**Heidelberg University - Information Sheet for Student Exchange Program 2015**

### General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of University</th>
<th>Universität Heidelberg (Heidelberg University)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Profile</strong></td>
<td>Founded in 1386, Heidelberg University is Germany's oldest university. It is a comprehensive research-oriented institution with a strong focus on interdisciplinary studies. Heidelberg University offers over 160 study programs in the humanities, the social sciences, law, natural sciences, and the life sciences, including medicine. More than 30,000 Students study at Heidelberg University. Among them, ca. 5,000 International Students. (ca. 50% European, 30% Asian, 12% North/South American, 5% Africa) Rankings: 49th Worldwide, 1st in Germany (QS and Shanghai Rankings 2014)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Official websites

- [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de)
- [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/university/](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/university/)

### Website for exchange-related information

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

### Academic Calendar

- Winter semester: October 1st to March 31st
- Summer semester: April 1st to September 30th
- Preparatory Language Course: September/March (4 weeks/80+ hours of instruction)
  - [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/date/dates.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/date/dates.html)
### Exchange Coordinator for students from the USA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th>Ms. Elisabeth Trnka-Hammel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phone/ Fax</strong></td>
<td>+49 6221 54 2172 / +49 6221 54 2332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Address</strong></td>
<td>Seminarstrasse 2, Room 130 A D - 69117 Heidelberg GERMANY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E-mail</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:elisabeth.trnka@zuv.uni-heidelberg.de">elisabeth.trnka@zuv.uni-heidelberg.de</a></td>
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### Application

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Application form</strong></th>
<th><strong>Application materials</strong> will be sent by the International Relations Office to the partners via email. The application package includes the Registration Form for the Preparatory Language Course for Exchange Students as well as the Application for Housing.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deadline for application</strong></td>
<td>Fall / Winter: June 15</td>
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<td><strong>Application procedure</strong></td>
<td>All incoming exchange students need the following documents for formal admission to Heidelberg University:</td>
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<td>- nomination letter from home institution</td>
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<td>- application form for exchange students, available from the exchange coordinator at Heidelberg University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- transcript of records</td>
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</table>

After the application has been processed, a letter of admission will be sent directly to the student around late June/early July for Fall and late January/early February for Spring.

### Suggested length of study for exchange

- at least one semester
- participation in preparatory language course (September/March) is strongly recommended (see below).

### Procedure of applying for student visa

Citizens of the USA, Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, and EFTA countries do not need a VISA to travel to Germany but may apply for their residence permit after their arrival in Germany. Citizens of other countries have to apply for their VISA before travelling to Germany.

Documents needed from home to apply for a residence permit:
- Letter of sufficient funding from bank
- Proof of health insurance (if provided from home country)
## Academics

<table>
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<th>Programs and courses offered to exchange students</th>
<th>A list of the fields of study offered at Heidelberg University can be found at: <a href="http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/academicprograms/index.html">http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/academicprograms/index.html</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Courses not available to exchange students include the following: | • courses offered at the school of medicine and dentistry  
• courses in law  
• some courses in biosciences (restrictions may apply—see coordinator)  
* Exceptions can be made only with permission from coordinator in Heidelberg  
** Please note that Heidelberg University does not offer programs in Business or Engineering. |

### Course Catalog

Information on the course offerings for the coming semester will be available online a few months before the lecture periods start. However, course catalogs from previous semesters give a general overview of the courses offered at Heidelberg University.

Courses can be found at: [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/imstudium/vorlesungen/](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/imstudium/vorlesungen/) or [http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=user&type=0&noDBAction=y&init=y](http://lsf.uni-heidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=user&type=0&noDBAction=y&init=y)

### Language of Instruction

Typically, courses are taught in the German language. However, there are several fields of study with a (large) variety of courses taught in English. i.e. English Studies, American Studies, Economics, South Asian Studies, Transcultural Studies. Many Masters programs in the field of science are also taught in English.(see link below) [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/interesse/faecher/master_en.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/interesse/faecher/master_en.html)

Some of these course may also be available for advanced Bachelor students.

To search for courses offered in English please follow these instructions: 
→ click Search for Lectures→ Change Term if necessary (past semesters can also be searched by changing the term)→click Language of Instruction and change to English→ click Start Search to begin searching for courses.

*please note that searching for a specific department, the department must be written in German.

There is no minimum German language requirement for exchange students from US partner institutions!
## German Language Instruction

| Preparatory Language course | Exchange students may take part in a 4-week intensive language course at the International Study Center before the start of the semester (offered in September for fall semester students and in March for spring semester students).  
The program includes 80 hours of language instruction at all levels (basic, intermediate and advanced). All courses contain exercises dealing with German grammar, conversation, reading and writing, listening comprehension, lexis, phonetics, regional and cultural studies, and information about studying in Heidelberg.  
**The fee for this course is covered by the International Relations Office for exchange students.** |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| German Language Instruction | Students who need additional support regarding their German language proficiency during the lecture period are offered a large variety of different language programs at the University's International Study Center (ISZ).  
Students may choose between a 4 and an 8 hour per week general German language course. In addition, the ISZ has a large variety of subject-related courses all exchange students may take part in.  
These courses complement the regular courses offered at the University. All students are allowed to attend both the German language courses as well as the subject-related courses offered by the ISZ (see attachment). |
| Intensive German Language Course | Students without or with limited German language experience have the opportunity to attend a full time intensive (20 hour per week) language course in which 24 ECTS can be earned per semester.  
*A shortened option may be available upon request in the fall semester to permit US students to return to their home institutions for the winter/spring semester. (18-20 ECTS)* |
| Intercultural German Studies (Germanistik in Kulturvergleich) | The Institute for German as a Foreign Language Philology (IDF) offers degree programs for non-native German speakers as well as a wide variety of courses especially developed for exchange students. Exchange students will find courses geared to improve both language competency as well as a large variety of German studies courses. (Literature, Art, Cultural Studies, Linguistics, History, etc.) Please see: [Lehrangebot für Kurzzeitstudierende](#) |

*Lehrangebot für Kurzzeitstudierende*
### Student Life

| Accommodation | Exchange students are privileged to receive guaranteed student housing. Living in student residences is the most affordable and most convenient way of living in Heidelberg as an exchange student and all exchange students are encouraged to consider this option.  

**Types of accommodation:**  
- single room sharing kitchen and bathrooms in groups of 2 – 4  
- single room in dormitories  
- small number of single apartments  

For more information please see: [http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/wohnheime](http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/wohnheime) |
| Fees of student housing | Approx. 200 – 350 EURO / Month  
450 EURO refundable deposit |
| Special housing needs | Students who have special housing needs due to a disability, allergy or other health problems should inform the exchange coordinator and indicate this on their application. |
| Cost of Living / Financial Planning | Approx. 670- 800 EURO per month  
Please refer to the information given on this website: [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html) |
| Insurance | **Health insurance** is compulsory for all Heidelberg University students. Students must either bring sufficient health insurance coverage from their country of residence or take out health insurance in Germany.  

Avg. price of **comprehensive** insurance per month: 80 EURO  
*state insurance in Germany is very comprehensive!  
**students aged 30 and above do not qualify for state health insurance and have to purchase private insurance [http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html#planning](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/prospective/admission_int/guide/pre-departure_information.html#planning)  
https://www.studentenwerke.de/sites/default/files/gesundheitswoerterbuch.pdf  
Students are also strongly recommended to take out **personal liability insurance** (Haftpflichtversicherung) for their stay in Germany, as well as **extra insurance coverage** at home for the period between arrival and enrolment at Heidelberg University. |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extra-curricular activities</th>
<th>Students at Heidelberg University can pursue a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. Other extra-curricular activities include:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sports</strong>: There are over 100+ sporting activities and fitness programs offered through the university</td>
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<td><strong>Excursions</strong>: Giving students the opportunity to travel around Germany at very affordable prices. Trips normally take place on weekends and are a good opportunity to experience German culture and meet other international students. <a href="http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/contact/aaa/aaa_services.html">http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/courses/contact/aaa/aaa_services.html</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Central Language Lab (Zentrales Sprachlabor)</strong>: If you are interested in learning another language while you are in Heidelberg. <a href="http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/">http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Studierendenwerk offers a large selection of activities outside of the University:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/kultur">http://www.stw.uni-heidelberg.de/kultur</a></td>
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