Welcome to the Freie Universität Berlin
Study at a German University of Excellence

Advantages

At the Heart of Europe
Young people in particular are captivated by creativity and liveliness of Germany’s capital, where more than 335,000 students attend 14 public and 19 private universities. With its turbulent history, Berlin is a laboratory of the future and a testing ground for the latest trends, a place where art and pop art clash and where East and West meet spraying sparks.

Freedom and Internationality
The Freie Universität Berlin was founded in 1948 with international assistance in Berlin’s green southwest, as a free alternative to the old university in communist East Berlin. In keeping with its tradition, the university emblem still bears the Latin words Veritas, Justitia, Libertas (Truth, Justice, Freedom).

A University of Excellence
Today, the Freie Universität Berlin, with more than 32,000 students, competes creatively with renowned institutions in Europe and worldwide. A world-class research university and an international network university, the Freie Universität Berlin is one of the few institutions designated a “university of excellence” by the German government in 2007 after a nationwide competition. For its outstanding humanities and social sciences programs, the Freie Universität ranks among Germany’s top universities.

Traditionally Free
Customarily, Berlin’s public universities charge no tuition fees except for some Master’s programs. Students at the Freie Universität Berlin pay only ca 270 € per semester, which includes – among other privileges – free public transportation in Berlin and environs.

Testimonials from our Alumni

Lia (Brazil, Business Administration)
Berlin is a dream city for students! People from all over the world, so much culture, parties, budget prices, infrastructure, and one of the best faculties nationwide. One day at the Freie Universität, and you understand why it’s called excellent: a pleasant, modern campus, libraries, well-equipped lecture halls, sports and language courses for everyone, well-prepared and friendly professors, introductory programs for international students, and so many course options!

Abhinav (India, German Studies)
I wouldn’t hesitate to call the Freie Universität Berlin a paradise for students and academics. The value attributed to education and learning by the German Government is reflected in the facilities available for intellectual development at the FU, which is rightly deemed an institution of “excellence.” I found the wonderful learning atmosphere – with its highly qualified teachers and well-equipped library, its facilities available to all students – to be extremely stimulating.

Huy (Vietnam, Chemistry)
I came to FU Berlin to do my Ph. D. and found here not only a perfect place for research with modern equipment and distinguished professors but also a large number of international students which lead to feel a good environment for studying. After working here for three years, I am still pleased with my decision. In such a good order of organisation, I could work efficiently and feel free in the scientific seminar to share new ideas and friendly discuss them.

Maja (Poland, Economics)
My decision to come to the Freie Universität was the best one I’ve ever made. Not only did I receive an excellent education, I also enjoyed support when taking steps toward professional life. I liked the flexibility of studies and the wide-ranging, stimulating course offerings. Take it from me: a glimpse at the students seated beneath flowering fruit trees and absorbed in their work is all it takes to fall in love with the Freie Universität.
Degree Programs of the Freie Universität Berlin

Bachelor Programs
(major without minors)

Archaeological Sciences: Alternaturnswissenschaften
Egyptology Ägyptologie
Ancient Near Eastern Studies Altorientalistik
Classical Archaeology Klassische Archäologie
Prehistoric Archaeology Prähistorische Archäologie
Archaeology of the Near East Vorderasiatische Archäologie
Business Administration Betriebswirtschaftslehre
Quality Management Qualitätssicherung

Bachelor Programs
(major combined with one or two minors)

General and Comparative Literature Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft
German Literature Deutsche Philologie
English Language and Literature Englische Philologie
Film Studies Filmwissenschaft
French Language and Literature Französische Philologie
History Geschichte
Greek Language and Literature Griechische Philologie
Primary Education Grundschulpädagogik
Italian Language and Literature Italienische Philologie
Jewish Studies Judaistik
Art History Kunstgeschichte
South Asian Art History Ostasiatische Kunstgeschichte
East Asian Art History Ostasiatische Kunstgeschichte
Latin Language and Literature Lateinische Philologie
Greek Language and Literature Neogräzistik
Dutch Language and Literature Niederländische Philologie
North American Studies Nordamerikastudien
Modern Greek Language and Literature Neogräzistik
East Asian Art History Ostasiatische Kunstgeschichte

Admissions

Study with the Abitur
If you have an Abitur certificate, then the same regulations are valid as for German applicants, and you apply for most programs directly to the Freie Universität Berlin (www.fu-berlin.de/studium/bewerbung). For Pharmacy, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine only, you must apply via the Zentralstelle für die Vergabe von Studienplätzen (the German central office for the allocation of student placements, see: www.zvs.de).

Study with an IB
With an International Baccalaureate, you must apply via uni-assist (www.uni-assist.de), an institution which will check to see whether your IB is recognized as an equivalent to the Abitur. Your application can then be forwarded to the Freie Universität Berlin.

Language Requirements

Proof of German language proficiency is expected of all applicants. For a number of programs, knowledge of English too must be demonstrated (min. TOEFL IBT 80 p). Some programs require a higher level of English proficiency and/or a knowledge of other languages.

Applications

As a rule, programs begin in winter semester (mid-October). Only Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, and Pharmacy begin in both summer (starting in mid-April) and winter semesters. The application deadline for winter semester is usually the 15th of July, and the 15th of January for summer semester.

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