German universities). The fee is mandatory for <u>all</u> students (also the German students) and subsidizes the semester bus ticket, meals at the cafeteria, as well as free psychological counselling.
Restricted programs or courses (not open to all exchange students)	• Human Medicine: (Clinical part): Not available for exchange students from overseas university-wide agreements. Erasmus & CIVIS students can join for up to 2 semesters, no third term. • Biology: available for students who are majoring in biology / a closely related study field. • Pharmacy: available for students who are majoring in pharmacy. • Faculty of Sciences (including Psychology): needs a Learning Agreement/study plan and a transcript for course approval • Economics & Business Administration: For Bachelor programs in English, overseas students need to have completed 2 math/statistics/econometrics and 2 business/economics courses (e.g., microeconomics). Does not apply for Erasmus & CIVIS students.
Services available to exchange students (e.g. internet access, sports organizations, etc.)	StudIT (Student Initiative for International Students) Buddy Program and Language Tandem Cultural Clubs and Societies and Student Groups Free Wifi/Internet Access and Libraries University Sports Center
Nomination and Application Deadline	<u>Winter semester:</u> Nomination: April 1 to May 15 – Mobility Online Portal Application: April 1 to May 31 – Mobility Online Portal <u>Summer semester:</u> Nomination: October 1 to November 15 – Mobility Online Portal Application: October 1 to November 30 – Mobility Online Portal
Nomination and Application Procedure	1. Partners need to nominate their students via our online portal by the deadlines above. The link to the online portal will be provided by us to all partners. 2. Students receive an email with the link for the online application portal after their nomination is accepted. 3. Students need to complete their application online. 4. Students need to upload the following supporting documents: - Passport style photograph & scan of passport - Students who wish to study at the Faculty of Sciences (including Psychology) or the Faculty of Medicine: Transcript of Records and a Learning Agreement (ERASMUS and CIVIS) / Study Plan with a course list (Overseas) that must approved by the applicable academic advisor - Students who wish to study at the Faculty of Medicine: Proof of Measles Immunization - PhD students / Master students as research candidates: Supervisory commitment

Arrival / Orientation Program

Recommended arrival dates	Winter Semester: October 1 (September 1 for language and orientation course, see below) Summer Semester: April 1 (March 1 for language course and orientation course)
Is airport pick-up service available?	No, unfortunately not. There is a regular bus service (Airport Sprinter) from Stuttgart airport to Tübingen, though: More Information on the Airport Sprinter .
Which orientation programs are available? What do they cost?	1. TÜ-VIP (Tübingen Virtual Intercultural Program): A 10-week free online program offering intercultural and language courses. Students can collect ECTS even before their exchange stay has started in Tübingen. 2. Advisory Course ICE: General orientation program for new international and exchange students in the week before the lecture period starts: 5€ 3. StudIT Intro-Week: General orientation program for new exchange students in the first week of the lecture period. 4. Start Course: 3-week language course before the semester with an orientation part designed for exchange students with intermediate to good knowledge of German: 150€ 5. Deutsch-Kompakt Course: Intensive 5-week language course before the semester designed to prepare exchange students for their study-abroad experience in Tübingen. The course includes cultural events and excursions: 855€

Accommodation

Is university-administered accommodation available to exchange students?	The student dormitories are not administered by the University, but by the so-called "Studierendenwerk", the Student Service Organization, which is not affiliated with the University. However, the University of Tübingen has a yearly quota of rooms that are reserved solely for exchange students. Basic info: Accommodation. Please see for details of the dormitories the Overview of residence halls by the Studierendenwerk. All rooms for exchange students are fully-furnished single rooms with shared kitchen and usually shared bathrooms. We strongly recommend students to opt for student housing because of the difficult and expensive private housing market in Tübingen.
Where do students send their accommodation application?	Students can apply for housing online directly on the Website of the Studierendenwerk . Contracts will be available for the duration of the whole semester only. There is a deposit of 600€ due upon arrival.
Is accommodation available over semester breaks?	Yes. Students can stay in their rooms until the end of the contract. Dorms are open year-round, students do <u>not</u> have to move out during breaks.

Visa Requirements

Are exchange students required to obtain a student visa?	• Basic Information on visa and entry regulations • Citizens of the following countries are allowed to enter Germany without a visa but need to apply for a student residence permit within 90 days after they enter Germany: <i>Andorra, Australia, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Canada, Monaco, New Zealand, San Marino, South Korea, United Kingdom and the United States of America.</i> These students can apply for the residence permit directly at the Foreigners' Office in Tübingen after having arrived in Germany. • Students from none of the above-mentioned countries should please contact us or the embassy if they are uncertain whether a visa is necessary prior to entering Germany. • EU students and from Switzerland do not need visas, but will only register their residency once they are in Tübingen.
Are exchange students allowed to work?	<u>On campus</u>: Yes – more than the hours mentioned below (but students should ask for further information!) <u>Off campus</u>: Yes – 120 days per year when working 8 hours a day or 240 days per year when working 4 hours a day.
Is a special visa required for work?	The above-mentioned 120 days need to be marked in the student visa. Students have to inform the “Ausländerbehörde” about their work.

Medical Insurance

Are exchange students required to purchase a compulsory plan?	No. But they need to have unlimited health insurance at the time of matriculation. All students can either buy student health insurance at any German insurance company (ca 120€ / month), or as students in the European Union, they can take their EHIC-card to a “statutory health insurance company”. It will check if the insurance meets the minimum requirements. If yes, it can confirm to the university that the student's insurance policy is sufficient: Basic information on health insurance .
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If you need further information, please contact:
incoming@zv.uni-tuebingen.de

