

Heidelberg University (American Junior Year) Quick Facts

Admissions

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 3.0 minimum GPA
 - Two years college-level German
 - Junior status
 - Sophomore status with very strong ACT/SAT score considered
- *Program Academics*
 - 2 AJY credits (30 hours) typically translate to 2 AC credits.
 - Average course load during a semester program 12-16 AJY credits.
 - Paired with native German speaker for monthly conversation to aid fluency
 - Fulfills “S” course requirement.
 - If dates of attendance run through May, fulfills “S” course *spring term* requirement. Students must verify with Registrar.
 - 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

- Single room in a dorm or suite equipped with kitchens
- Suites are shared with German & international students
- Meals not part of program cost

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 Residence Permit is required upon arrival to Germany. Instructions will be provided by the program prior to departure.

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.
- One option is purchasing phone cards once you arrive in Germany. It is not recommended to purchase international calling cards while in the United States because they often will not function once you are abroad.
- PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for Germany.
- The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service.

3. Will I have internet access there? Should I bring my laptop?

- You will be able to access the internet from the computers in the AJY Study Center. The Center also has a wireless LAN access point to enable students with laptops to access the internet.
- If you live in a University dorm which has an Ethernet connection, you will be able to activate that connection once you are officially enrolled at the University.

4. What kinds of public transportation options will I have?

- Heidelberg has a convenient network of buses and streetcars that will take you nearly everywhere. During the day, buses and streetcars run every ten to twenty minutes on most lines. Service stops at midnight and resumes at 6:00 a.m.
- The Semester-Ticket purchased for you by the Program will allow travel throughout the VRN district during the duration of your stay in Heidelberg. You will be able to use all regional public transportation in a large area of southwestern Germany extending from Würzburg in the east to Homburg in the west.
- Many students purchase a used bicycle to explore the city and surrounding countryside. Heidelberg has an extensive network of bike paths.
- Heidelberg is situated near the intersection of a major north-south and east-west railway line so that good connections are available in all directions.

5. 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 about the Heidelberg University program in general?

- Your first point of contact should be the Heidelberg University American Junior Year website (<http://www.heidelberg.edu/ajy>)
- If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can call the Heidelberg University's American office toll-free at 1800-925-9250, or e-mail them at ajy@heidelberg.edu.
- Off-Campus Studies staff are always here to help answer your questions.