

University of Konstanz: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 2.5 minimum GPA
 - Beginning – advanced language
 - Alma College approved program is the summer one month program in August
- *Program Academics*
 - German language placement test upon arrival.
 - Students participate in 76 units/lessons of German language lectures (exams & placement tests included).
 - Throughout the month there will be tests, interviews, and presentations.
 - Afternoon academic programs include excursions.
 - The program and Alma College both require completion of the final exam.
 - Summer
 - 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 (on Alma’s website under International & Off-Campus Study Programs>Academic Policies) 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

- Dorms are within 20-30 minutes walking distance from where classes are held.
- University policy is that students from one college should be placed in separate dorms to allow more opportunities to meet other students.
- Food is not included in tuition or room fees.
- Students pay a deposit for a *Mensa chip card*. Money can be loaded on the card to eat at the (mensa) university cafeteria at a student discounted price.
- Other food options are the inexpensive supermarkets (discounters).

Other Program Information

- The closest airport is Zurich (Switzerland). Direct trains from Zurich airport to Konstanz take approximately one hour. If flying in to Stuttgart, plan a three hour train; from Munich and Frankfurt, 4 – 5 hours. The program offers train getting on a specific day. For airport/train delays, the Program must be contacted; students receive the cell phone information in July.
- Upon arrival the program will assist students with their applications to purchase monthly bus tickets at a discounted price. The service is optional and the cost is the student’s responsibility.

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.
 - Additional immigration requirements should be provided by your program, but can also be found by checking the German entry/exit requirements at www.travel.state.gov
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 another free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.
3. *Will I have wifi-internet access at school? Should I bring my laptop?*
 - With technology advancing every day, universities are continuously upgrading their computer systems and internet capabilities. Please refer to the program's website for the most up-to-date information for computer and internet information.
 - Internet is available at cyber-cafes in many cities for relatively inexpensive prices.
4. *What are the study abroad requirements for a German major/minor?*
 - It is mandatory that students speak with their Alma College German Professor on campus to learn academic requirements.
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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 (<https://www.international.uni-konstanz.de/en/international-students/study-opportunities/ibh/>).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, refer to this link for program contact information:
<https://www.international.uni-konstanz.de/en/international-students/contacts/>
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are always here to help answer your questions.

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