







Heidelberg University - Information Sheet for Student Exchange Program 2017/18

General Information

Name of University	Universität Heidelberg (Heidelberg University)
Profile	<p>Founded in 1386, Heidelberg University is Germany's oldest university. It is a comprehensive research-oriented institution with a strong focus on interdisciplinary studies. Heidelberg University offers over 160 study programs in the humanities, the social sciences, law, natural sciences, and the life sciences, including medicine.</p> <p>More than 30,000 Students study at Heidelberg University. Among them, ca. 5,800 International Students. (ca. 50% European, 30% Asian, 12% North/South American, 5% Africa)</p> <p>Rankings: 42 worldwide, 1 in Germany (Shanghai Ranking 2017) 45 worldwide, 3 in Germany (THE World University Rankings 2017/18);</p> 
Official websites	http://www.uni-heidelberg.de http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/university/
Website for exchange-related information	http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/international-exchange
Academic Calendar	<p>Winter semester: October 1st to March 31st Summer semester: April 1st to September 30st Preparatory Language Course: September/March (4 weeks/80+ hours of instruction) http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/date/dates.html</p>

Exchange Coordinator for students from the USA		
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Application		
Application form	Application materials will be sent by the International Relations Office to the partners via email. The application package includes the <i>Registration Form for the Preparatory Language Course</i> for Exchange Students as well as the <i>Application for Housing</i> .	
Deadline for application	Fall / Winter: June 15	Spring/ Summer: December 15
Application procedure :	<p>All incoming exchange students need the following documents for formal admission to Heidelberg University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• nomination letter from home institution• application form for exchange students, available from the exchange coordinator at Heidelberg University• transcript of records <p>After the application has been processed, a letter of admission will be sent directly to the student around late June/early July for Fall and late January/early February for Spring.</p>	
Suggested length of study for exchange 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• at least one semester• participation in preparatory language course (September/March) is strongly recommended (see below).	
Procedure of applying for student visa	<p>Citizens of the USA, Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, and EFTA countries do not need a VISA to travel to Germany but may apply for their residence permit <u>after</u> their arrival in Germany. Citizens of other countries have to apply for their VISA before travelling to Germany.</p> <p>Documents needed from home to apply for a residence permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter of sufficient funding from bank/notarized parental letter• Proof of health insurance (if provided from home country)	

Academics	
Programs and courses offered to exchange students	<p>A list of the fields of study offered at Heidelberg University can be found at: http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/academicprograms/index.html</p> <p>Courses not available to exchange students include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • courses offered at the school of medicine and dentistry • some courses in biosciences (restrictions may apply-see coordinator) <p>* Exceptions can be made only with permission from coordinator in Heidelberg</p> <p>** Please note that Heidelberg University does not offer programs in Business or Engineering.</p>
Course Catalog	<p>Information on the course offerings for the coming semester will be available online a few months before the lecture periods starts. However, course catalogs from previous semesters give a general overview of the courses offered at Heidelberg University.</p> <p>Courses can be found at: http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/imstudium/vorlesungen/ or http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=user&type=0&noDBAction=y&init=y</p> 
Language of Instruction	<p>Typically, courses are taught in the German language. However, there are several fields of study with a (large) variety of courses taught in English. i.e. English Studies, American Studies, Economics, South Asian Studies, Transcultural Studies.</p> <p>Many Masters programs in the field of science are also taught in English.(see link below)</p> <p>http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/interesse/faecher/master_en.html</p> <p>Some of these courses may also be available for advanced Bachelor students.</p> <p>To search for courses offered in English please follow these instructions: http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=wtree&search=1&category=veranstaltung.browse&navigationPosition=lectures%2Clectureindex&breadcrumb=lectureindex&topitem=lectures&subitem=lectureindex → click <i>Search for Lectures</i>→ Change Term if necessary (past semesters can also be searched by changing the term)→click <i>Language of Instruction</i> and change to English→ click <i>Start Search</i> to begin searching for courses.</p> <p>*please note that searching for a specific department, the department must be written in German.</p> <p>There is no minimum German language requirement for exchange students from US partner institutions!</p>

German Language Instruction	
Preparatory Language course	<p>Exchange students may take part in a 4-week intensive language course at the International Study Center before the start of the semester (offered in September for fall semester students and in March for spring semester students).</p> <p>The program includes 80 hours of language instruction at all levels (basic, intermediate and advanced). All courses contain exercises dealing with German grammar, conversation, reading and writing, listening comprehension, lexis, phonetics, regional and cultural studies, and information about studying in Heidelberg.</p> <p>http://www.isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_courses_vdk.html</p> <p>The fee for this course is covered by the International Relations Office for exchange students.</p>
German Language Instruction	<p>Students who seek additional support regarding their German language proficiency during the lecture period are offered a large variety of different language programs at the University's International Study Center (ISZ).</p> <p>Students may choose between a 4 and an 8 hour per week general German language course. In addition, the ISZ has a large variety of subject-related courses all exchange students may take part in. These courses complement the regular courses offered at the University.</p> <p>All students are allowed to attend both the German language courses as well as the subject-related courses offered by the ISZ</p> <p>http://www.isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_courses_sbk.html .</p> 
Intensive German Language Course	<p>Students without or with limited German language experience have the opportunity to attend a full time <i>intensive</i> (20 hour per week) language course in which 24 ECTS can be earned per semester.</p> <p>*A shortened option may be available upon request in the fall semester to permit US students to return to their home institutions for the winter/spring semester. (ca. 16 ECTS)</p>
Intercultural German Studies (<i>Germanistik in Kulturvergleich</i>)	<p>The Institute for German as a Foreign Language Philology (IDF) offers various degree programs as well as a broad spectrum of courses especially developed for short-term, non-degree students.</p> <p>Exchange students will find courses geared to improve their language competency as well a large variety of German studies courses. (Literature, Art, Cultural Studies, Linguistics, History, etc.)</p> <p>Please see: https://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=wtree&search=1&trex=step&root120172=90135 90667 90617 92219&P.vx=mittel</p>

Student Life	
Accommodation	<p>Exchange students from overseas are privileged to receive guaranteed student housing. Living in student residences is the most affordable and most convenient way of student living in Heidelberg and all exchange students are strongly encouraged to consider this option.</p> <p>Types of accommodation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • single room sharing kitchen and bathrooms in groups of 2 – 4 • single room in dormitories • small number of single apartments <p>For more information please see: http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/wohnheime</p> 
Fees of student housing	<p>Approx. 220 – 350 EURO / Month 450 EURO refundable deposit</p>
Special housing needs	<p>Students who have special housing needs due to a disability, allergy or other health problems should inform the exchange coordinator and indicate this on their application.</p>
Cost of Living / Financial Planning	<p>Approx. 735 - 800 EURO per month</p> <p>Please refer to the information given on this website: http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html</p>
Insurance	<p>Health insurance is compulsory for all Heidelberg University students. Students staying for one semester only can either bring sufficient health insurance coverage from their country of residence or take out health insurance in Germany. Students staying for a full academic year must take out German health insurance.</p> <p>Avg. price of comprehensive insurance per month: 80 EURO *state insurance in Germany is very comprehensive! **students aged 30 and above do not qualify for state health insurance and have to purchase private insurance http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html https://www.studentenwerke.de/sites/default/files/gesundheitswoerterbuch.pdf</p> <p>Students are also strongly recommended to take out personal liability insurance (Haftpflichtversicherung) for their stay in Germany, as well as extra insurance coverage at home for the period between arrival and enrolment at Heidelberg University.</p>

Extra-curricular activities

Students at Heidelberg University can pursue a wide variety of extra-curricular activities.



- **Sports:** There are over 100+ sporting activities and fitness programs offered through the university
- <http://www.hochschulsport.issw-hd.de/>
- **Music, Drama, and the Arts:**
 - University Choirs and Orchestra's: <http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/fakultaeten/philosophie/zeqk/collegiummusicum/index.html>
 - Theater: <http://idefix-theater.de/>
- **Excursions:** Giving students the opportunity to travel around Germany at very affordable prices. Trips normally take place on weekends and are a good opportunity to experience German culture and meet other international students.
- http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/contact/aaa/aaa_services.html
- **Central Language Lab (Zentrales Sprachlabor):** If you are interested in learning another language while you are in Heidelberg. <http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/>
<https://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=wtree&search=1&trex=total&root120162=81187|82541|79712|82362&P.vx=mittel&noDBAction=y&init=y>

The *Studierendenwerk* offers a large selection of activities outside of the University: <http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/en/culture>