

Fact Sheet 2021-22



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DARMSTADT

Exchange Overseas | January 2021

1. Contact details

University Homepage www.tu-darmstadt.de

International
Relations & Mobility www.tu-darmstadt.de/international/

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International Relations & Mobility (VIIIc)
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Contact persons Dr. Jana Freihöfer, Head of International Relations & Mobility

Christian Tischer (Incomings): America, Asia-Pacific
overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Julia Fitzthum (Outgoings): America
Marike Bölke (Dagmar Bergwitz: on maternal leave) (Outgoings):
overseas-out@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

2. COVID-19 at TU Darmstadt

- Health and safety of students and staff is our primary concern.
 - **Summer semester 2021: Teaching is online!**
 - **Options for student exchange:**
 - Online: You take part in TU Darmstadt classes online while not coming to Darmstadt. Online courses are held in German language with a selection of courses also offered in English language. Online classes are asynchronous (independent of the local time) or synchronous (taught at the Darmstadt local time - Central European Time). Exams are proctored (if supervision at your home university is possible) or held as oral online examinations.
 - **Not available for Summer semester 2021! Presence at Darmstadt (with mostly online courses):** You come to Darmstadt and take part in classes at TU Darmstadt. Most of the classes will be online and only some, if the pandemic situation allows, will be taught in presence. Courses are held in German language with a selection of courses also offered in English language. Online classes are
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asynchronous (independent of the local time) or synchronous (taught at the Darmstadt local time - Central European Time). Exams are written in presence. E-exams are in development and will be rolled out soon.

- Please choose one of the two options in the online application
- The semester contribution applies to both options.

We understand that depending on the situation in your home country or in Darmstadt, you might not be able to come to Darmstadt, even though you intended to do so. Please note that the online option would still be available to you. However, if certain deadlines are passed, a refund for costs such as for example accommodation might be impossible.

Coming to Darmstadt

When you are planning traveling to Germany please check the following information here:

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/coronavirus/2317268> and here

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/civil-protection/coronavirus/travel-restrictions-border-control/travel-restriction-border-control-list.html#f13919566> also check the website of your local embassy

- Students are allowed to enter because the teaching and the exams are not completely online
- There is a mandatory quarantine for students entering Germany from risk areas
- Risk areas are defined [here](#)

3. Eligibility

- Degree seeking student status at a partner institution maintained throughout the stay at TU Darmstadt
- Completion of 2 years in an undergraduate program before the start of the study program at TU Darmstadt
- Nomination for the exchange through home institutions International Office
- Applicant must be a student of good academic standing

4. Application

The application at TU Darmstadt is an online application, accompanied with a nomination email by the coordinator from the home university. Only complete applications are processed. For further information: www.tu-darmstadt.de/incoming

Nomination deadline

- For winter semester: March 31
- For summer semester: October 31

Application deadline

- **For winter semester: April 30**
- **For summer semester: November 30**
- Regular Exchange Students: Please choose “Exchange” as type of framework in the section “Current studies and requested stay”.
- Double-Degree Students from Brazil/China/Indonesia: Please choose “DD-XXX” as type of framework.

After receiving the complete application documents, we will issue a letter of admission (“Zulassung”) which will be sent via email to the incomings exchange student and the home university approx. 4 weeks after receipt of your documents. The admission letter is important for your visa application/residence permit; please bring it with you to Darmstadt.

5. Visa

International students who do not come from a member state of the European Union (EU) usually need a visa before travelling to Germany. Make sure your passport is valid until at least 6 months after the end of your study program in Germany. Please contact the German embassy of your home country at least three months prior to your departure to Germany in order to obtain information on the specific visa regulations of your home country.

Students from the Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Singapore, Taiwan, Uruguay and the US can enter Germany without a visa. Students who plan to reside within Germany and the European Schengen Area for MORE than 90 days are required to apply for a residence permit after arrival in Germany.

All students with non-EU citizenship need to proof that they have sufficient financial means to live in Germany. You are required to have at least €853 per month that you reside in Germany. There are two ways to prove that:

1. **Scholarship:** proof of a (full-) scholarship, stating duration and amount of monthly allowances
2. **Self-financed stay:** limited-withdrawal bank account (also known as **blocked account**)

More information about the necessary steps for visa and the proof of financial means on our [website](#).

6. Health Insurance

Exchange students studying at TU Darmstadt for one or two semesters and double degree students **are required to purchase a statutory German health insurance** (Gesetzliche Krankenversicherung) in order to be able to register as a student at TU Darmstadt.

Further information for [Degree-Seeking Students](#) as well as [Exchange students from Non-European Countries](#) can be found on our website.

- The insurance coverage is for one full semester (winter semester: October 1 – March 31; summer semester: April 1 – September 30) and will automatically continue if not canceled.
- Every German statutory health insurance charges the same rate for students. TU Darmstadt cooperates with the health insurance “Techniker Krankenkasse”.
- It is possible to sign up for the health insurance in advance if you need a confirmation for the visa application.

Travel Insurance:

- Students have to purchase a travel health insurance to have cover for times and places that are not covered by the health insurance of your home country and the statutory German health insurance.
- Students participating in the Intensive German Language Course in September (winter semester) and March (summer semester) are not covered by the statutory German health insurance and therefore must buy additional travel insurance before the departure to Germany.

7. Academic Year

You can find an overview of current and next semesters on our [website](#).

Winter semester: October to February (Orientation and language course in September, exams February and March)

Summer semester: April to July (Orientation and language course in March, exams July to September)

Exam periods: In case exchange students leave before the examination period, there are two options:

- The student arranges an earlier (oral) exam with the TU Darmstadt professor.
 - The student arranges a proctored exam at their home university with the TU Darmstadt professor.
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8. Arrival/Orientation/German language course

- The arrival day is the first working day in September or March.
- Orientation programme “The Experience Weeks” for incoming exchange students, starting on the second working day in September (for the winter semester), respectively March (summer semester). More information here: [website](#).
- Simultaneously with the X-Weeks, we offer a 4-week Intensive German language course for all international students. The courses are free of charge. Additionally, continuing German language courses are offered throughout the semester (also free of cost).

9. Accommodation

Accommodation in dormitories of Studierendenwerk Darmstadt is available, but cannot be guaranteed due to limited capacities. The unit in charge of room allocation is the [“Welcome and Housing Department”](#) offering assistance to international exchange students in finding adequate accommodation.

10. Costs

Exchange students are exempt from paying tuition but required to pay a service contribution of approx. €220 per semester. The amount includes free public transport in the larger Rhine-Main Metropolitan area and access to the services of Studierendenwerk Darmstadt (cafeterias, dorms and more). Further information and a general/rough breakdown of costs can be found on our [website](#).

11. Course load, grading, course calendar

Required Course Load and recognition of academic achievements

A German semester runs 24 weeks – 16 weeks of classes, 4-6 weeks self-study and preparation for exams and 3-4 weeks exam period. We recommend exchange students (graduate & undergraduate) to take between 18 ECTS and 30 ECTS per semester. Further information on ECTS credits and the recognition of your academic achievements can be found on our [website](#). The calculation of ECTS credits is explained [here](#).

Course Catalogue: published in August for winter and February for summer semester: <https://www.tucan.tu-darmstadt.de>

Upper right corner for English → Course Schedule; Choose “courses held in English” in the main catalogue.

[Further information on the departments, their courses, contact persons.](#)

12. Language Requirements for incoming exchange students

- English: B2 or better
 - German: we recommend A2 or better
 - The main language at TU Darmstadt is German. A growing number of courses is offered in English though.
 - Language levels are according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages ([CEFR](#)).
 - Further information about language requirements can be found on our [website](#).
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13. Special Programmes

For the following programmes different application deadlines and regulations apply:

Double Degree Programmes:

- [Double Degrees with Escola Politécnica of the University of São Paulo](#)
- [Double Degree Mechanical Engineering \(FZD\) with Tongji University Shanghai](#)
- [Double Degree Material Sciences with Tongji University Shanghai](#)
- [Double Degree Computer Science with Universitas Indonesia](#)

Short-Term Programmes

- [INSPIRED, the International Project Week for Interdisciplinary Research-Oriented Digital Learning](#)
- [International Summer University](#)
- [International Research Experience Programme IREP](#) selected partners only
- [Automotive Engineering Summer Germany AESG](#) selected partners only

Updated: January 2021
