



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

# Welcome to Universität Hamburg



## International Students' Guide



“Universität Hamburg’s campus is unique. It’s like a film, in which the University and the city just somehow melt together.”

“I really like the fact that people in Hamburg are very open to other cultures.”

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Welcome to  
Universität  
Hamburg



## A Word from the President

Dear Prospective Students,

So you want to spend a semester – or perhaps do your entire degree – abroad. We would like to congratulate you on a decision that will change your view of the world, your life, and you.

This brochure will help you take the next step: choosing the right place. We think Universität Hamburg, as North Germany's largest educational and research institution, is the place for you. Let me tell you why:

1. Universität Hamburg combines a broad course spectrum with excellent research. We offer a comprehensive range of subjects, from ancient Greek to zoology. Our researchers pursue interdisciplinary projects and collaborate with partners all over the world.
2. Universität Hamburg has a highly diverse student body, with 40,000 students from different countries and a variety of interests, talents and biographies.
3. Because Universität Hamburg values this diversity, we offer every student individual support. PIASTA, the Universitätskolleg, the Campus Center and other advising and counseling services provide all students with the support they need to study successfully.
4. Our campus is centrally located. If you study in Hamburg, you are but a stone's throw from the city center, the idyllic Alster



Prof. Dr. Dieter Lenzen, President

Lake and Hamburg's "in" districts with countless cafés, bars and small shops. Discover for yourself how much the city has to offer!

5. Universität Hamburg is a sustainable university. We are committed to sustainable research and all of our schools have taken great strides towards sustainability in research and teaching. Universität Hamburg assumes social responsibility and encourages its members to do so.

This brochure gives you an idea of what it is like to live and study in Hamburg. It also provides detailed information and useful tips about organizing your stay. Don't just read about us – get to know us personally.

Welcome to Universität Hamburg!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "D. Lenzen".



### **To research, to teach, to educate and form**

Universität Hamburg was established on 28 March 1919 by the Hamburg State Parliament, making it the first German university founded by a citizen body. In 1911, entrepreneur Edmund Siemers endowed what would later become the University's Main Building. His mission statement, "to research, to teach, to educate and form" is still engraved above the main entrance. Universität Hamburg remains committed to these principles and sees research and teaching as inseparable pursuits. Their interaction makes sustainable education possible.

### **Great diversity**

With 40,000 students, Universität Hamburg is Germany's third-largest university. Six schools with approximately 170 programs represent all the disciplines offered by a comprehensive university: Law; Economics and Social Sciences; Medicine; Education, Psychology and Human Movement; Humanities; Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences.

### **Centrally located**

The main campus is located in the heart of Hamburg, a stone's throw from the Alster Lake and Dammtor train station. University institutions located off campus include the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), the Center for Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (ZMAW), the Biocenter and the affiliated Botanical Gardens in Klein Flottbek, the Observatory in Bergedorf, Informatics in Stellingen and the Physics Institutes in Bahrenfeld, also home of the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), a research center of the Helmholtz Association.

### **International networks**

Universität Hamburg has an international approach to research and teaching. It cooperates, for example, with Aarhus University in Denmark, Stellenbosch University in South Africa, Macquarie University in Australia, the University of California Berkeley in the USA and St. Petersburg University in Russia. Roughly 4,900 students from nearly

134 different countries are enrolled at Universität Hamburg. The University maintains an international network with over 300 partner universities. It also participates in the European ERASMUS program and has numerous student and faculty exchange agreements with universities the world over.

### **Sustainable science and scholarship**

Universität Hamburg embraces sustainable science and scholarship and has developed its institutional strategy accordingly. This strategy strives to meet the twin challenge of environmental and cultural sustainability. It is also committed to sustainable approaches in teaching. Universität Hamburg places great value on a critical academic culture that encourages scientists and scholars to scrutinize the sustainability of their findings.



### **Center of academic expertise**

Universität Hamburg is North Germany's largest and most diverse center of research. Its research spectrum includes a wealth of individual achievements as well as interdisciplinary cooperation. One of its outstanding projects, which is dedicated to the pressing topic of the climate and climate change, is "Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction" (CliSAP), which, alongside other research institutions in Hamburg, forms the "KlimaCampus." In 2012, Universität Hamburg applied for a grant to establish a further "excellence cluster" (research project funded by the German Research Foundation), the "Hamburg Center for Ultrafast Imaging (CUI): Structure, Dynamics and Control of Matter at the Atomic Scale." This project is dedicated to the investigation of the movement of atoms in real time.

Universität Hamburg also has strong partnerships, such as PIER, the "Partnership for Innovation, Education and Research" which it maintains with the German Electron-Synchrotron (DESY). Both of these institutions cooperate further with the Max Planck Society in the Center for Free-Electron Laser Science (CFEL), a unique institution in Europe conducting research on – and using – the next generation of light sources.

The University also focuses on interdisciplinary projects in the Neurosciences, Multilingualism, Governance, Heterogeneity and Education as well as Infection Research.

Programs  
Schools  
Departments





## Degree Programs

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Studying at Universität Hamburg means having almost 40,000 classmates. It means a choice of over 70 bachelor's and 80 master's degree programs – from Ancient Greek to zoology – offered by six schools. Studying at Universität Hamburg means to research, to teach, to educate and form at one of Germany's largest universities.

Universität Hamburg offers bachelor's and master's degrees in virtually every subject. As an international center of science and academic pursuit, Hamburg is the ideal place to study.

Bachelor's programs are three-year (six-semester) programs leading to a bachelor of arts degree (BA for subjects in the humanities) or a bachelor of science degree (BSc for subjects in the natural sciences). Students wishing to enroll in a two-year master's (MA/MSc) program must have completed a bachelor's degree.

Bachelor's and master's programs are based on modules. Modules are self-contained units consisting of content-related courses and concluding with a final exam. Students who pass a module receive a certain number of achievement points ("Leistungspunkte" or LP), also known as credit points or ECTS points (European Credit Point Transfer System).

### **International and English-language programs**

Several of the consecutive master's programs as well as other post-graduate programs have an international approach and are taught either partially or entirely in English. These include the European Master in Law and Economics; the Erasmus Mundus Master's in Journalism, Media and Globalization; the Master of Politics, Economics and Philosophy; the International MA Program in South Asian Studies; the MSc in Integrated Climate System Science; and the MSc in Mathematical Physics. A few joint degree programs are currently being developed.

### **Online information**

You can find a comprehensive list of programs and degrees offered by Universität Hamburg in our electronic program guide: [www.uni-hamburg.de/program-guide](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/program-guide)

"Uni live!" invites prospective students to find out about some programs before they start studying. If you would like to get a first glimpse of academic life, you can find a selection of courses at: [www.uni-hamburg.de/unilive](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/unilive)

Short films for prospective and exchange students as well as videos of lectures provide further insight into studying in Hamburg: [www.uni-hamburg.de/short-films](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/short-films)

## School of Law

The School of Law is distinguished by its focus on European and international law as well as its interdisciplinary approach to the field of law. The School also places particular emphasis on economics and corporate law. To promote exchange between international and native German students, the School of Law has established a cross-school Buddy Net program.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/law](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/law)

## School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences

### Social Sciences

The Department of Social Sciences is distinguished by its interdisciplinary and international programs. The Department offers bachelor's programs in sociology and political science as well as master's programs in sociology; political science; international criminology and journalism and mass communication. It also offers the Erasmus Mundus Master's in Journalism, Media and Globalization.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/social-sciences](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/social-sciences)

### Business Administration

Comprised of eight bachelor's and five master's programs, the Department of Business Administration is one of Germany's most multi-faceted. Incoming students can improve their German skills in internationally-oriented courses and take courses taught in English. Courses also provide insight into the internationally well-connected Department's latest research.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/business-administration](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/business-administration)

### Economics

The Department of Economics (VWL) is distinguished by a strong, multifaceted focus on research, its international character and a broad range of subjects. The Department offers a BSc and an MSc in economics as well as two interdisciplinary and cross-school degree programs: the BA in the Economy and Culture of China and an MSc in Politics, Economics and Philosophy, which is also taught in English.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/economics](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/economics)

### Socioeconomics

The Department of Socioeconomics is distinguished by an interdisciplinary program with courses in business administration, economics, law and sociology. The BA program is also open to students who have not completed a secondary-school leaving degree. The Department offers a bachelor's program in socioeconomics and master's programs in international business administration, European studies, entrepreneurship, human resource management, economics and sociology.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/socioeconomics](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/socioeconomics)

## School of Medicine

The School of Medicine is committed to all facets of education in the medical arts and to the advancement of medicine. The University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE) offers degree programs in medicine and dentistry. Students in the medical program can participate in ERASMUS exchange programs. The UKE also offers internships and clinical traineeships.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/medicine](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/medicine)

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## School of Education, Psychology and Human Movement

### Education

Hamburg offers degree programs in teacher education as well as a variety of fields in education research. Students can specialize in: general education, international and intercultural comparative education; school education, social pedagogy, special needs education and educational psychology; adult education; vocational and economic education; the history of education; gender and empirical education research; media education and teaching language, arts, social studies and the natural sciences.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/education](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/education)

### Psychology

The Department is especially attractive for international students, who can choose select courses from a wide range of subjects in both the bachelor's and master's programs and have the credits transferred to their home universities. International guest lecturers strengthen the department's international focus.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/psychology](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/psychology)

### Human Movement Science

The Department of Human Movement Science offers the international MA of Human Movement Science with a Focus on Health Research. This program combines classroom instruction with project-based work. Special emphasis is placed on the ability to develop, implement and evaluate ideas in various fields of health.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/human-movement](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/human-movement)

### Teacher Education

Universität Hamburg offers teacher training for all different types of schools and educational levels. Students can choose from 22 subjects in over 200 different combinations. Unique in Germany, students receive both teaching and subject qualifications in the Department of Education. The program is also offered at the bachelor's level for all teaching degrees. Practical training in the schools is an essential part of both the bachelor's and master's program in teacher education.

[www.zlh-hamburg.de](http://www.zlh-hamburg.de)

## School of Humanities

### **Protestant Theology**

The Department is home to the internationally unique Theology of Peace Churches and Church and State research centers. It cooperates closely with the Academy of Mission, which offers scholarships to doctoral students from abroad. The Academy also offers courses on subjects in the field of worldwide Christendom and interreligious dialogue. The Institute for Mission, Ecumenism and Religion Studies organizes events on global Christianity and various religion-related topics.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/theology](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/theology)

### **Languages, Literature and Media I+II**

These Departments focus on European languages, literatures and media as well on various regions in the Americas, Asia and Africa where European languages are spoken. The programs include courses on sign language and offers training in sign language interpreting.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/slm](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/slm)

### **History**

Approximately 60 scholars teach and do research in the Department of History, which has 1,800 students of ancient, medieval, German, European and non-European history. The Department cooperates closely with the Research Centre for Contemporary History, the Institute for the History of Jewish Life in Germany, the German Institute of Global and Area Studies, the Institute for the Culture and History of the Germans in North Eastern Europe, the Center for the History of Universität Hamburg and the Hamburg Institute of Social Research.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/history](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/history)

### **Philosophy**

The Department of Philosophy offers a wide range of courses in theoretical and practical philosophy as well as the history of philosophy. It places special emphasis on analytical philosophy, political philosophy and ethics. The Department also hosts lectures (e.g. the C.F. von Weizsäcker Lectures and the Casirer Lectures) by internationally renowned scholars, organizes lecture series and offers summer school programs.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/philosophy](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/philosophy)

### **Cultural History and Contemporary Culture**

The subjects taught in the Department cover various forms of cultural production and expression, from music and images to the rules and rituals of everyday life. Its bachelor's and master's programs include classical archaeology, cultural anthropology, art history, systematic musicology, historical musicology, pre- and early history and social and cultural anthropology.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/culture](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/culture)

### **Asien and African Studies**

The Asien-Afrika-Institut (AAI) is Germany's largest university center for Asian and African studies. It offers a wide range of international BA and MA programs focusing on the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia. These programs require students to study abroad. Many of the MA programs are taught in English, promoting comprehensive language skills and knowledge of a region's culture and society.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/aai](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/aai)

## School of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences

### Biology

Biology, the science of living organisms, is one of the key disciplines of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Biological research is indispensable for tackling challenges such as climate change and the sustainable use of biological resources. The Department offers programs in biology, the wood sciences, applied and molecular botany and marine ecosystem and the fisheries sciences.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/biology](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/biology)

### Chemistry

The Department of Chemistry ranks among Germany's largest chemistry departments and is one of the leading centers of education and research in the north of the country. It offers an extensive range of courses in chemistry, food chemistry, the molecular life sciences, the nano-sciences and pharmacy as well as various teacher training programs.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/chemistry](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/chemistry)

### Geosciences

The Department's research and teaching revolve around the earth as a system. It focuses especially on marine and climate research as well as urban and regional research. The Department has programs in geography, geophysics, geophysics and oceanography, physical oceanography, the geosciences and meteorology. The interdisciplinary MSc in Integrated Climate System Sciences is taught largely in English.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/geosciences](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/geosciences)

### Informatics

The Department of Informatics is characterized by a broad range of research and teaching topics in various fields of informatics. Its English-language master's degree program, Intelligent Adaptive Systems, targets international students. Several interdisciplinary programs establish connections to the fields of economics, psychology and the natural sciences.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/informatics](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/informatics)

### Mathematics

The Department's research focuses on algebraic, geometric and discrete structures, optimization, partial differential equations and risk management in complex systems. It offers BSc degrees in mathematics and business mathematics and research-oriented MSc degrees in mathematics, mathematical physics and business mathematics. A BSc/MSc program in industrial mathematics is also offered in cooperation with the Hamburg University of Technology.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/mathematics](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/mathematics)

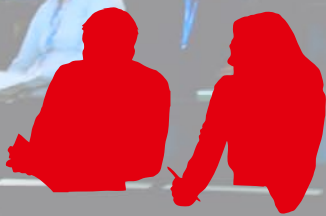
### Physics

Outstanding teaching and research in the Department of Physics have led to influential and lasting contributions to science at the highest international level. The bachelor's and master's degrees programs in physics and the nanosciences are closely linked to current research and impart a sound understanding of physics as well as the ability to independently analyze and creatively solve complex problems.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/physics](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/physics)



Study  
Exchange  
Support



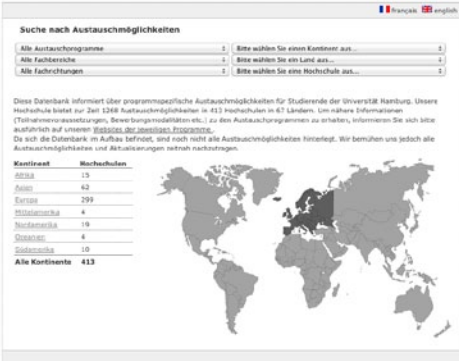
## Exchange Programs

Universität Hamburg welcomes all international students, whether they want to pursue a first degree, supplement a bachelor's degree with a German master's degree, complete doctoral studies or simply enjoy the ultimate ERASMUS experience.

### ERASMUS

ERASMUS is an acronym for European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students. ERASMUS is the European Union's mobility program in education and training and one of the best-known EU-based programs. It was established in 1987 and has since enabled more than two million students from across Europe to study in other countries. Each semester Universität Hamburg welcomes up to 300 exchange students from its European partner universities.

Students who want to study at Universität Hamburg through the ERASMUS Program should apply to the ERASMUS coordinator at their home university. For advice on enrollment, please contact the ERASMUS program officers in Universität Hamburg's academic departments. Program representatives can also answer questions online. You can find detailed application information at: [www.uni-hamburg.de/erasmus](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/erasmus)



The screenshot shows a search interface for ERASMUS opportunities. At the top, there are language options: français and english. Below that, the title is 'Suche nach Austauschmöglichkeiten'. There are three search filters: 'Alle Austauschprogramme' (2), 'Alle Fachbereiche' (2), and 'Alle Fachrichtungen' (2). To the right, there are three selection options: 'Bitte wählen Sie einen Kontinent aus...' (2), 'Bitte wählen Sie ein Land aus...' (2), and 'Bitte wählen Sie eine Hochschule aus...' (2). Below the filters, there is a paragraph of text in German: 'Diese Datenbank informiert über programmspezifische Austauschmöglichkeiten für Studierende der Universität Hamburg. Unsere Hochschule bietet zur Zeit 1248 Austauschmöglichkeiten in 413 Hochschulen in 67 Ländern. Um nähere Informationen (Stipendienverordnungen, Bewerbungsmodalitäten etc.) zu den Austauschprogrammen zu erhalten, informieren Sie sich bitte ausführlich auf unseren [Statistiken über Austauschprogramme](#). Da sich die Datenbank im Aufbau befindet, sind noch nicht alle Austauschmöglichkeiten hinterlegt. Wir bemühen uns jedoch alle Austauschmöglichkeiten und Aktualisierungen zeitnah nachzutragen.' Below the text is a table with two columns: 'Kontinent' and 'Hochschulen'. The table lists: Afrika (15), Asien (42), Europa (299), Ozeanien (4), Nordamerika (19), Südamerika (4), and Alle Kontinente (413). To the right of the table is a world map with Europe highlighted.

### Student exchange

Universität Hamburg participates in student exchange programs with partner schools in the USA, Canada, Mexico, South Africa, Australia, South Korea, Taiwan, Russia, and many countries in central, eastern and southeastern Europe. Students can take part in an exchange program if their university has an exchange agreement with Universität Hamburg. Stipends are also available for student exchange programs.

### Partner universities

The University's international network stretches across all continents and includes more than 300 partner universities. See our database for Universität Hamburg's international partner universities and individual exchange programs.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/exchange](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/exchange)

### **Pursue a degree at Universität Hamburg**

Prospective international students interested in pursuing a degree at Universität Hamburg can find detailed information and contact details at the Campus Center. The Campus Center has online information about applying, admissions, and studying. It can also provide detailed information about the accreditation of foreign secondary school qualifications and a list of subject advisors.  
[www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter)

### **Independent study abroad**

Foreign students who do not wish to enroll in a specific program at Universität Hamburg but would like to supplement their studies at their home university may spend up to two semesters at Universität Hamburg as so-called “free-movers.” Free-movers take courses without pursuing a degree or studying through a partnership or exchange program. Free-movers must be enrolled in a degree program at their home university and must find a faculty member in the respective program at Universität Hamburg to supervise their academic program throughout their stay.  
[www.uni-hamburg.de/freemover](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/freemover)



### **Doctoral students**

International students with a master's degree or equivalent may enroll in a doctoral program at Universität Hamburg. To be admitted as a doctoral student, candidates from abroad must find a professor from Universität Hamburg to act as their supervisor.  
[www.uni-hamburg.de/promotion](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/promotion)





## Hamburg state stipends

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg provides financial aid to international students. The merit scholarship targets international students and graduates with outstanding academic records. These candidates can apply for a one-year stipend. In addition to outstanding academic achievement, this scholarship requires applicants to actively contribute to the internationalization of Universität Hamburg. International students can also apply for an examination scholarship in the final phase of their studies. This stipend is awarded for six or twelve months irrespective of the degree.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/scholarships](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/scholarships)

## External stipends

There are many foundations and organizations offering stipends to students wishing to study abroad. Criteria for financial support vary from institution to institution. These range from outstanding academic performance, subject, academic goals, and study location to birthplace and need. Financial support is often connected to a foundation's own program aims or areas of interest. Other organizations grant stipends to students from certain countries or for special doctoral and research projects.





### **Campus Center**

Current and prospective students as well as applicants will find all the information they need at the Campus Center. The Campus Center is home to Service for Students as well as Academic Advising and Psychological Counseling. For brief general inquiries please use our Service Point or Service Telephone. If you have a more complex question, our advisors will be happy to assist.

International and prospective students can contact Service for Students for information about specific subjects and degrees. Academic Advising provides comprehensive information about programs, in particular current programs, studying generally, academic aptitude, admission requirements and restrictions, curricula and degrees.

#### **Information online:**

[www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter)

#### **Email queries:**

[www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter/kontakt](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/campuscenter/kontakt)

#### **Telephone information:**

Service Telefon +49-40-42838-7000

#### **Advising hours:**

Alsterterrasse 1, third floor

### **Department of International Affairs**

The Department of International Affairs provides comprehensive information and individual advising to international students, doctoral students, and graduates of Universität Hamburg in all matters relating to residency and work permits, part-time work, internships, launching a career, problems dealing with government authorities, or difficult personal and academic situations.

We also offer free legal advice from an external attorney on matters relating to studying such as visas, extending residency permits, accommodations, work permits, and staying in Germany after you have completed your studies. Furthermore, we offer psychological counseling tailored to the needs of international students.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/international-affairs](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/international-affairs)

### **Universitätskolleg**

“Bridges to university, paths to science and scholarship” is the leitmotif of the Universitätskolleg. The Universitätskolleg focuses on the transition from secondary school or work to academic study. It pools school-based and interdisciplinary activities for first-year students in order to improve students’ academic aptitude and prepare the way for a “general studies” program.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/unikolleg](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/unikolleg)

### **Career Center**

The Career Center can help you master the transition from university to professional life. Students, alumni, and young scholars can lay the groundwork for a career in Germany, creatively and decisively.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/careercenter](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/careercenter)

**PIASTA Intercultural Living and Learning**

PIASTA is an intercultural team in the Department of International Affairs. We promote internationalization and cultural exchange at Universität Hamburg and provide assistance to both German and international students.

The Welcome and Culture Program encourages students to discover Hamburg, the University, and the entire world in all of its cultural diversity. The Training and Coaching Program imparts the skills needed to study, pursue a doctorate, or gain a professional foothold in a career. Information and Advising deals with legal, financial, and psychological concerns. The PIASTA Network is especially important: students can use this resource to make new friends or find out about jobs and internships.

Our courses and events are almost entirely organized by students for students – including doctoral candidates and alumni. Our team consists of experienced tutors who advise, inform, and support you in a number of different languages. We can help you get your bearings, answer your questions, and tackle your problems.

Discover PIASTA and help us create an intercultural world!

[www.uni-hamburg.de/piasta](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/piasta)

**International Welcome Week**

The PIASTA Team at Universität Hamburg invites all international and German first-year students to International Welcome Week at the start of the semester. Our lively program will help you get to know both Hamburg and the University, and provides you with an opportunity to meet other new students. Activities include guided campus and city tours, excursions in Hamburg, information sessions, cultural activities, and much, much more.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/welcome](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/welcome)

**Language Compass**

Would you like to improve your German? The Language Compass provides information about language courses and workshops at Universität Hamburg, the Language Tandem Program, as well as tips for aptitude tests and language acquisition.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/language-compass](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/language-compass)

**Campus Hamburg**

It is not easy to find suitable and affordable housing in Hamburg by the time the semester starts. We recommend that you start looking for accommodations before you are admitted. Campus Hamburg, Universität Hamburg's online site, is Hamburg's largest student housing site.

[www.campus-hamburg.de](http://www.campus-hamburg.de)

**Welcome brochure**

Our brochure "Welcome to Universität Hamburg – First steps for new students" contains information about living in Hamburg, registering with the authorities, obtaining a study-based residency permit, health insurance, setting up a bank account, enrolling, and starting your program.

[www.uni-hamburg.de/piasta/welcome.pdf](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/piasta/welcome.pdf)



## Hamburg

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Photo: www.mediaserver.hamburg.de, C. Spahr/bier



### **A great place to live**

For many people, Hamburg is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Extensive waterways and green parks provide endless opportunities for recreation. Its cosmopolitan and maritime flair contribute substantially to the quality of life.

### **City on the water**

Almost 2,500 bridges cross the countless waterways between the Elbe, the Alster and the Bille Rivers. What better way to discover Hamburg than by water? Boat tours from the Landungsbrücken take you through the historical Speicherstadt and Europe's second-largest harbor.

### **Gateway to the world**

Since the harbor was established more than one thousand years ago, Hamburg has continued to blossom into an open, worldly, and hospitable city. When the aspiring merchant city joined the Hanseatic League in the fourteenth century, it not only became a major center of power in the North Sea and Baltic

Sea regions: Hamburg also arose as a “global player” or world city. Today, the Hanseatic “gateway to the world” is one of the European Union's most dynamic cities, attracting countless international corporations and institutions. About 250,000 people from 185 countries – known as “Hamburgers by choice” – currently live on the Alster and the Elbe. Hamburg will continue to be the place of choice for the world's movers and shakers.



Photo: www.mediaserver.hamburg.de, M. Zapf

## The essence of Hamburg

Hamburg is a vibrant, eclectic city well worth taking the time to discover. The “real” Hamburg lies just beyond the major tourist destinations and offers countless places to eat and shop, a vast array of entertainment, exciting nightlife, and endless, beautiful parks along the Alster and the Elbe.

## Hamburg’s hot-spots

Hamburg’s legendary nightlife is humming with artists and creative personalities. A new location is always setting new trends, whether in one of the “in” bars or hip beachclubs in the Schanzenviertel, Ottensen, St. Georg, or St. Pauli. The heart of Hamburg, along the banks of the Elbe, has a truly Mediterranean feel to it.

## The Reeperbahn

The world-famous Reeperbahn in St. Pauli has long become an attractive amusement strip with much more to offer than just a red-light district. The scene and the music – whether the legendary Star Club and the Beatles, the Golden Pudel Club, or the Mojo Club – have always been ahead of the times. Contemporary theater, popular musicals, and rousing cabaret are some of the boulevard’s major attractions.

## Cultural diversity

Hamburg’s cultural life is extraordinarily diverse; the city offers everything from small-scale and avant-garde theater to world-class concerts, opera, and ballet. Numerous conveniently located museums near the Alster entice visitors to stroll and discover

Hamburg’s lively collection of historic and contemporary art.

## Between the Elbe and the Alster

Almost everything that makes Hamburg so attractive can be found on the Elbe: the beach just off the Elbe River path, which starts in Altona and takes you beyond the city’s borders; the St. Pauli Landungsbrücken, teeming with tourists, floating museums, and captains shouting: “Harbor tours here!” The Alster, on the other hand, ripples along peacefully through the heart of Hamburg. People jog, walk, bike and stroll along its paths, picnic on its expansive, grassy banks, barbecue, sunbathe, and party. On clear, sunny days, you cannot see the water for all the sail boats.



Photo: [www.mediaserver.hamburg.de](http://www.mediaserver.hamburg.de), S. Schwarze

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“The grants I received from Universität Hamburg opened a lot of doors which I couldn't have opened without financial support.”

“I think that international students are really well informed since the University offers so many advising services.”

