

FACTSHEET 2026/2027





FULL LEGAL NAME OF INSTITUTION

Universität Potsdam | University of Potsdam

ERASMUS CODE

D POTSDAM01

INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT

International Office
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Deutschland / Germany

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INCOMING STUDENTS CONTACTS**Ms. Ute Minckert**

Incoming Exchange
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OUTGOING STUDENTS CONTACTS**Ms. Pia Kettmann & Ms. Julia Willfurth**

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NOMINATION DEADLINE

Winter semester/full academic year: April 15

Summer semester: October 15

NOMINATION FORM

Please nominate your students via our form in our nomination portal:
<https://potsdam.moveon4.de/locallogin/672cb62a03a0b22bc0d353ff/eng>

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS

Winter semester/full academic year: June 15

Summer semester: December 15

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

German: Generally B1 | Digital Engineering Faculty (HPI): C1 | Law Faculty: B2



Nomination and Application Procedure

- The partner university nominates its students via our nomination form:
<https://potsdam.moveon4.de/locallogin/672cb62a03a0b22bcbod353f/eng>
- Registration and login are required to access the form. For future nominations (e.g. next semester), the same login credentials can be used. A password reset is possible if needed.
- The University of Potsdam sends information about UPrepare to each nominated student.
- The student registers for UPrepare and completes all required tasks.
- The student submits the application within the given deadline.
- The student may apply for a room in a student dormitory via Studierendenwerk West:Brandenburg (Potsdam's Association for Student Affairs).
- The University of Potsdam sends an information email and confirmation of admission directly to the accepted student:
 - by the end of June for the winter semester
 - by the end of January for the summer semester.
- Please note: The confirmation of admission is not sent to the home university.

UPrepate

- UPrepare is our web-based information portal where nominated students are provided with all information to prepare their studies in Potsdam. Registration is obligatory. The portal is divided into "Tasks" and "Content." While "Content" is information to be checked on a voluntary basis, the "Tasks" have to be fulfilled by the students and serve as a guide for all steps to do until their departure. One of the "Tasks" is to fill out and send the application form within the deadline.
UPrepate portal: distributed-campus.org/uprepate

Housing

- Finding accommodation can be difficult, especially close to the start of the semester. Students should therefore arrange housing as early as possible.
- The best option for exchange students are the student dormitories of Studierendenwerk West:Brandenburg. Early registration for a dorm room is strongly recommended.
- Application periods start at the beginning of the previous semester:
 - Winter semester 2026/2027: applications open in early April 2026
 - Summer semester 2027: applications open in early October 2026
- Exact dates will be announced on the Studierendenwerk website: www.stwwb.de/en/housing/our-halls-of-residence#
- Information about dormitories, eligibility criteria, and the application process is available in UPrepare and on the Studierendenwerk Westbrandenburg website: www.stwwb.de
- Move-in is possible from October 1 (winter semester) or April 1 (summer semester).
- Students attending the German language course before the semester starts may move in from mid-September or mid-March.
- Moving in before these dates is not possible.

	WINTER SEMESTER 2026/27	SUMMER SEMESTER 2027
Deadline for application for a dorm room with the Studierendenwerk West:Brandenburg	Mid-June 2026	Mid-November 2026



General Dates and Deadlines

	WINTER SEMESTER 2026/27	SUMMER SEMESTER 2027
Semester start and end date	01.10.2026 – 31.03.2027	01.04.2027 – 30.09.2027
Arrival day	01.10.2026	01.04.2027
Orientation weeks	First two weeks of October	First two weeks of April
Start of lecture period	12.10.2026	12.04.2027
End of lecture period	05.02.2027	23.07.2027
Exam period	08.02.2027 – 26.02.2027	26.07.2027 – 13.08.2027
Recommended departure	Not before mid-February	Not before end of July

Holidays

October 3	German Unity Day	December 26	2 nd Christmas Day
October 31	Reformation Day	January 1	New Year
December 24	Christmas Eve	May 1	Labour Day
December 25	1 st Christmas Day		

Semester dates and holidays that change from year to year can be found via:

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/dates-and-deadlines/important-dates-and-deadlines-during-your-studies

Course Offer and Language of Instruction

Information on courses available for exchange students at the UP and language of instruction can be found via: www.uni-potsdam.de/en/international/incoming/international-students/exchange/international-course-offer

German Language Courses

- Language courses of all levels as well as subject-specific German courses are offered during the semester. Placement tests and registration take place during the orientation weeks.
- Special courses for foreign students of German Language and Literature are offered by the Department of German Studies. The registration takes place during the orientation weeks.
- A 2-week preparatory course prior to the semester start is offered to exchange students; the number of available places varies from semester to semester. Detailed information about the course and the application can be found in UPprepare.
- An overview of all German courses offered at the University of Potsdam:
www.uni-potsdam.de/en/international/incoming/learnde

	WINTER SEMESTER	SUMMER SEMESTER
Deadline for application for 2-week preparatory German course	15.07.2026 (extension upon request)	15.01.2027 (extension upon request)
2-week preparatory German course	last 2 weeks of September	last 2 weeks of March



Learning Agreement

- Learning Agreements are signed by the departmental exchange coordinators www.uni-potsdam.de/en/international/incoming/international-students/exchange/erasmus-coordinators
- Nominated Erasmus students are encouraged to use the Online Learning Agreement (OLA) and will be informed about the contact data required to fill out the OLA.

Transcript of Records

Please note that the courses and achievements of exchange students are not registered electronically. Accordingly, the International Office cannot automatically generate a transcript of records. Exchange students must provide the documents of their courses and achievements to the International Office, who will then issue a transcript of records. Students will be informed in a timely manner about the required steps for obtaining a transcript of records.

Certificate of Attendance

Since the International Office uses automatized systems to electronically provide exchange students with the relevant documents, we kindly ask our partner universities to accept these documents and appreciate your understanding that the International Office cannot issue individual document templates provided by the sending university.

Semester Fee

All international exchange students (also scholarship holders) have to pay a fee of approximately €310 per semester, which includes the semester ticket for free public transport across Germany. Neither tuition fees nor enrolment fees are charged.

Cost of Living

Monthly living expenditures for students at the University of Potsdam vary between approximately €600 and €1100; on average they amount to €940/month. The meals in the university canteens cost between €3 and €5. A public German health insurance costs around €140/month.

Health Insurance

All students who are under 30 years of age are obliged to present proof of a valid health insurance for enrolment at a university in Germany. Students should arrange their health insurance for Germany while still based in their home country (for example, by obtaining the European Health Insurance Card or registering with a German health insurance company).



Visa

Students who are neither citizens of an EU country nor of Iceland, Norway or Liechtenstein need a student visa for their studies in Germany and must apply for such at the German Embassy or at the German Consulate in their home country at least 6 weeks before arrival. Students coming from Andorra, Australia, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Canada, Monaco, New Zealand, San Marino, Switzerland, South Korea, the UK and the USA can enter Germany without a visa, but have to apply for a student residence permit at the local migration office within 90 days upon arrival in the EU. To receive a visa or a residence permit for Germany, students have to prove that they possess sufficient means to finance themselves during their planned stay. Students are expected to demonstrate funds of currently 992 Euro per month.

Buddy Program

International students can sign up for our Buddy Program. Our buddies are experienced students at the University of Potsdam, who assist international students before and during their stay in Potsdam. More information about our Buddy Program: www.uni-potsdam.de/en/international/service/buddy

UP free of discrimination

UP – a university for all: Equal opportunities and diversity are fundamental principles of the University of Potsdam. UP is dedicated to providing a fair and inclusive environment where students, teachers, and employees are treated equally and protected from discrimination based on age, ethnic background, disability or impairment, gender, sexual identity, religion or belief, or nationality. Various counseling services are available to support members of the UP community.

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/discrimination-free-university/consulting-and-support/counseling-services-at-the-university-of-potsdam/counseling-offers-for-students

The Campus

The University can be reached easily by bus, S-Bahn (urban railway) or regional train. Apart from the main university libraries, each department or faculty has its own library. There are student residences, cafeterias and canteens at the 3 main university locations:

Campus I, Am Neuen Palais

- Right next to Sanssouci Park
- History, Languages and Literatures, Media Studies, Sports, Philosophy, Religious Studies
- The entire university administration including the International Office and the president's office

Campus II, Golm

- Right next to the Science Park Golm and the train station
- Education Sciences, Earth Sciences, Geography, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Psychology, Music, Linguistics, Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science

Campus III, Griebnitzsee

- S-Bahn and train station Griebnitzsee
- Law, Economics, Social Sciences, Digital Engineering

More information at: www.uni-potsdam.de/lageplaene





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