# Heidelberg University - General Information

## Information Sheet for Student Exchange Program 2020 - 2021

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<th>Name of University</th>
<th>Universität Heidelberg  (Heidelberg University)</th>
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| Official websites  | [www.uni-heidelberg.de](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de)  
[www.uni-heidelberg.de/university/](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/university/) |
| President’s Office | [www.uni-heidelberg.de/institutions/rectorate/index.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/institutions/rectorate/index.html) |
| Website for exchange-related information | [www.uni-heidelberg.de/international-exchange](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/international-exchange) |
| Academic Calendar | Winter semester: October 1st to March 31st  
Summer semester: April 1st to September 30th  
Preparatory Language Course: September or March  
4 weeks / 80+ hours of instruction  
Lecture Period: [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/date/dates.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/date/dates.html) |
| Exchange Coordinator for students from Canada, Australia and New Zealand | Ms. Doris Treichler |
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GERMANY |

## Application

**New application process planned for 2020/2021:**
Information on the online application procedure will be sent by the International Relations Office to the partners by e-mail. The following documents can then be found online: Application forms for Heidelberg University, application form for the preparatory language course for exchange students and the application for accommodation. Students who have special housing needs (e.g. due to a disability, allergy or other health problems) should indicate this on their application.
<table>
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<th>Deadline for application</th>
<th>Fall / Winter: June 15</th>
<th>Spring / Summer: December 15</th>
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| Application procedure    | All incoming exchange students need the following documents for formal admission to Heidelberg University:  
  • nomination letter from home institution  
  • application form for exchange students, available from the exchange coordinator at Heidelberg University  
  • transcript of records  
  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. This letter is proof of admission to Heidelberg University and need to be shown on occasions such as during registration and when applying for a residence permit. |
| Suggested length of study for exchange | At least one semester – two semester are recommended  
Participation in preparatory language course is strongly recommended (in September or March see information below). |
| Procedure of applying for student visa | 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 after their arrival in Germany.  
Citizens of other countries have to apply well in advance for their VISA before travelling to Germany!  
Documents needed from home to apply for a residence permit:  
  • 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 | A list of the fields of study offered at Heidelberg University can be found at:  
[www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/academicprograms/index.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/academicprograms/index.html)  
Courses not available to exchange students include the following:  
  • courses offered at the school of medicine and dentistry  
  • some courses in law  
  • some courses in biosciences (restrictions may apply)  
* Exceptions can be made only with permission from the coordinator in Heidelberg  
** Please note that Heidelberg University does not offer programs in Business or Engineering. |
| Course Catalog | 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. Courses can be found at:  
[http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/imstudium/vorlesungen/](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/imstudium/vorlesungen/)  
or  
[http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/](http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/) |
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<th>Language of Instruction</th>
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| 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, and Transcultural Studies. Many Masters programs in the field of science are also taught in English. Some of these courses may also be available for advanced Bachelor students. Information on Master Courses (see link below) [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/interesse/faecher/master_en.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/interesse/faecher/master_en.html) To get an overview of the courses taught in English and offered during the last semester and you can use the following instructions:  
1. Please go to the website: https://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de  
2. Please click on the British flag symbol in the right upper corner.  
3. Please click on “courses” in the left upper corner.  
4. Please click on “Search for Lectures” (Change Term if you want to view past semesters as an orientation)  
5. Please choose “English” in the drop down menu behind “Language of instruction”  
6. Please click “Start Search” to begin searching for courses  
7. Now you should be able to see all the results.”  
*please note that searching for a specific department, the department must be written in German. |

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<th>German Language Instruction</th>
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| Exchange students may take part in a **4-week intensive German 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). 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.  

**The fee for this course is covered by the International Relations Office for exchange students.** |

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<th>Preparatory Language course</th>
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| Students who need 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).  
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 Heidelberg University. All students are allowed to attend both the German language courses as well as the subject-related courses offered by the ISZ.  

**Intensive German Language Course** |
| Students without or with limited German language experience have the opportunity to attend a full time **intensive** (20 hour per week) language course in which 24 ECTS can be earned per semester. |
### Intercultural German Studies

**Germanistik in Kulturvergleich**

The Institute for German as a Foreign Language Philology (IDF) offers degree programs for non-native German speakers as well as a wide variety of courses especially developed for exchange students. Exchange students will find courses geared to improve both language competencies as well as a large variety of German studies courses. (Literature, Art, Cultural Studies, Linguistics, History, etc.)

Please see: [https://www.idf.uni-heidelberg.de/kurzzeitstudium.html](https://www.idf.uni-heidelberg.de/kurzzeitstudium.html)

### Student Life

#### Accommodation

Exchange students are privileged to receive guaranteed student housing. Living in student residences is the most affordable and most convenient way of living in Heidelberg as an exchange student and all exchange students are encouraged to consider this option.

Types of accommodation:
- single room sharing kitchen and bathrooms in groups of 2 – 4
- single room in dormitories with kitchens and bathrooms on each floor
- small number of single apartments

For more information please see: [www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/wohnheime](http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/wohnheime)

#### Fees of student housing

Approx. 220 – 400 EURO / Month; 450 EURO refundable deposit

#### Special housing needs

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.

#### Cost of Living / Financial Planning

Approx. 860 EURO per month

Please refer to the information given on this website: [www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html)

#### Insurances

Health insurance is compulsory for all Heidelberg University students. Exchange Students are advised to take out health insurance in Germany (which is very comprehensive) or to ensure to bring sufficient health insurance coverage from their country of residence. **Students who plan to stay longer than one semester in Heidelberg need to take out German Health insurance coverage!**

Price of comprehensive State Health Insurance per month: approx.100 EURO

* Students aged 30 and above do not qualify for state health insurance and have to purchase private insurance

Further important information: [www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html#planning](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html#planning)

Students are also strongly recommended to take out further insurances, such as personal liability insurance (Haftpflichtversicherung) and accident insurance for their stay in Germany, **as well as extra (health) insurance coverage** at home for the period between arrival and enrolment at Heidelberg University.

#### Detailed Information for Exchange students

Further detailed Information for Incoming Exchange Students can be found in a little booklet which will be sent to the exchange students with the Letter of Admission.

The information can also be found on the following web page: [www.uni-heidelberg.de/international-exchange](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/international-exchange)