Academic Calendar and Important Dates

Winter term

Semester dates
October 1 to March 31

Enrollment period
Mid-February to mid-April

Orientation period
During the first week of October

Course registration
During October

Lecture-free period
Mid-October to mid-February

Exam period
During the last two weeks of the lecture period;

Summer term

Semester dates
April 1 to September 30

Enrollment period
Mid-July to mid-October

Orientation period
During the first week of April

Course registration
During April

Lecture-free period
Mid-April to mid-July

Exam period
During the last two weeks of the lecture period;

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Freie Universität Berlin offer on- or off-campus accommodation?

There is no on-campus accommodation, but our accommodation office offers various off-campus dorms and shared apartments. Since there has been an increase in the demand for student housing, we recommend that students apply as soon as possible after having received their admission letter. For more information, please see: www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/unterbringung

What is the language of instruction at Freie Universität Berlin?
The main language of instruction is German. However, some departments offer courses taught in English. Their availability may vary and cannot be guaranteed. As the courses change each semester, please consult the online course catalogue for more information.

What are the German language requirements to study at Freie Universität Berlin?
Depending on the exchange agreement or the conditions of the external scholarship agency, a certain level of German language skills may be required. Generally, in order to follow and successfully complete courses, German language skills equivalent to at least B1, preferably B2 (CEFR), are recommended.

What is the language of instruction at Freie Universität Berlin?
Are there any courses taught in English?

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Freie Universität Berlin

Freie Universität Berlin was founded in 1948 on the principles of academic freedom and democracy. One of Germany’s leading research universities with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff, it is an “International Network University,” providing a unique global alliance between leading research universities with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff. As an “International Network University,” we connect students and scholars through a unique global alliance with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff. As an “International Network University,” we connect students and scholars through a unique global alliance with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff. As an “International Network University,” we connect students and scholars through a unique global alliance with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff. As an “International Network University,” we connect students and scholars through a unique global alliance with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff. As an “International Network University,” we connect students and scholars through a unique global alliance with nearly 30,000 students and 4,000 staff.

How to come to Freie Universität for an Exchange

Freie Universität Berlin attracts a large number of exchange students from all over the world every semester. You can come study at our university within the framework of different exchange programs. We usually require non-degree exchange students to have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies and – depending on the specific exchange agreement – to have obtained a certain level of German language proficiency.

The European Union’s ERASMUS Program gives students the opportunity to spend part of their studies at another university in Europe. You can spend one or two semesters at Freie Universität Berlin within the framework of the ERASMUS Program. If your home university has an ERASMUS Agreement with Freie Universität Berlin, you can get in touch with the ERASMUS office at our university. For further information, please contact your home institution’s international office.

In addition to our ERASMUS Partnerships within the framework of the ERASMUS+ Program, if your home university has an Erasmus-Agreement with Freie Universität Berlin, you can get in touch with the ERASMUS office at our university. For further information, please contact your home institution’s international office.

The German Research Foundation (DFG), and the QS World University Rankings, place Freie Universität Berlin prominently in institutional rankings, including the CHE University Ranking, the Funding Ranking of the Excellence Initiative and have scored top positions in rankings for internationalization. As Germany’s most popular university amongst international doctoral candidates.

Advantages for Exchange Students

- A simplified admissions and enrollment procedure
- Support from our student exchange office and an orientation program before the semester starts, making your first steps at our university and in Berlin easier
- A wide range of German language courses for exchange and program students during the semester, from basic to advanced (A1-C2), with the courses being designed for students from Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Cultural Studies.

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Freie Universität Berlin offers a program of studies exclusively for exchange students. Courses in this program are designed for students from Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Cultural Studies. Courses are taught in German and English. They are open to students from our academic partners, with the courses being designed for students from Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Cultural Studies.

Discover Courses beyond your own Field of Study

Improve your German

The university’s Language Center and its department for German as a Foreign Language offers courses for exchange students prior to and during the semester, as well as providing a self-learning center, where students can develop their language skills independently. You can also register for a language test, which you will be matched with a native German speaker and can meet regularly to help you learn your language skills. The intensive pre-semester language courses take place over the six weeks leading up to the semester. The course is offered at a reduced price for exchange students. Government courses during the semester are free of charge for exchange students, and range from 4 to 8 hours of classes per week.

For more information on the various programs of the Language Center and course registration, please see: www.sprachenzentrum.fu-berlin.de/en/sprachangebot/auslandsstudium

Please see for courses at external scholarships at www.fu-berlin.de/fubest and www.fu-berlin.de/fubis

Together with the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität offers medical studies at the Medical School Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. For further information on the exchange programs of the Charité, please contact the Charité International Cooperation Office.

The Tagesschule der Freien Universität Berlin offers a program of studies exclusively for exchange students. Courses in this program are designed for students from Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Cultural Studies. Courses are taught in German and English. They are open to students from our academic partners, with the courses being designed for students from Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Cultural Studies.

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