Fact Sheet for International Exchange Students

PH Schwäbisch Gmünd
University of Education

Erasmus+
**Studying**

**Study Programmes:**
The University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd offers a wide range of higher education programmes with a focus on Education, Health, and Cultural Diversity.

Our bachelor degree and master degree courses encompass Teacher Training, Health Promotion/Prevention, Nursing Sciences, Engineering Education, Early Childhood Education, Intercultural Relations and Integration, German Language and Literature Studies and Cultural Diversity/Multilingualism, Early Childhood and Social Pedagogy, and Nursing Pedagogy. Courses in our Teacher Training Programmes incorporate:

**Courses in German:**
International exchange students with a good command of German (minimum B2 level) are welcome to attend any offered courses during first and second semester. Students without fluency in German but a good command of English (at least B2) can attend all of our English-taught courses.

**Courses in English:**
All courses in our English department are held in English. Additionally, during the second semester, there is a wide range of other courses taught in English.
First semester: English department (Literature, Linguistics, Area Studies, TESL)
Second semester: English department (Literature, Linguistics, Area Studies, TESL), Intercultural Studies, Education, Teaching Methodologies
Please find our current course programme in English at www.ph-gmuend.de > International > International Exchange Students

**Especially for Early Childhood Education students:**
Our Early Childhood Education department is offering a 30 ECTS programme “Exploring the World: Play, Culture, and Family in Early Childhood Education” which is taught in English (second semester only). A complete course schedule of this programme can be found at www.ph-gmuend.de > International > International Exchange Students

**German Cultural Studies:**
We offer a course “German Cultural Studies” for all international students, which is taught in German (first semester) or English (second semester). This mandatory 3 ECTS course includes the orientation week at the beginning of the semester and lectures and a variety of cultural activities and field trips (at no extra costs!) during the semester.

**German language courses:**
On-going courses during the semester free of charge: beginners level A1 (only second semester) and different advanced levels.

**International Exchange Students**
The University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd offers a unique experience – studying and living with local students, no „international bubble“! International students are fully integrated within the student community. Due to the manageable size of the University, lecturers and staff are always available and happy to help.

Courses in German:
International exchange students with a good command of German (minimum B2 level) are welcome to attend any offered courses during first and second semester. Students without fluency in German but a
Practice teaching:
Observation in nurseries and school classes of all age groups; opportunities to teach different subjects actively in grades 1 – 4 or 5 – 9/10; recommended language skills for actively teaching: C1.

Practice teaching in English is also possible, especially in secondary schools. For further information please contact the International Office.

Expenses

Study fees:
No tuition fee for exchange students from partner universities. Administration fee (including student term ticket for regional buses and trains): € 65

Cost of living:
€ 600 – 700 Euro/month (including accommodation, subsistence, health insurance etc.)

Services

The International Office organizes support and activities from the first contact throughout the stay abroad.

• Orientation week at the beginning of each semester including introductory course, city tour of Schwäbisch Gmünd, excursion to Stuttgart or Ludwigsburg, introductory events, etc.
• International Office helps with paperwork (visa, authorities, insurance, bank, etc.), organizes free railway station pick-up, introductory tours of campus and student residence hall, trips to local and regional destinations, etc.
• Buddy programme (local students provide ongoing support in academic and everyday life)
• Organized and subsidized social and cultural activities with local and international students
• International short course week in April (in English)
• “Study Guide” with detailed information on moving to Schwäbisch Gmünd, studying at our University, and living in Germany can be obtained at the International Office or downloaded at www.ph-gmuend.de > International > International Exchange Students

Accommodation

All of our international exchange students are guaranteed a fully furnished single room in our student residence hall. It is situated in walking distance to the University. There is internet access in each room and a fully equipped shared kitchen on each floor. TV-rooms, laundry facilities and a sauna are also available. Price approx. € 250 per month. Hassle-free booking for students - done automatically by the International Office!

Living

The largely preserved medieval town of Schwäbisch Gmünd has about 60,000 inhabitants and is part of the UNESCO World Heritage “Roman Limes”.

Schwäbisch Gmünd is the ideal place to live for students who prefer a cosy town with a rich cultural heritage and a magnificent landscape. The urban life of Stuttgart (600,000 inhabitants), the capital of South-West Germany, is only 40 minutes away by train. Other German cities and places of interest such as Munich, Ulm, Nuremberg, Würzburg, Heidelberg, Augsburg, or Lake Constance can easily be reached within a day-trip. The nearest international airport is Stuttgart, which has a regular train connection to Schwäbisch Gmünd.
**Information**

**Academic year:**
First (winter) semester: Beginning of October to beginning of February
Second (summer) semester: Beginning of April to end of July
(each including compulsory orientation week)

**University:**
Number of students: ~ 3,000
Erasmus code: D SCHWA G01

**Application deadlines:**
- International exchange students:
  - first semester May 31,
  - second semester November 30
- Degree seeking students:
  - first semester July 15,
  - second semester January 15

Exchange students have to contact us via their international coordinators at their home universities.

**Contact**

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