

# **WELCOME TO TRIESDORF**

## **INFORMATION FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS**



## INHALTSVERZEICHNIS

Introduction .....	1
About Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences .....	2
Contact.....	3
Information on Applying to HSWT .....	3
Academic Calendar and Holidays.....	3
Application and Admission .....	3
Curriculum and Learning Agreement.....	4
Language Skills .....	4
Accommodation .....	5
Student Halls of Residence and Private Rooms.....	5
Short-Term Accomodation .....	5
Good to Know .....	6
Financial Matters .....	7
Rent and Housing-Related Costs .....	7
Semester Fee.....	8
Opening a Bank Account.....	8
Employment.....	8
Residency-Related Matters .....	9
Entry / Visa .....	9
Residence Registration.....	9
Residence Permit.....	10
Good to know .....	10
Student Life .....	11
Orientation at the University .....	11
Studierendenausweis (Student.Card) .....	11
Libraries .....	11
Student.Online.....	12
IT Facilities and Use.....	12
WLAN on Campus.....	12
Timetable .....	12
Registering for Modules and Examinations.....	13
Information Sources.....	13
Learning Languages and Online Courses.....	13
Leisure Time on Campus.....	14
Catering, University Sports and Student Working Groups.....	14
Weidenbach-Triesdorf .....	15
Directions to Triesdorf and Transport Connections.....	15
Activities in Weidenbach, Triesdorf and the Surrounding Area .....	16
Helpful Tips.....	18
Travel Options in Germany .....	18
Shopping.....	19
Medical Care.....	19
Good to know .....	20
Checklist for Your Stay .....	21



## INTRODUCTION

Dear Student,

At Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (HSWT), we are delighted to welcome exchange students. You can spend one or two semesters with us, for example within the Erasmus+ or SEMP programme or outside the framework of a cooperation agreement.

This information brochure is intended to support you in preparing for your semester abroad and making your stay a success. In addition to information on the courses of study offered at HSWT and on the application and admission procedures, you will also find important information regarding student life at our university as well as on spending your leisure time in and around Triesdorf. Although your studies will be the first priority, you should also use your time in Germany to discover the surrounding region and to get to know the local culture, nature and mind-set. To make sure you do not forget anything, the checklist on the last page of this brochure summarises the most important points.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

The International Office at HSWT



*"I like how friendly everyone is, especially the professors. When they say: 'Ask if you need some help', they really mean it! They are very down to earth, even though they are some of the greatest experts in their field of study".*

Milica Trebovac, Bosnia and Herzegovina



*"On campus, students benefit from unique teaching and learning methods and seminar rooms fitted to the latest technical standard. In order to make self-study or joining online courses possible, Weihenstephan-Triesdorf provides computer rooms around the clock for students."*

Jasur Abdushukurov, Uzbekistan



*"I'm excited about the University campus. Here everyone can find something that will interest them. For example, I spent a lot of time in the library to read foreign magazines, which I did not know at home. It was fun to have lunch with classmates in the University canteen, especially convenient that there are vegetarian dishes."*

Anna Simatova, Russian Federation

## ABOUT WEIHENSTEPHAN-TRIESDORF UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

HSWT's roots date back to the beginning of the 19th century. Over the course of its history, HSWT has become Germany's largest "green" university. Our degree programmes cover everything to do with nature, food, and the environment in the very broadest sense, with approaches ranging from scientific to artistic. In all of our degree programmes, the focus is on managing and using natural resources both efficiently and sustainably.

You can find an overview of all our degree programmes at:  
[www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes)

HSWT comprises two campuses in Bavaria, the Weihenstephan (Freising) campus and the Triesdorf (Weidenbach) campus, which are about 200 km apart from one other:

- » Weihenstephan, a district of Freising, is about 30 km north of Munich. The departments of Bioengineering Sciences, Horticulture and Food Technology, Landscape Architecture, Sustainable Agriculture and Energy Systems, and Forestry are located here. Approximately 3,800 students are enrolled at our Weihenstephan campus.
- » Triesdorf is approximately 60 km from Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city. The departments of Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition and Environmental Engineering are located here. About 2,100 students study at our Triesdorf campus.

Our university's campus in Triesdorf is an integral part of the „Bildungszentrum Triesdorf“ (Education Centre Triesdorf), a network unique in Germany with numerous educational institutions in the fields of Agriculture, Nutrition, Food Industry, Environmental and Resource Protection and Management.



## CONTACT

We are available to assist you with any questions you may have before, during, or after your stay.

International Office, Funding and Career Service  
international-office@hswt.de  
T +49 8161 71-5778, -2293 | F +49 8161 71-2230

Manager and Erasmus+ coordinator:  
Ms. Michaela Ring  
michaela.ring@hswt.de

At the departments, the International Affairs Officers (departmental coordinators) are the contact persons for exchange students regarding all study-related questions. You will meet your departmental coordinator soon after your arrival.

We will also be happy to assign you a “student buddy”, who will provide assistance when arriving and at the beginning of your studies. Your buddy can also answer any questions regarding student life from their own experience.

## INFORMATION ON APPLYING TO HSWT

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND HOLIDAYS

Before applying to HSWT, please check that our lecture and examination schedules are compatible with those of your home university.

- » The summer semester starts in mid-March. Classes finish at the beginning of July; examinations are held until the end of July.
- » The winter semester starts at the beginning of October. Classes finish at the end of January; examinations are held until mid-February.

Detailed information on semester times including lecture and examination periods can be found at:  
[www.hswt.de/en/studies/planning-your-studies](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/planning-your-studies)

Information on public holidays (and thus lecture-free days) is available at:  
[www.schulferien.org/Feiertage/Feiertage\\_Bayern](http://www.schulferien.org/Feiertage/Feiertage_Bayern) (German website)

### APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

If you are a student at one of our partner universities, your university’s International Office will usually nominate you for a study period with us. As soon as we have received this nomination, we will send you all the information regarding the application. If you have any questions, e.g. regarding the study programmes, you can of course contact us in advance.

If we do not have a cooperation agreement with your home university, you can study with us as a “Freemover” provided that your degree programme corresponds to the courses offered at HSWT. Please contact us as early as possible so that we can discuss all of the details with you.

Please allow sufficient time to submit all required application documents to us by the following dates:

- » 15 June for the following winter semester (courses begin 1 October)
- » 1 December for the following summer semester (courses begin 15 March)

If you require a visa for your stay in Germany, we recommend that you submit your application to us as early as possible. Reviewing your documents may take some time.

Once your application documents are complete and you fulfil all of the requirements, you will receive an official letter of admission and further information regarding enrolment at HSWT.



## CURRICULUM AND LEARNING AGREEMENT

When planning your stay, you should consider which modules you would like to attend at our university. Your choice of modules will be listed in a Learning Agreement that is signed in advance by you, your home university and HSWT. If you study with us for two semesters, a separate Learning Agreement will be signed for each semester. The Learning Agreement can be modified after your arrival in case there are clashes in the timetable or the courses are not what you expected. In addition to subject-related modules, you can also choose language courses.

We advise you to take courses up to 30 ECTS credits per semester (1 EC is equivalent to approx. 30 hours of study workload).

### English-taught Courses and Language Courses

The various departments at HSWT offer a range of English-taught modules and projects. These modules are aimed at international exchange students in particular and allow you to gain about 30 ECTS credits per semester.

A list of English-taught modules and projects as well as language courses is available at:  
[www.hswt.de/en/international/programmes-and-projects.html](http://www.hswt.de/en/international/programmes-and-projects.html)

### Module Handbooks for German-taught Courses

Information on the modules of the degree-programmes (German-taught) is available in the various module handbooks at:

[www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes) → Your degree programme → Modules

Please note that in the Bachelor degree programmes, only modules from the first, third, fifth and seventh semesters are offered during the winter semester. During the summer semester, modules from the second, fourth and sixth semesters take place.

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

The majority of courses offered at HSWT are taught exclusively in German. In order to be able to follow and participate in classes, we recommend that you have German language skills equivalent to level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

To participate in English-taught lectures we strongly recommend English language skills equivalent to level B2 of the CEFR. Submitting a language proficiency certificate is not required.

For information on the CEFR language levels, see:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/table-1-cefr-3.3-common-reference-levels-global-scale>



## ACCOMMODATION

Most students in Germany live in a shared apartment, known as a 'Wohngemeinschaft' or 'WG'. They share the apartment (bathroom, kitchen,...) with other people but have their own room.

If you start looking for a room or a flat share in Triesdorf/Weidenbach or one of the surrounding villages early on, you have a good chance of finding affordable accommodation in good time.

## STUDENT HALLS OF RESIDENCE AND PRIVATE ROOMS

A large number of rooms is available in the immediate vicinity of the university. There are several private student halls of residence that are subsidised by public funding, and many private housing providers. The dormitory spaces are usually allocated directly by the owners. HSWT itself does not provide accommodation for students on the Triesdorf campus.

To help you get your search underway, we have put together a landlord directory containing all the contacts we know of, which is a good place to start. You can find the list of landlords (in German) here:

<https://www.hswt.de/en/studies/campus/triesdorf.html>

You can also search for rooms using the sites below:

- » [www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html](http://www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html) (small ads on the HSWT website)
- » [www.wg-gesucht.de/en](http://www.wg-gesucht.de/en) (Accommodation website for apartments and WG rooms)
- » <https://www.facebook.com/groups/151803438335812>

Rooms in the student halls of residence and most privately rented rooms are usually equipped with a bed, mattress, table, chair, wardrobe, a small kitchenette and bathroom. Duvets, sheets, dishes and other kitchen utensils are usually not available. In shared apartments, the bathroom and kitchen are shared with other students.

We recommend that you start looking for a room or apartment as early as possible. The International Office will be happy to assist and advise you.

## SHORT-TERM ACCOMODATION

If you need a place to stay for a few days before moving into your accommodation, or if you will receive visitors during your time in Freising, the following accommodation options are available:

- » [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)
- » [www.sammeth-braeu.de](http://www.sammeth-braeu.de)
- » [www.hochthanner.de](http://www.hochthanner.de)
- » [www.altmuehl-moenchswald.de/index.php/fewos-zimmer/unterkuenfte-weidenbach](http://www.altmuehl-moenchswald.de/index.php/fewos-zimmer/unterkuenfte-weidenbach)



## GOOD TO KNOW



Electronic devices operate at a mains voltage from 220 to 230 volts and a frequency of 50 Hz. Type C and F plug sockets are used (see photo at the top of the page). If the plugs in your home country conform to a different standard, you will need an adaptor.

Tap water in Germany is considered safe to drink and can be used for cooking and drinking without reservation.

Cooking, showering and doing laundry cause increased humidity in closed rooms. To avoid the development of mildew, it is very important to air the apartment by opening the windows three to four times per day for 5-10 minutes – also in winter. Please do not heat and air the room at the same time, but turn off the heater before opening the windows. Once the windows are closed, you can turn up the heater again.

In Germany, household garbage is separated for environmental protection. Usually there are designated bins for recyclable materials (e.g. plastics, packaging, cans, plastic bags and foils, beverage cartons), for kitchen waste (e.g. left-over food, tea and coffee remains, egg shells, old flowers), for paper (e.g. newspaper, cardboard packaging) and for all residual waste (general waste that does not go in any of the other bins). Separate containers for glass are usually located outside housing areas. Batteries may be disposed of in designated boxes for example in drug stores or electronic stores.





## FINANCIAL MATTERS

According to a survey in 2016, students in Germany spend on average € 820 each month on rent, clothing, food, health insurance, learning resources, travel and leisure activities. Of course, the actual amount of expenses depends on the individual's lifestyle.

### RENT AND HOUSING-RELATED COSTS

For a room in a student hall of residence or a in a shared flat you should plan between € 250 and € 350 per month. Single apartments are usually more expensive. You often have to pay a deposit when you move in.

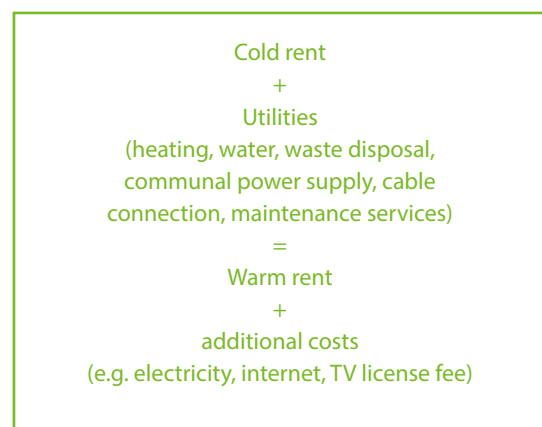
The deposit is usually equivalent to 1-2 months of rent. You will get this deposit back at the end of your tenancy, provided that the room and furnishings are not damaged.

#### Cold Rent and Warm Rent

In Germany, a distinction is made between "Kaltmiete" (net monthly rent or "cold rent") and "Warmmiete" gross monthly rent including utilities or "warm rent").

Additional costs may be added to the warm rent. Please check before signing the lease exactly how much money you will need to budget per month.

A flat rate is paid every month for heating and additional utility costs as well as electricity. If it turns out that you have used more than you have paid for, you will have to pay the difference. If you have used less than you have paid for, you will get money back. Utility costs are usually only settled once a year, so you may not receive the difference until a few months after you have moved out.



#### TV and Radio Licence Fee

A TV and radio licence fee ("Rundfunkbeitrag") of € 18.36 per month is charged for every apartment in Germany. The money collected from this fee is used to fund public radio and TV channels. The licence fee is not included in accommodation rental costs.

If several people are living together (e.g. in a shared apartment), only one person has to pay the licence fee. The costs are usually split between all of the residents. Please ask your flatmates, who pays the licence fee.

After registering with the local registration office, you will receive a letter from "ARD ZDF Deutschlandradio Beitragservice" with information about the licence fee. Please reply to this letter in order to avoid having to make retrospective payments later on. For more information, see:

- » [www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/englisch/index\\_ger.html](http://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/englisch/index_ger.html)
- » [https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/englisch/students\\_and\\_apprentices/index\\_ger.html](https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/englisch/students_and_apprentices/index_ger.html)



## SEMESTER FEE

All HSWT students – including exchange students – are required to pay a semester fee. For the summer term 2023 at the Triesdorf Campus this fee amounts to 67 €. Exchange students do not pay tuition or administrative fees at HSWT.

The semester fee comprises a fee for the student union which uses the money to fund the canteen and student halls of residence, among other services.

More information on the semester fee and semester ticket can be found at:

[www.hswt.de/en/studies/planning-your-studies/financial-information/fees-and-contributions](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/planning-your-studies/financial-information/fees-and-contributions)

## OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Regular payments such as rent, electricity or health insurance payments are usually done via direct debit in Germany. Thus, it may be useful or necessary to open a German bank account, particularly if you do not have a bank account in a European country that participates in the SEPA system for cross-border transfers and direct debits.

To open a bank account, you will need your personal ID or passport, registration certificate (which you received when you registered your residence) and enrolment certificate. In some cases, you will need the bank's app to use online banking.

Opening a current account is often free for students and there are several banks in Freising that offer this service. If you need further information on this matter, we will be happy to help and assist you in making an appointment with a bank.

## EMPLOYMENT

If you come from an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, you may not work for more than 20 hours per week during lecture periods. Exceptions are possible if, for example, you only work weekends, in the evenings or at night.

Students from other countries may work a maximum of 120 full days or 240 half-days per year in Germany. Working days on which more than half of the standard working hours are worked (more than 4 hours), are considered full days. Any employment that exceeds this limit must be approved in advance by the immigration authorities. This restriction does not apply to part-time student work at the university (for instance, work as a research assistant or for the student union). Please also take account of the information specified in your residence permit and contact the relevant immigration office in case of doubt.

Job advertisements can be found on our online job platform:

<https://jobboerse.hswt.de/index.php/en>

We can provide you with an information leaflet on searching for jobs and links to other job portals.

The Career Center can provide support for the application process:

<https://www.hswt.de/en/alumni-careers/career-service.html>



## RESIDENCY-RELATED MATTERS

### ENTRY / VISA

International students from the EU, the EEA or Switzerland, require only a valid identification document to enter Germany. Students from other countries should check the website of the German Federal Foreign Office whether it is necessary to apply for a visa in advance:

[www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/-/231148](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/-/231148)

In case you need a visa, you have to apply for it at the German embassy or consulate in your country of residence before travelling to Germany. The contact information for the German embassy or consulate in your country can be found here:

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen>

To study at a German university, you will need a "national visa for the purpose of a study trip" (Nationales Visum zum Zwecke des Studienaufenthalts)

### Exception for Non-EU Students from Partner Universities in the EU

- » You are studying at one of our partner university in the EU (except Ireland or Denmark)
- » You do not hold an EU citizenship
- » You have a residence title for studies in the country where you are currently studying

If all three conditions apply to you, you do not need a visa for Germany. You will also not have to apply for an additional German residence permit.

In the context of EU mobility programmes, students are permitted to study in another European state for up to 360 days. In this case, HSWT is responsible for contacting the authorities to request a special confirmation for you.

Should this regulation apply to you, please contact the International Office at HSWT as early as possible.

## RESIDENCE REGISTRATION

Within two weeks of your arrival, you will need to register at your local citizens' registration office ("Einwohnermeldeamt"). When registering, you will need to present a valid identification document, the rental agreement and a declaration from your landlord confirming that you have moved in ("Wohnungsgeberbestätigung").

### Einwohnermeldeamt Weidenbach

Triesdorfer Str. 8, 91746 Weidenbach

T +49 9826 6220 0

[Einwohnermeldeamt@weidenbach-triesdorf.de](mailto:Einwohnermeldeamt@weidenbach-triesdorf.de)

### Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday 8.00 - 12.00 am

on Tuesdays also 02.00 - 04.30 pm

on Thursdays also 02.00 - 06.00 pm



## RESIDENCE PERMIT

If you are not from an EU/EEA country, you need to apply for a residence permit at the Immigration Office during your visa term (or your visa exemption period). You can find the address and opening hours on your local authority's website.

It takes several weeks to issue the electronic residence permit, so make sure you apply early. You can only apply for the residence permit after you have registered at the citizens' registration office (see "Residence registration").

The address of the responsible Immigration Office:

### **Landratsamt Ansbach Ausländerbehörde**

Mr. Berger / Sachgebiet 33, Crailsheimer Straße 1, 91522 Ansbach, T +49 981 468 3301  
auslamt@landratsamt-ansbach.de

Further details can be found here (German website):

<https://www.landkreis-ansbach.de/index.php?object=tx|2150.4&ModID=10&FID=1504.81.1>

There is a fee of up to € 110 for issuing the residence permit. The exact amount also depends on the length of the stay.

## Exception for Non-EU Students from Partner Universities in the EU

Special regulations apply to exchange students from partner universities who already hold a residence permit in another EU member state (refer to page 9 "Entry/ Visa")

### GOOD TO KNOW



You can only register once you have moved into a permanent residence. Registration with the address of a hostel or hotel is not possible.

In case your name is not written on the mailbox please add "c/o name of main tenant" to your mailing address. If you live in the dormitory, make sure that your room number appears on your registration certificate. Otherwise you may not receive important mail.

If your address changes during your stay, you have two weeks to inform the registration office of your new address.

Inform the Immigration Office if you change your address (if applicable).

Even though Swiss students enjoy freedom of movement within the EU, they must apply for a declaratory "Swiss residence permit" (Aufenthaltserlaubnis-Schweiz).



## STUDENT LIFE

### ORIENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

Before lectures begin, we will inform you about everything you need to know regarding student life at HSWT. You will also have the opportunity to meet other students and staff of the university for the first time. In addition, we will be happy to assist you with formalities such as registering at the local registration office or opening a bank account.

During the semester, we also coordinate a varied programme of events for exchange students with cultural activities and excursions.

### STUDIARENDAUSWEIS (STUDENT.CARD)

After your enrollment and arrival, you will receive your HSWT student ID card or "Student.Card". The card verifies your student status and serves as a method of payment in the canteen and at the snack machines, to use the printers, as library card. The Student.Card also gives you access to the university's IT rooms and buildings.

You can transfer money to your Student.Card by using one of the credit terminals on campus. Please note that only bank notes (no coins) are accepted. Top-up machines can be found at the main cafeteria (Mensa), at building C (break hall), at building H (Mensateria).

In order to credit money to your print account you have to transfer it from the Student.Card to the print account at one of the booking terminals at building C (break hall) or building A (break hall on the ground floor.)

### LIBRARIES

The address, opening hours and loan periods of the university library in Triesdorf can be found at:  
[www.hswt.de/library](http://www.hswt.de/library)

Your Student.Card serves as a library card. At the beginning of the semester, the university library offers introductions to library use. The dates are announced at the beginning of the semester.

There are three other libraries in the vicinity of Triesdorf. Please refer to the respective websites for information on terms of use, loan periods and opening times:

- » Library of Ansbach University: <https://www.hs-ansbach.de/en/service/library/>
- » Public Library Ansbach: <https://www.schlossbibliothek-ansbach.de/start/>  
(website in German only)
- » Public library Gunzenhausen: <https://buecherei.gunzenhausen.de/startseite.html>  
(website in German only)



## MYCAMPUS

After your arrival, you will also receive the login details (username and password) for the IT system at HSWT. They will give you access to our online portal for students "My Campus", the internal section of the website, the computers at the university and your HSWT email address.

Please only use this email account to communicate with HSWT professors and employees.

## IT FACILITIES AND USE

The computers in the IT rooms have Internet access, standard software programs (Microsoft Office) and some specialist programs (CAD, Photoshop, etc.). You will also have external access to some of the drives, so that you can conveniently work on student projects at home. Lecturers use these drives to make study materials available to their students.

The IT rooms are equipped with multifunctional printers and plotters, which can also be used for scanning and photocopying. In order to use the printing, plotting and photocopying services, you will need your Student.Card and credit in your print account.

## WLAN ON CAMPUS

If you wish to work on your own laptop, you can use the university's Wi-Fi networks ("eduroam" and "lrz"). To register, you will need your network ID ("Radiuskennung") rather than your standard HSWT username.

Detailed information on IT facilities and their use is available at:  
[www.hswt.de/en/about-us/central-facilities/computer-centre](http://www.hswt.de/en/about-us/central-facilities/computer-centre)

If you are having problems with the IT facilities or with setting up Wi-Fi, please contact the helpdesk:  
[www.hswt.de/en/person/helpdesk](http://www.hswt.de/en/person/helpdesk)

## TIMETABLE

In order to create your individual timetable, please check the online lecture plans. To access these, log on to the HSWT website and go to:

[www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes) → Your degree programme → Lecture plans

If you are attending lectures of different study programmes or semesters, you must check the various lecture plans. We will assist you with this.

Please note that modules often consist of more than one lecture component. In order to complete a module and receive credits, you must successfully attend and complete all of the associated module components. To find out what these are, please refer to the relevant description in the module handbook in the section on lectures ("Lehrveranstaltungen").

[www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/degree-programmes) → Your degree programme → Modules



## REGISTERING FOR MODULES AND EXAMINATIONS

### Registration at the beginning of the semester

For so-called obligatory elective modules (“Wahlpflichtmodule”), elective modules (“Wahlmodule”) and language courses, you need to register at the beginning of the semester via the Student.Online portal. This means that you are also automatically registered for the module’s examination.

### Registration during the semesters

For compulsory modules (“Pflichtmodule”), which are a fixed component of degree programmes at HSWT, online registration is not possible at the beginning of the lecture period. You should therefore talk to the relevant professor during one of the first classes to ensure you will be included in any mailing list or e-learning services.

The examination registration for compulsory modules takes place during the semester in MyCampus. You will be informed of the deadlines via email.

Examination results are announced at the end of the semester via the MyCampus portal.

## INFORMATION SOURCES

Important information regarding your day-to-day studies, such as changes in your timetable, lecture announcements, examination dates and information about university events, is often made available in the “Neuigkeiten” (“News”) section of your degree programme on the German HSWT website (visible after log-in). Please check this page daily. However, as this information is not available in English, please do not hesitate to ask others for help, if you have trouble understanding the announcements.

[www.hswt.de/studium/studiengaenge](http://www.hswt.de/studium/studiengaenge) → Your degree programme → „Neuigkeiten“ Section

For information about upcoming events, check the flyers or posters on notice boards in the university, the canteen or the student halls of residence.

## LEARNING LANGUAGES AND ONLINE COURSES

HSWT’s Language Centre offers German courses for various levels, as well as a comprehensive range of foreign-language courses (e.g. English, French, Spanish, Chinese and Russian). Please be aware that these courses can only take place if there is a sufficient number of interested students.

<https://www.hswt.de/en/international/language-centre.html>

If you are interested, we will try to arrange a language tandem for you. This involves meeting up regularly with a student who is a native speaker of the language you wish to learn, and helping each other to improve your respective language skills. The relevant registration form is available at:

<https://www.hswt.de/en/international/language-centre/self-study-options.html>

You also have the opportunity to participate in online courses offered by the Bavarian Virtual University (BVU) at no charge. Apart from subject-related modules, BVU offers modules that train key competencies (e.g. communication skills, intercultural skills) as well as various online language courses. Credits for BVU courses may be recognised after consulting your HSWT coordinator.

[www.hswt.de/en/studies/services/bavarian-virtual-university](http://www.hswt.de/en/studies/services/bavarian-virtual-university)



## LEISURE TIME ON CAMPUS

### CATERING

Students can buy a wholesome and inexpensive lunch at the canteen of the Agricultural Education Institutes (LLA) as well as at the Mensateria Gastwirtschaft zum Adler at the Erlangen-Nuremberg Students' Union. Next to several main dishes (including vegetarian options), salads, side dishes and desserts are served daily. The canteen provides a breakfast buffet, a café menu, lunch and dinner from Montag till Friday from 6.45 a.m. - 5.45 p.m.

In both the canteen and Mensateria, payments can only be made using the Student.Card (see „Student.Card“)

The weekly menu and further information can be found here (in German):

- » <https://www.triesdorf.de/tagungen-besucher/mensa.html>
- » <https://www.werkswelt.de/index.php?id=trie>

### UNIVERSITY SPORTS PROGRAMME

The university sports offers an extensive range of activities at Triesdorf Campus.

Further information (mostly in German) and related web-links are available here:

- » <https://www.hswt.de/studium/campus/campus-triesdorf/hochschulsport.html>
- » <https://www.zhs-muenchen.de/startseite/>

### STUDENT WORKING GROUPS

Student working groups (“Studentische Arbeitskreise“ or short “AK“/ AKs“) focus predominantly on matters relating to work and study, but also deal with ideological and religious matters. Getting involved in a working group (AK) in your area of interest is of course a good opportunity to quickly make contact with other students, for example: AK Grünere Hochschule (greener university), AK asfact (Advocacy Group Sustainable Farming and Consuming Triesdorf), AK SMD Triesdorf (Christian network), AK Blasmusik (brass band music), AK Garten (garden), AK Kontur (cultural events), AK Theater (theatre) and AK Slackline (slacklining) and many more.

A registration list is displayed on the noticeboard at the start of each semester, where students who wish to join an existing group or set up their own working group can add their names.

If you want to establish a working group or participate in one you can contact the respective student representatives:  
<https://www.hswt.de/en/about-us/student-representatives.html>

### GARDENING

The Triesdorf campus garden is a community garden on campus. It is open to all students from the surrounding institutions and citizens. Getting to know people and exchanging ideas are the main objective here.

Contact: [ak-garten-triesdorf.konvent@hswt.de](mailto:ak-garten-triesdorf.konvent@hswt.de)





## WEIDENBACH-TRIEDORF

Between the town of Ansbach and the Franconian Lake District, a recreation area with seven artificially created lakes, the community of Weidenbach is located in a particularly scenic location. Consisting of several districts with a total of approx. 3200 inhabitants, Weidenbach looks back on almost 800 years of history. The district of Triesdorf, the former summer residence of the Margraves of Brandenburg-Ansbach, is the main attraction of Weidenbach.

Today, Triesdorf is home to an important educational centre ('Bildungszentrum Triesdorf') that offers a unique selection of training opportunities in the fields of agricultural industry, the nutrition and food industry and environmental engineering.

The nearby Franconian Lake District offers numerous water sports opportunities. Weidenbach is connected to regional and national hiking, walking and cycle trails. At the same time the cost of living is comparatively low.

The society Friends of Triesdorf (Verein „Freunde Triesdorf und Umgebung e.V.") provides information on Triesdorf's history and guided tours:

<http://www.freundetriesdorf.de/>

General information (in German) about life in Weidenbach and the Triesdorf Education Center can be found here:

- » <https://www.weidenbach-triesdorf.de/gemeinde/>
- » <https://www.triesdorf.de/>

## DIRECTIONS TO TRIEDORF AND TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS

### By Plane (Nuremberg Airport)

From Nuremberg Airport, take the underground line U2 to Hauptbahnhof Nürnberg (Nuremberg Central station). The journey time is 12 minutes. From there, you can take the suburban rail line S4 or regional express train (RE) to either Ansbach or Treuchtlingen where you will have to change to the regional train to Triesdorf. The journey time is approximately 60 to 90 minutes.

### By Train

When travelling by train, your destination station is Triesdorf Bahnhof, Merkendorf (Mittelfranken). You can then reach the university in around 15 minutes on foot; follow the signs to Weidenbach.

A detailed timetable can be viewed at:

- » [www.vgn.de/en/](http://www.vgn.de/en/)
- » [www.bahn.com/en/view/index.shtml](http://www.bahn.com/en/view/index.shtml)

### Public Transport

The municipality of Weidenbach operates a community bus ('Bürgerbus', driven by volunteers) to and from Triesdorf train station at specific times.

[www.weidenbach-triesdorf.de/gemeinde/leben-und-wohnen/burgerbus](http://www.weidenbach-triesdorf.de/gemeinde/leben-und-wohnen/burgerbus) (German website)

During the evening, an 'Anruf-Sammeltaxi' (shared taxi that must be booked in advance) can take you from neighbouring areas to the station and back for a small additional cost. You must, however, book a taxi from the Ansbach taxi centre (+49 981/19410) at least one hour before arriving at the station.

[www.vgn.de/netz-fahrplaene/anrufsammtaxi/landkreis-ansbach/triesdorf](http://www.vgn.de/netz-fahrplaene/anrufsammtaxi/landkreis-ansbach/triesdorf) (German website)

### **By Car to the University**

- » Autobahn A 6: take the Ansbach Mitte exit onto the B13 in the direction of Gunzenhausen, Bechhofen, Wassertrüdingen
- » Bundesstraße B13: exit at Weidenbach, Fachhochschule, Landwirtschaftliches Bildungszentrum Triesdorf

For more detailed information and a map, visit our website at:

[www.hswt.de/en/directions.html](http://www.hswt.de/en/directions.html)

## **ACTIVITIES IN WEIDENBACH, TRIESDORF AND THE SURROUNDING AREA**

### **Bars, Cafés and Restaurants**

Bar Auszeit, Triesdorfer Straße 31b, 91746 Weidenbach

Gasthof Eder, Triesdorfer Str. 28, 91746 Weidenbach

[www.gasthof-eder.de](http://www.gasthof-eder.de) (German website)

Gaststätte Sammethbräu, Marktplatz 1, 91746 Weidenbach

[www.sammeth-braeu.de](http://www.sammeth-braeu.de) (German website)

Gaststätte Quasimodo, Am Kreuzweiher 5, 91746 Weidenbach

[www.dasquasimodo.de](http://www.dasquasimodo.de) (German website)

Students looking to enjoy a night out can also find a number of bars and pubs in neighbouring towns and cities such as Ansbach and Gunzenhausen, all of which can easily be reached by train.

### **Cultural Events and Parties**

Special events in Triesdorf include:

- » Balls and dance parties in the Altes Reithaus
- » KONTUR campus festival in June
- » Johannitag – open house day in Triesdorf at the end of June
- » International evening in the Altes Reithaus at the end of November

Most student parties are held in the halls of residence and WGs. Dates are usually announced on the noticeboards or spread by word of mouth. Also watch out for flyers in the university cafeterias. The Triesdorf Association for Pupils and Students ('Verein Triesdorfer Schüler und Studenten' – VTS) also organises dance, film and music event on a regular basis. Further information (in German):

<https://www.vts-triesdorf.de/>

The Ansbacher Kammerspiele (intimate theatre) has a daily programme of outstanding productions. Regular joint events are also held here with students from Ansbach University of Applied Sciences.

[www.kammerspiele.com](http://www.kammerspiele.com)

### **Cinemas**

In addition to film nights hosted with fellow students, the latest films can be enjoyed in the following cinemas:

- » <https://gunzenhausen.kino-movieworld.de> (Gunzenhausen, German website)
- » <https://capitol-kinocenter.de/> (Ansbach, German website)
- » [www.cinecitta.de](http://www.cinecitta.de) (Nürnberg, multiplex cinema with some showings in English, German website)
- » [www.roxy-renaissance-cinema.de](http://www.roxy-renaissance-cinema.de) (Nürnberg, English language movie theater)

## ATTRACTIVE DESTINATIONS



**Ansbach**  
Capital of the central Franconian district; organiser of Bach Festival week.



**Augsburg**  
One of the oldest cities in Germany and the third largest city in Bavaria.



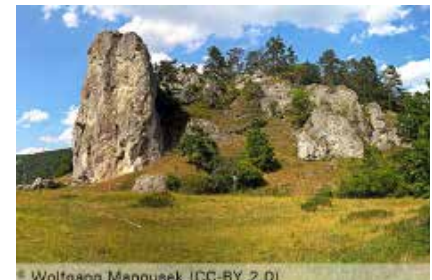
**Dinkelsbühl**  
A charming late medieval town with an annual festival.



**Franconian Lake District**  
Beautiful region with many recreational opportunities such as water sports, beaches, boat trips, cycling and hiking.



**Hesselberg**  
The Hesselberg is the highest elevation in Middle Franconia with a wonderful panoramic view from the summit.



**Nature park „Altmühltal“**  
A hiking region with diverse nature which is also known for its fossil findings



**Würzburg**  
Baroque town in the Franconian wine region in Bavaria. The residential palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



**Bamberg**  
Medieval world heritage city with numerous sights and baroque architecture.



**Nuremberg**  
Bavaria's second largest city with a medieval castle and world-famous Christmas market.



**Munich**  
Bavaria's state capital with many sights and opportunities for cultural and leisure activities.



**Regensburg**  
Historic city on the Danube. It's old town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



**Rothenburg ob der Tauber**  
A well-preserved historical city with medieval architecture and walkable city walls.



## HELPFUL TIPS

### TRAVEL OPTIONS IN GERMANY

#### Train

There are a number of low-fare ticket options for rail travel in Bavaria, in Germany, or cross-border journeys. Within Bavaria, for example, you can opt for the Bayern-Ticket (Bavarian ticket) or the BayernTicket Nacht (Bavarian night ticket). If several people are travelling together, they can split the cost of the journey and save money. To find the best deals, go to:

- » <https://www.bahn.de/angebot> (German website)
- » <https://www.bahn.com/en/booking-information/best-price-finder>

#### Long-Distance Bus Journeys

Bus journeys are often significantly cheaper than train journeys. You can compare prices for journeys within Germany and international journeys on this website:

[www.busradar.com](http://www.busradar.com)

#### Carpooling

Carpooling is a well-loved and affordable way to travel in Germany. You can use an online portal to search for drivers who are travelling along a specific route on a specific day and will take passengers for a small fee. Sometimes people also search the portals looking for other passengers to share train journeys with, as some train tickets are cheaper when travelling in a group.

- » [www.blablacar.co.uk](http://www.blablacar.co.uk)
- » [www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html](http://www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html) ('Small ads' section on the HSWT homepage)
- » [www.facebook.com/groups/151803438335812](https://www.facebook.com/groups/151803438335812) (HSWT [Triesdorf]: search/offer)

#### For Motorists: Environmental Stickers

Many cities in Germany, including for example Augsburg, Munich and Stuttgart, have established 'Umweltzonen' (low-emission or 'environmental' zones), through which only cars with valid 'Umweltplakette' (environmental stickers) may drive. The goal is to reduce pollution from nitrogen oxide and particulate matter. If you drive within these zones without a valid environmental sticker, you run the risk of incurring a fine of at least € 80.

Environmental stickers are not required in Ansbach, Triesdorf and the surrounding area. You also do not need a sticker when coming to Freising/Campus Weihenstephan .

You can find detailed information on the low-emission zones at:

[www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/topics/air/particulate-matter-pm10/low-emission-zones-in-germany](http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/topics/air/particulate-matter-pm10/low-emission-zones-in-germany)

## SHOPPING

### Official Shop Opening Hours

Please note that shops in Bavaria – whether they are supermarkets, clothes shops or stationary shops – are open until 8:00 p.m. at the latest Monday to Saturday. Smaller shops often close earlier.

All businesses are closed on Sundays and public holidays. Bakeries, which open for a few hours on Sundays, and restaurants, cafes or beer gardens are an exception to this rule. Flee markets are often held on Sundays as well. You can shop on Sundays at gas stations, airports or main railway stations.

### Pharmacies

On weekdays, pharmacies often close before 8 p.m., on Saturdays earlier. They operate an emergency service on a rotating basis. This information is usually displayed outside on pharmacies.

### Buying Used Goods

Besides internet forums (see below), the bulletin board in building C and the 'Small ads' section on the HSWT homepage are the most commonly used platforms for requests and offers – whether you're looking to buy a bike, need furniture for your room, or are on the hunt for a part-time job.

You can find out about offers online using the following websites, for example:

- » [www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de](http://www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de) (German website)
- » [www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html](http://www.hswt.de/en/un/small-ads.html) ('Small ads' section on the HSWT homepage)
- » [www.facebook.com/groups/151803438335812](https://www.facebook.com/groups/151803438335812) (HSWT [Triesdorf]: search/offer)

## MEDICAL CARE

Adequate health insurance is required when studying in Germany. A travel insurance is not enough. We will inform you about the options during the admission process for your studies at HSWT.

If you are ill, you should first consult a general practitioner ("Allgemeinarzt"). Call the doctor's surgery to make an appointment. This way, you can avoid long waiting periods. However, in urgent cases, it is also possible to go to the doctor's surgery without making an appointment. Remember to bring your health insurance card with you (EHIC or another document that is valid in Germany). If necessary, your GP may refer you to a specialist ("Facharzt") or the hospital.

Doctors who speak your native language are often listed on the website of your country's embassy or consulate general. The International Office can also give you an overview of doctors in Freising who speak foreign languages. You can find doctors in your area here:

[www.gelbeseiten.de](http://www.gelbeseiten.de) (German website)

If you have health insurance in your home country and are unsure of which medical costs will be covered in Germany, ask your health insurance provider directly.

Medication is available in pharmacies. Some medication is only issued on presentation of a doctor's prescription. If you take regular medication or nutritional supplements for your health, you should check whether these are available in Germany before leaving your home country. If necessary, bring a sufficient amount with you to last for the duration of your stay. It is not permitted to send medicine by post to the EU; parcels containing medication will be confiscated by customs.



## GOOD TO KNOW

In the event of a life-threatening situation, call the emergency number 112. The ambulance service, police or fire brigade services will be notified depending on the emergency. In general, the staff speak several languages.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER 112**

You can contact the police directly by calling 110.

**POLICE 110**

## THE CORONA PANDEMIC IN BAVARIA

Restrictions of public and social life (opening hours, contact restrictions, etc.) due to corona protection measures are possible at any time. These are not taken into consideration in this brochure.

Please check the current regulations at:

- » <https://www.landkreis-ansbach.de/Quicknavigation/Startseite/Aktuelle-Lage-zum-Coronavirus.php> (Information regarding the district of Ansbach, in German)
- » <https://www.stmgp.bayern.de/coronavirus> (Coronavirus in Bavaria, in German)
- » <https://www.hswt.de/hochschule/coronavirus.html> (HSWT's FAQs on the coronavirus-crisis)



Last update: January 2023



## CHECKLIST FOR YOUR STAY

### Early planning (approx. 3-4 months before your study abroad period begins)

- » Apply for exchange studies at HSWT by 15 June (for the upcoming winter term) / by 1 December (for the upcoming summer term) respectively
- » Start looking for a room or apartment
- » Check the validity of your personal identification or passport
- » If necessary, apply for a visa

### Shortly before your arrival (approx. 1-2 months before your study abroad period begins)

- » Submit proof of health insurance, e.g. EHIC or a recognised health insurance (we will advise you)
- » Transfer your semester fee (remember to keep the receipt)
- » Send documents for enrolment at HSWT to the International Office
- » Get in contact with your student buddy
- » Let the International Office know your expected arrival date and time

### After your arrival

- » Register your arrival in the local citizens' registration office
- » If necessary, open a bank account
- » If necessary, make an appointment with the Immigration Office to apply for a residence permit
- » Register to pay your TV and radio licence fee or notify the authorities that you are exempt

### During the semester

- » Register for HSWT modules during the first two weeks of the semester
- » Check the Learning Agreement and revise it where necessary
- » Register for examinations
- » Contact the International Office and your home university to extend your stay (if applicable)

### At the end of your stay

- » Have the confirmation of the duration of your stay signed in the International Office
- » De-register at your local citizens registration office
- » If necessary, cancel your radio and TV licence
- » If necessary, close your German bank account
- » Return the keys to your room or apartment; leave your bank details so that the deposit can be refunded to you after your departure
- » Check that all of your modules and grades appear correctly in Student.Online for the purposes of creating your transcript

Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences  
International Office, Funding and Career Service  
Weihenstephaner Berg 5  
85354 Freising  
Germany  
[www.hswt.de/en/international/international-office](http://www.hswt.de/en/international/international-office)