

# Study Exchange in Berlin



# Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

School of Business and Economics

HUMBOLDT-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
ZU BERLIN



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Unverkäufliches Exemplar

# Key facts and figures

## The German Higher Education System

There are 5 major types of higher institutions that compose the tertiary level in Germany, both public and private:

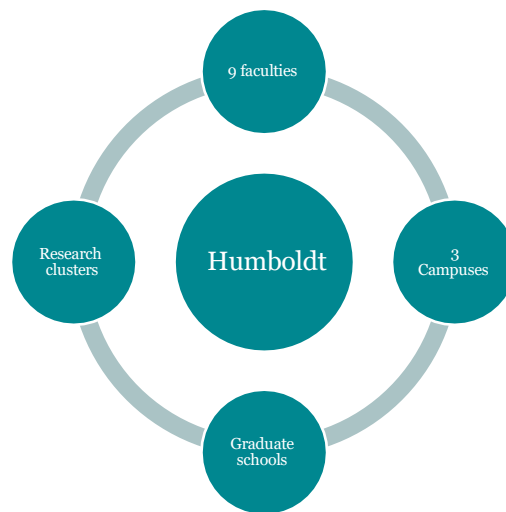
- **Universitäten** (or universities) mainly impart theoretical knowledge, the courses are very academically oriented. This category includes technical universities and colleges of education (*pädagogische Hochschule*).
- **Fachhochschule** (or *Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft*) are universities of applied sciences, which offer practice-oriented academic courses. The focus is more on professional application than theory, and the training is adapted to the requirements of professional life.
- **Kunsthochschule** are colleges for artistic subjects such as art, film, music, drama, visual arts or fashion design.
- **Schule des Gesundheitswesens** train members of non-physician health-care professionals.
- **Fachschule** are vocational schools at the tertiary level.

## Key indicators

- There are currently approximately **200 000 students in Berlin** (slightly less than in Rom) compared to slightly more than 100 000 in Munich, Hamburg or Cologne.
- **Law, Economics and social sciences are the biggest block** by far (lead by women)
- In 1960, in Germany there were 250 000 students. In 60 years this amount almost increased 12-fold (**2 868 000 students in the academic year 2023/24**).
- **470 000 are foreign born**, which makes more than 16% of all students enrolled countrywide (as of 2024).
- **135 000 German students follow a degree abroad** (as of 2021).
- Between 2020 and 2022, **5800 German students went on an Erasmus exchange to Spain** whereas **3300 Spanish students did it in Germany**.



The Humboldt Universität zu Berlin was **founded in 1810** on the initiative of the Prussian educational reformer Wilhelm von Humboldt, thus now being over 200 years old.



## Important facts:

- There are **171 degree-courses** on offer.
- Around **35 000 students** are enrolled, among which 5000 are international students from over 100 countries
- The university boasts **partnerships with over 170 science institutions** in the world
- Last but not least, the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin is a great beneficiary (among other selected institutions) of the German federal “excellence initiative” programme, which secures **extensive funding for research activities**.



All campus facilities related to social and economics sciences enjoy a central location.

The School of Business and Economics is located halfway between the university main building and the university main library also known as the “Grimm Zentrum” (picture on the left).

## School of Business and Economics



The origins of the School of Business and Economics date back to 1886 when the HU started a research group in statistics for political sciences. The first years of this institute were strongly influenced by political economists and statisticians.

Later, distinguished economists, among them Max Weber and Nobel laureate Wassily Leontief, became members of the

institute. In 1904, Berlin's business community decided to construct a building for a new commercial college on the grounds between Spandauer Straße, Neue Friedrichstraße, and Heilig-Geist-Gasse (one will get to know these streets soon enough after having visited a couple of times). The "Heilig-Geist-Kapelle" (Chapel of the Holy Ghost), believed to have been built around 1300 and rumored to be the oldest preserved building in Berlin, was integrated into the construction plan and therefore is still a part of the faculty building today. The "Berlin-Commercial College", as the school was called, was inaugurated in 1906. After World War II, Economics was added as a subject, although taught with a somewhat different content than what you might learn in today's classes as the school was situated in communist East Germany. After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the School of Business and Economics was re-opened in 1993 by an international commission under the direction of Prof. Wilhelm Krelle. The commission designed a research and teaching profile mandating a high academic standard, an international orientation, and an interdisciplinary as well as a quantitative, i.e. statistical-mathematical, focus.

Today, the School of Business and Economics is a very international School, with a highly international staff and many non-German students. As a matter of fact, about 40% of the students come from abroad. Of the many professors that work at the School of Business and Economics, many come from abroad and most of the professors have significant work experience abroad. The focus on internationalization is well demonstrated by the fact that in 1998, the School of Business and Economics offered one of the first international Master's program in Economics and Management Science (MEMS) in Germany.

The School of Business and Economics offers two Bachelor's programs in Business Administration and Economics and four Master's degree programs. Our Master's degree programs in Business Administration and Economics are entirely in English; 90% of the courses in the Master's degree programs in Statistics and Information Systems are in English. Furthermore, the School of Business and Economics also offers a doctoral program in collaboration with other universities in Berlin.

# Study programs and objectives



The programs draw on numerous international contacts and on the knowledge and experience of the distinguished German and foreign academics teaching at our school.

Both the **bachelor's degree programme in Business Administration** and the **bachelor's degree programme in Economics** offer a comprehensive basic business education and fundamental education in economic sciences with a quantitative and methodological focus.

The programme **Master of Science in Business Administration (completely in English language)** aims to provide students with necessary business management knowledge and skills to work successfully in an international and constantly changing economic environment whereas the programme **Master of Science in Economics** aims to convey the analytical skills and expertise of a quantitative-oriented economist interested in practical solutions to economic problems.

**The Master's Program in Information Systems** (*Wirtschaftsinformatik*) focuses on recent academic developments such as big data analytics. The courses provide the knowledge that is indispensable for the modern IT-characterized entrepreneurship.

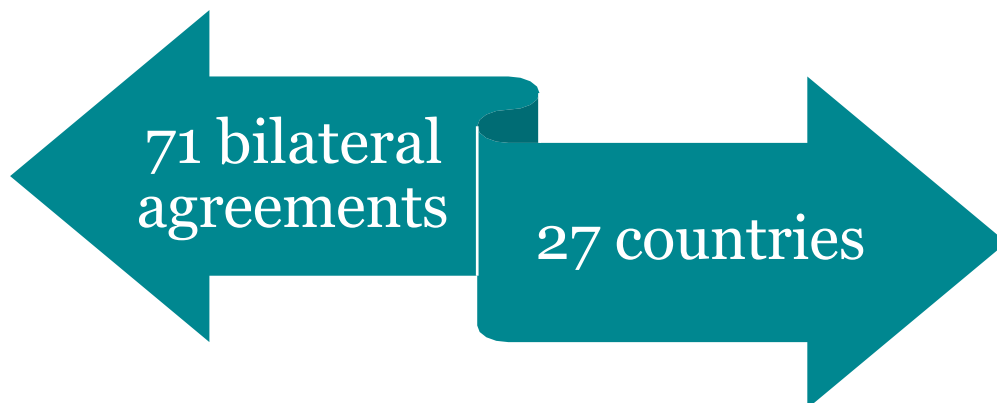
The **Masters of Science in Statistics** is a cooperation between the Technische Universität Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and Charité Berlin. It aims at providing a solid mathematical base in probability theory and mathematical statistics. It covers various courses such as Econometrics, Biometrics, survey statistics or quantitative methods on financial markets.

# Overview of the course offer at our school

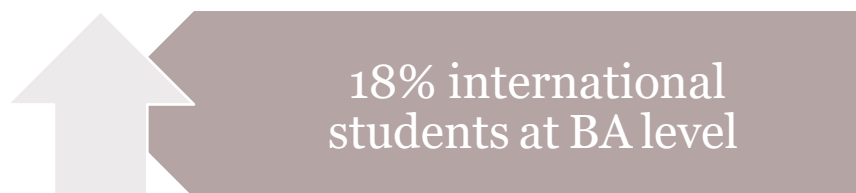
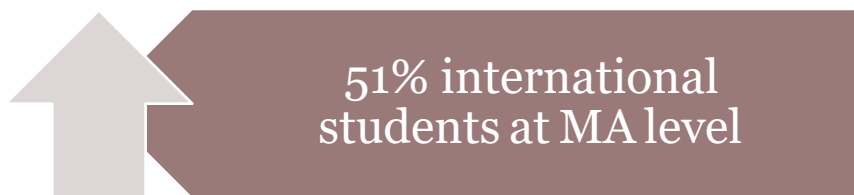
## Professorships at the School of Business and Economics

Business Administration	Economics
Accounting Prof. Dr. Ulf Brüggemann	Applied Microeconomics Prof. Dr. Alexandra Spitz-Oener
Business Taxation Prof. Dr. Ralf Maiterth	Competition Policy n.n.
Consumer Behavior Prof. Dr. Daniel Guhl	Econometrics Prof. Dr. Gabriel Ahlfeldt
Corporate Finance Prof. Tim Adam, Ph.D.	Economic History Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Wolf
Entrepreneurial and Behavioral Decision Making Prof. Dr. Christian D. Schade	Economic Migration and Integration Research (Hertie Professorship) Prof. Dr. Herbert Brücker
Finance Prof. Max Bruche, Ph.D.	Economic Policy Prof. Lutz Weinke, Ph.D.
Financial Accounting and Auditing Prof. Dr. Joachim Gassen	Economic Theory II (Macroeconomics) Prof. Michael C. Burda, Ph.D.
Financial Economics Prof. Alex Stomper, Ph.D.	Industrial Organization Prof. Sebastian Schweighofer-Kodritsch, Ph.D.
Information Systems Prof. Dr. Stefan Lessmann	Macroeconomics (S-Professorship - German Institute for Economic Research) Prof. Marcel Fratzscher, Ph.D.
Management Prof. Dr. Anja Schöttner	Macroeconomics and Financial Markets Prof. Dr. Florentine Schwark
Marketing Prof. Dr. Daniel Klapper	Microeconomic Theory (Economic Theory I) Prof. Dr. Roland Strausz
Operations Research n.n.	Microeconomic Theory and Applications Prof. Georg Weizsäcker, Ph.D.
Organizational Economics-Future of Work (SAP-Professorship) Prof. Dr. Anastasia Danilov	Migration Economics Prof. Sulin Sardoschau, Ph.D.
	Public Economics Prof. Dr. Dirk Engelmann
	Rationality and Competition Prof. Dr. Jonas Radbruch
	Statistics Prof. Dr. Sonja Greven
	Statistics and Data Science n.n.

Our school has a strong international character



The student body of our school reflects the international orientation



# Berlin School of Economics (BSoE) - PhD Program



**BERLIN SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS**

**PhD-tracks in the fields of Economics,  
Management, Accounting and Finance**

**8 participating institutions**

The Berlin School of Economics PhD Program unites the successful BDPEMS & DIW Graduate Center programs and incorporates the best of both in a single career development program. It provides outstanding doctoral students with a vibrant, intensively networked research community. The program develops the students' talents in a unique combination of a high-level, academic research environment together with applied, policy-oriented research opportunities. Students receive state-of-the-art coursework training and can select into a wide array of specializations. For each specialization, a professional research environment is provided by Berlin's universities and economic research institutes.

<https://berlinschoolofeconomics.de/home>

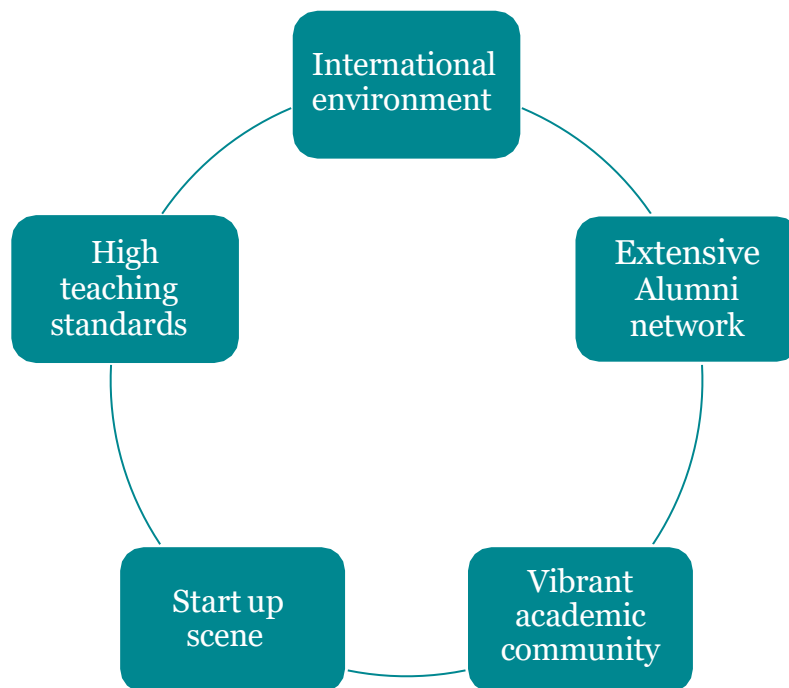
**Intensive cooperation with all major research institutions in Berlin:**



## Erasmus and international incoming students

Our school is part of a larger network of research institutions in Berlin and it is renowned for providing students with a sound background knowledge in quantitative fields, math and a solid academic training in statistical analysis.

**Every year 100 exchange students from over 30 countries come to our school for:**



**Erasmus and international incoming students from partner Universities are entitled to select any given classes taught at our school that matches their study level, academic requirements and personal interests.** They may also register for one or two classes in other faculties within Humboldt or follow extra-curricular courses such as language courses or intercultural trainings.

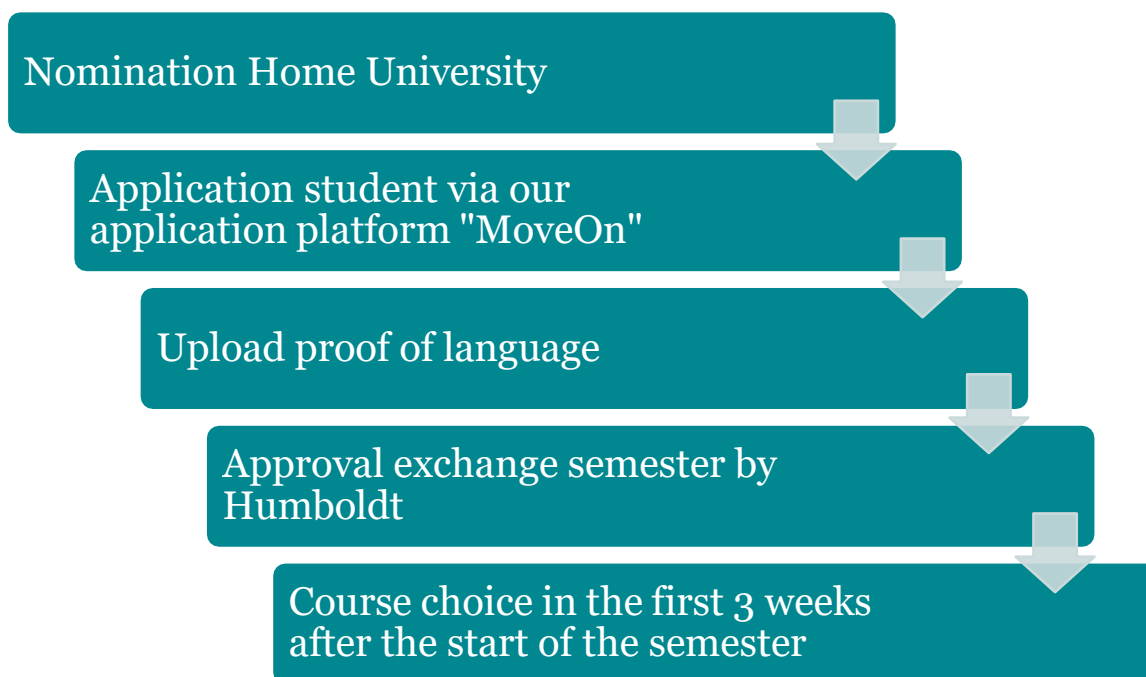
Both undergraduate and graduate students at our school choose from a pool of compulsory subjects and elective courses. Therefore, our inbound exchange students easily blend with the local students from various degree programmes and quickly integrate into the student body.

## Language requirements

**German is the dominant teaching language at Bachelor level**, therefore we require from our Bachelor incoming students to have good or very good command of German (minimum requirement is B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages -CEFR-).

**English is the default language for all master courses**, applicants at master level then need to certify their English skills at C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

## Application procedure



## Academic calendar

	Winter Semester	Summer Semester
Integration weeks	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> weeks of October	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of April
Lecture period	Mid-October to Mid-February	Mid-April to Mid-July
Academic holiday	Christmas Break	Public Holidays
Examination period	Mid-February to Mid-March	Mid-July to Mid-August
German intensive course	September	March
Nomination deadline	15.05	15.11
Application deadline	31.05	30.11

## Team International Office at the School of Business and Economics - Contact Details

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Head of International Office  
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**Tue Anh Hoang**  
Erasmus Incoming Student Tutor  
• [incomings-wiwi@hu-berlin.de](mailto:incomings-wiwi@hu-berlin.de)

### Please visit our Websites

Our websites:

- <https://www.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/en/international-office-1>
- <https://www.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/en/study/sb/studium/standard>

You will find a **detailed listing of the core courses** at our school as well as the direct contact details of the professors who run the chairs

Our courses are organized around **2 study programs** at the **Bachelor** level and **5 programs** at the **master** level. You will find further information about the structure, learning outcomes and key facts and figures about those programs on our website

Visit our **online course catalogue** and browse through all classes offered throughout the academic year: <https://www.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/en/study/sb/course-catalogue-1>

Our online catalogue has extensive **search functions**, which allows you to look up for key words, titles, professors, teaching languages and much more

For any remaining inquiries, please don't hesitate to contact our team at the international office