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)

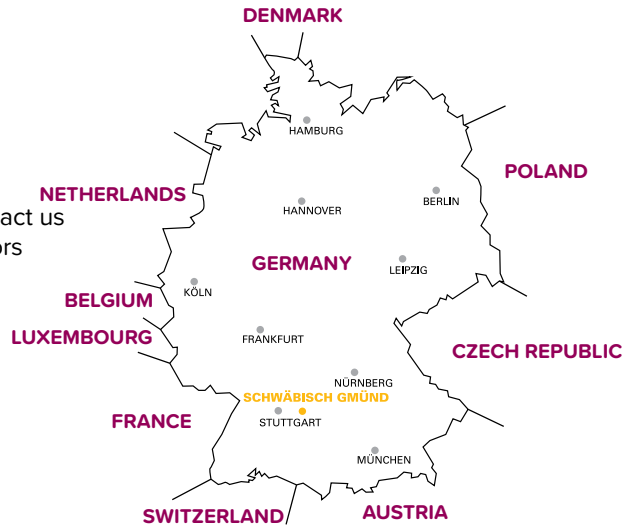
University:

Number of students: ~ 2,600
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

Pädagogische Hochschule Schwäbisch Gmünd University of Education

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PH Schwäbisch Gmünd
University of Education

Fact Sheet for

International Exchange Students



Erasmus+

ph-gmuend.de

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 and Prevention, Nursing Pedagogy, Engineering Education, Early Childhood Education, Intercultural German Studies and Multilingualism, Education/Migration/Diversity (in English!), Early Childhood and Social Pedagogy, and Nursing Pedagogy.

Courses in our Teacher Training Programmes incorporate:
German Language and Literature, English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Fine Arts, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education (Catholic and Lutheran denominations), Geography, History, Social Science, Political Science, Technology, Food & Nutrition.

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 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.
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 https://www.ph-gmuend.de/en/ph-gmuend/international/international-exchange-students/courses-in-english.

STEM Education in Motion – STEM Teacher Education in international context:

As part of the DAAD project "Act & Reflect smart: STEM Education in Motion" we are offering a 30 ECTS course programme "STEM Teacher Education in international context" (second semester only). More information can be found at https://www.ph-gmuend.de/international/internationale-austauschstudierende/studienangebote-auf-englisch

English Master Programme:

Our new Erasmus Mundus Master Programme "Education, Migration, and Diversity" is fully taught in English. More information can be found at https://www.ph-gmuend.de/studium/studiengaenge/interkulturalitaet/education-migration-diversity.

German Cultural Studies:

We offer a course *"German Cultural Studies"* for all international students, which is taught in German and in English. 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 and different advanced levels.

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: German B2.

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

Services

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

- Virtual pre-arrival workshops
- Orientation week at the beginning of each semester including welcome and administrative support, city tour of Schwäbisch Gmünd, excursion to Stuttgart, introductory events, etc.
- International Office helps with administration (visa, immigration office, health 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)
- Regular organized and subsidized social and cultural activities with local and international students throughout the semester
- International short course week in April/Mai (in English)
- "Study Guide" with detailled information on moving to Schwäbisch Gmünd, studying at our University, and living in Germany can be obtained at the International Office or downloaded at https://www.ph-gmuend.de/en/ph-gmuend/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 a fully equipped shared kitchen and living room on each floor. Rooms for social events and meetings as well as laundry facilities are also available. Price approx. 320 Euro per month. No hassle: Exchange students automatically register for their room with their application for the exchange semester.

Useful to know

Cost of living:

Living in Schwäbisch Gmünd is affordable compared to big cities. Approx. 800 Euro/month (including accommodation, subsistence, health insurance etc.).

Study fees:

We do not charge tuition fees for exchange students from partner universities.
Compulsory student union contribution: 62 Euro for a full semester.

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 inhabs.), 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, as well as Strasbourg (France) or Basle (Switzerland). The nearest international airport is Stuttgart, which has a regular train connection to Schwäbisch Gmünd.