

Europa-Kolleg e.V. Kassel: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 2.5 minimum GPA
 - Fall or Winter Term: 2 semesters college-level German
 - Summer: no language requirement
- *Program Academics*
 - German language placement test upon arrival
 - Students complete one course at a time, and progress to next level
 - Refer to “Europa - Kolleg, Kassel e.V Academic Information” form for pre-approved course listings and an explanation of how credits transfer to Alma
 - Typically 4 AC credits per intensive course completed; 16 AC credits/semester
 - Fall or Winter courses combine their four + eleven week programs
 - Summer programs consist of three, four + eleven week programs.
 - Europa-Kolleg curriculum is ability-driven, not course driven. Academic credit is determined based on test results and instructor evaluations upon return.
 - Fulfills “S” course requirement. If dates of attendance run through May, fulfills “S” course *spring term* requirement. Students must verify with Registrar upon publication of program dates.
 - Alma College allows pass/fail for a course provided it meets guidelines published in the Academic Catalog. Refer to the Pass/Fail Option form (provided with Step 4) for complete instructions. Pass/fail must be requested within nine weeks after the class begins.
 - Incomplete grades must be replaced by letter grades within six weeks from being recorded on the Alma transcript, or they convert to “E”. Contact the Registrar for assistance when you have received an Incomplete grade.
 - The only way Alma can accurately know how you feel about a program is to tell us. Students may be asked to complete an evaluation on-site before departure. If uncomfortable with providing an honest evaluation on-site, attach a separate page on Alma’s evaluation form upon return.

Housing

- Home-stay.
- 2 meals Monday – Friday, 3 meals Saturday and Sunday.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to Germany?*
 - A passport is required for international travel and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - A student visa is required for visits over 90 days.
 - You will need to apply for a residence permit upon arrival. Instructions will be provided upon acceptance.
2. *Can I use my cell phone in Germany?*
 - Using a U.S. cell phone abroad to make local and/or international calls can be very costly. Check with your service provider for details.
 - PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for Germany.
 - It is easy to find international calling cards for a relatively cheap price upon arrival in Germany. It is not recommended that you buy these calling cards in the US before your departure, however, because these cards often will not function while abroad or have hidden fees.
 - The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.
3. *Will I have internet access at school? Should I bring my laptop?*
 - Internet service is available at cyber-cafes throughout the city for relatively inexpensive prices.
 - Europa-Kolleg has computers for student use, but there may be time limits and limited opportunity for use.
 - Laptops can be used outside of school but are not required for coursework.
 - It is possible that the host family will have internet access; always ask permission before using and adhere to their rules regarding time limits etc.
4. *If I arrive late to the program, will I still have an orientation?*
 - All students should expect to have an orientation at school upon arrival.
 - Students should seek out the program director and request an orientation if arriving later than planned.
5. *My Alma professor said I could conduct research while I'm there. Is there a fee for this?*
 - There is an additional Germany Director Liaison fee of \$500 for German majors and/or minors conducting research.
6. *Can I attend the program to learn German but not receive Academic credit?*
 - While Alma encourages second language studies, students must complete all academic requirements and will receive Alma College credit and grades for their studies.
7. *What are the study abroad requirements for a German major?*
 - It is mandatory that students speak with a German Professor on campus before committing to a program. The off-campus study requirements for a German major may include the following, and are subject to change.
 - a minimum of three courses in German.
 - a 20 page research paper written in German covering a topic agreed upon in advance by the German Department.
 - intensive C1 exam preparation to sit for and pass the exam while abroad.

8. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process or general questions about the Europa-Kolleg Program?*
- Your first point of contact should be the official AHA website (www.europa-kolleg.de).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can reach staff at the Europa-Kolleg by e-mail at contact@europa-kolleg.de
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are always available to help answer your questions.

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