

GERMANY

Baden-Württemberg Exchange

HOST UNIVERSITIES

The CSU is affiliated with several universities in the German State of Baden-Württemberg. The Department of International Relations at the University of Tübingen coordinates the program. The local staff provides programmatic, academic, and student support services. See the IP website below for details about each institution.

WORLD WIDE WEB

www.uni-tuebingen.de/calstate-bw/

SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

Students from a wide range of academic disciplines and German language levels can participate in this program. Of course, beginning students interested in the "Learn German" program will focus their studies on German language and culture throughout the year. Students with two or more years of language preparation may enroll in courses at an appropriate institution in Baden-Württemberg directly after the PLP, if they meet the entrance requirements. Students from every major are encouraged to participate, as a wide variety of educational opportunities are offered at the different institutions IP is affiliated with. Some German institutions teach courses in English.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Students with fewer than four semesters of German are usually placed in Tübingen for the first semester.

Music students must submit an audition tape comprised of two differing musical pieces. Placement at the Hochschule für Musik is dependent on approval by the faculty in Trossingen. The audition tape should be given serious attention and should be the best possible representation of the student's musical skills. Admission to the IP program does not guarantee admission to the Hochschule für Musik.

Students must be aware of the fact that language learning is a key element of all IP programs. Typically, beginning and intermediate German students will spend the fall semester studying German at the University of Tübingen. In the second semester, these students may transfer to another institution more appropriate to their major, or continue German language study while taking some university coursework at Tübingen. If they have sufficient language skills, they may enroll in regular university courses at a German institution offering courses in their major. If they do not possess the German skills necessary to take regular university courses, they may be able to arrange to take courses offered in English.

Business students will be very interested in the program at the Duale Hochschule Mosbach. Courses are taught in English in the field of Business Administration and Economics. Academic coursework is complemented by intensive on-the-job training in industry, giving students real-life experience in the European business world.

Foreign students entering German universities are normally required to take a test of German language proficiency, the Prüfung für Zeitstudenten. It is considered difficult and requires a strong grasp of textual analysis, vocabulary, literary, grammatical constructions and listening comprehension. Whether or not students are required to take the entrance exam is dependent upon their host institution placement.

Students must maintain maximum flexibility in program planning, as information about specific course offerings in the university departments is not available before departure.

At those CSU campuses that offer a minor in German and no major, it may be possible for a student to apply for a "special major" via petition, if a German instructor will support this.

There are internship opportunities. See the Cal State/Baden-Württemberg Exchange website for more information.

Undergraduate students are required to carry a minimum academic courseload of 15 units per term and a total of 30 semester/45 quarter units for the academic year. Units earned during the PLP are not counted in this courseload requirement. Students in the "Learn German" program must enroll in the entire block of coursework for the fall (shown in the IP Bulletin on the web) and the "intersession" course between the semesters.

Graduate students must carry a minimum of 12 units per term on condition that at least 6 of those units are taken at the graduate level; otherwise, graduate students must carry a courseload on the same basis as undergraduates as described above. Post baccalaureate students pursuing credentials or second undergraduate degrees are required to carry the same courseload as undergraduates as described above.

Graduate students should work closely with their CSU advisors to determine credit equivalencies. Refer graduate students to the "Academic Arrangements" section of the IP Participant Guide for more information.

ORIENTATION AND PREPARATORY LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Beginning and Intermediate students will begin their program with a two-day Orientation at the Youth Hostel in Tübingen. Then they will go to Horb, a small town not far from Tübingen, to attend a six-week Preparatory Language Program (PLP). Students live with host families during the PLP in order to increase their integration with the language and culture. Group outings are also included. The course concentrates on grammar, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, as well as verbal and written communication. The beginning and intermediate students generally transition to the University of Tübingen for the fall semester following the PLP in Horb.

Advanced students attend a four-week summer Preparatory Language Program (PLP). The location of the PLP for advanced students is dependent upon each individual student's academic year placement, with most going directly to their host institution for the PLP. Students are normally housed in the dorms during the PLP, and will be provided with this information prior to departure. All PLP courses offer instruction in grammar, reading, writing, conversation, and listening. They also include excursions and visits to places of cultural significance. At the conclusion of the PLP, advanced students enroll in regular university courses at the host institution they have been assigned to.

CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

Most German students are better informed about world affairs than American students, and it would be worthwhile to remind students to brush up on current events so that they will be able to participate in conversations with the new people they meet in Germany. (Read the New York Times, Time Magazine, etc.)

Splitting the bill in a restaurant or bar is more the rule than the exception in Germany! Women and men are both expected to pay their own ways. Never go out on a date with an empty wallet!!

True friendships are not offered lightly in Germany. Germans, as a rule, do not discuss personal matters with people whom they do not know very well. Personal feelings are expressed only to the most intimate friends.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

There is no CSU Resident Director in Germany. Instead, IP students work directly with the exchange program offices at the host universities, with the primary contact being the Department of International Relations at the University of Tübingen.

Be sure to read the Baden-Württemberg/Cal State website: www.uni-tuebingen.de/calstate-bw/.

Non-U.S. citizens may need to obtain a student visa and this process may take six to eight weeks. Students must consult the German Consulate and plan accordingly.

All applicants should apply for a passport at the same time they apply to the IP Program.

HOUSING

Students will be provided with more specific arrival information once they are accepted which will include detailed housing information. During the (Preparatory Language Program) PLP, IP students will stay in temporary housing arranged for them by IP. Beginning and intermediate students live with host families during the PLP in Horb. Advanced students usually live in the dorms during the PLP.

Permanent academic-year housing is arranged for participants by IP. Students usually live in university dormitories during the academic year, while some may live in rented rooms. Meals are available in low-cost student restaurants. Students will be provided with additional information once they are admitted to the program.

Please note that students with spouses or accompanying children will require extra consultation. University housing restrictions may apply.

CALENDAR (*APPROXIMATE DATES*)

Application deadline	February 1
Notification of acceptance	Early April
Program Start	Late August
Program End	Late July