

Goethe Institut: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements:*
 - 2.5 minimum GPA
 - No language requirement
- *Program Academics:*
 - Language placement test upon arrival
 - Student completes one course at a time, then progresses to next level
 - Class options may include:
 - Intensive 2 week course, 33 hours (45 GI units)
 - Intensive 4 week course, 64 hours (85 GI units)
 - Intensive 8 week course, 127 hours (170 GI units)
 - The intensive 4 week course typically translates to 4 AC credits
 - Fulfills "S" course requirement
 - 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.

Housing

- Host family OR apartment; meals not included in program fees

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 work or have hidden fees.
 - The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.

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3. *Will I have internet access at school? Should I bring my laptop?*
- Goethe Institut Berlin offers wireless internet access in all classrooms; bringing your laptop is highly encouraged.
 - It is possible that there will be internet access in your residence; check with program provider for details when going through accommodation application process.
 - Internet service is available at cyber-cafes throughout the city for relatively inexpensive prices.
4. *What are the study abroad requirements for a German major?*
- It is mandatory that students speak with the German Professor on campus before committing to a program. The off-campus study requirements for a German major may include the following and is 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
5. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process, or general questions about Goethe Institut?*
- Your first point of contact should be the Goethe Institut official website (www.goethe.de).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, staff at the Institut can be reached at 1-888-4GOETHE (1-888-446-3843) or deutsch@goethe.de
 - The Academic and Career Planning office is always here to help answer your questions.