

Welcome at Helmut-Schmidt-University /  
University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg



HELMUT SCHMIDT  
UNIVERSITÄT

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Universität der Bundeswehr Hamburg

This fact sheet is to provide you some important information for your studies at  
HSU/UniBw H

Further Information about the military side of HSU/UniBw H are provided in a different  
fact sheet.



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## I. Important contact details

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Link to the website of the International Office:

<https://www.hsu-hh.de/auslandsstud/en/>

E-Mail of the International Office:

[unibwhamburginternationaloffice@bundeswehr.org](mailto:unibwhamburginternationaloffice@bundeswehr.org)

## II. Courses & Credits

- A. The most common language for studying at HSU/UniBw H is German. Nevertheless, there are various, changing courses held in English.
- B. Other than most universities, HSU/UniBw H isn't running in semesters but in trimesters. Each of them lasts for about three months, the summer is held free for internships, military activities or vacation. For more information, please see "III. Academic Calendar".

C. The following link will provide you with an overview of the courses offered at HSU/UniBw H. There are four different study-areas / faculties at HSU:

- 1) Faculty of Electrical Engineering
- 2) Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 3) Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering
- 4) Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences

Besides studying at HSU/UniBw H to achieve credit points there is also the possibility to come here for writing a thesis. In that case, please contact the coordinator of the International Office.

If you wish to do an internship at HSU/UniBw H, please look at our Homepage and find a professor who matches your topic of interest. Please get in contact with them on the possibility of interning with them. They will then start the administrative process needed for interning at HSU/UniBw H. Please note that this process can take up to 12 weeks, so please contact us as early as possible.

D. For studying at HSU/UniBw H, a B2-level in German is required for courses held in German and a B2-level in English for courses in English. This is to improve the study success for incoming students.

E. When completing courses and passing exams, you will obtain ECTS points. Types of exams might be written exams as well as oral exams or term papers. For receiving ECTS points, you must pass the whole module in most cases. As modules usually consist of at least two individual classes, that means, attending and passing both classes. Mid-term tests are not common at HSU/UniBw H.

F. Non-credit courses

HSU/UniBw H runs their course system differently, than it might be run at your school. Many module courses may run over the duration of several trimesters and can only be completed with an exam at the end of the duration. This means that some courses are not available for credit if students stay only one trimester. In this case, after approval by the professor, international students may attend for a certificate of attendance.

If, furthermore, you would like to improve your language skills throughout your studies, there is the possibility of joining language courses in various languages – including German and English – at the Language Centre for a certificate of attendance

Contact and further information: [schulzma@hsu-hh.de](mailto:schulzma@hsu-hh.de)

### III. Academic Calendar

Herbsttrimester (Fall)	01.10.2024 – 20.12.2024
Wintertrimester (Winter)	01.01.2025 – 28.03.2025
Frühjahrstrimester (Spring)	01.04.2025 – 27.06.2025
non-lecture period	04.07.2025 – 30.09.2025

- Exams will generally be held in the last two weeks of each trimester.  
exam periods: 16.12. – 06.01. (Excluding public holidays)  
24.03. – 04.04.  
23.06. – 04.07.
- The three months of summer are held free for Internships, vacation, or further course-exams
- Deadline for Nomination by your home-university is usually three to four months before the start of each trimester.  
For further information please follow the link:  
<https://www.hsu-hh.de/auslandsstud/en/incoming/application>

In the following you can find more detailed information about the nomination process.

### IV. Application Process

- a. To be able to study at HSU/UniBw H, you need to be nominated by your home university or academy within the deadline published on our homepage (includes your name, email address, field of study)
- b. After nomination you'll receive our application documents as well as course information. If all is well, we will accept you to study with us.

## V. Housing

At HSU/UniBw H, most students live together in shared apartments with 10 – 24 people. Dorms are co-ed (both male and female students live together).

HSU/UniBw H is split into several campus sites. The Main Campus “Douaumont-Kaserne”, also known as the main campus, houses students of batallion Alpha, but you might have to walk 20-30min to get to campus (from the “Hanseatenkaserne”). In some cases civilian students will be located in the “Mexiko-Ring”, which is also part of the campus and 40 minutes away with public transport.

Every apartment has a shared kitchen and common room. Depending on amenities, you might also have to share showers and toilets with your roommates. Everyone has a private fully furnished bedroom with room sizes pending between 9sqm – 25sqm.

Please consider the following prices for HSU/UniBw H housing:

- a. 305,00€ (private sink, common toilets and showers in the hallway)
- b. 325,00€ (private sink and toilet, common showers in the hallway)
- c. 340,00€ (private sink, toilet, and shower)

Since we have agreements with most of our Partner Universities regarding housing of our international students, there might be a reduced or waived housing fee. Please check in with your international coordinator and they will inform you!

Rooms will be assigned by the respective battalions of the Study Body Regiment depending on availability. **The International Office has no influence in this process.** This means you can neither choose the room you might prefer, nor can we guarantee specific amenities.

## VI. Living expenses

You should plan to spend around 200€ per month for your living expenses. This of course depends on your standard of living and the type of activities you like to do. Cooking your own meals for example is very common and much cheaper than

eating out every day in Hamburg. Please also note that many of the agreements with our Partner Universities include free meals for you at our Dining Hall. If you are unsure whether this applies to your situation, we advise contacting your International Office for further information. Below, you'll find some suggestions on the nearest stores and some more information on dining and food options on campus.

a. Dining and Food Options @HSU

- Dining Hall
    1. Opening hours Mo-Fri
      - a. Breakfast: 07:00-09:00
      - b. Lunch: 11:30-13:30
  
      - c. Dinner: 16:45-17:45 (Mo-Thu)
      - d. Weekend meal boxes will usually be given out on Friday (for students with free meals)
    2. For the weekly menu (in German) please follow this link: <https://ynside.extranet-bw.de> (registration required)
    3. Pricing
      - a. Breakfast = 2,17€ / 3,25€ (staff / non staff)
      - b. Lunch = 4,13€ / 6,75€ (staff / non staff)
      - c. Dinner = 4,13€ / 5,45€ (staff / non staff)
  - Bakery "Hornung" ("Roter Platz" in building H1)
    1. coffee, soft drinks, pastries, sandwiches, paninis
    2. Opening hours Mo-Do  
08:00-16:00  
Opening hours Fri  
08:00-13:00
  - Vending machines (building H1)
    1. coffee, snacks
- b. Supermarkets (distances measured from campus)
- Lidl
    1. Nearest store approx. 1,4km (Manshardstraße 74-76, 22119 Hamburg)
    2. Sells: basic food products, toiletries, household products, alcoholic beverages
    3. Price range: €
  - Aldi
    1. Nearest store approx. 1,1km (Gustav-Adolf-Straße 92, 22119 Hamburg)
    2. Sells: basic food products, toiletries, household products, alcoholic beverages
    3. Price range: €

- Edeka
  1. Nearest stores approx. 1,9km (Manshardstraße 115G, 22119 Hamburg) or 3,2km (Ölmühlenweg 4, 22047 Hamburg)
  2. Sells: variety of food products (including international foods), toiletries, household products, alcoholic beverages
  3. Price range: €€
- Rewe
  1. Nearest stores approx. 1,9 km (EKZ Horner Rennbahn)
  2. Sells: variety of food products (including international foods), toiletries, household products, alcoholic beverages
  3. Price range: €€
- c. Drug stores (does not include pharmacy!)
  - BUDNI
    1. nearest store approx. 1,9km (EKZ Horner Rennbahn)
  - Rossmann
    1. Nearest store ca. 3,7km (Öjendorfer Damm 51b, 22043 Hamburg)
  - Sells: Variety of toiletries, household products, organic foods, alcoholic beverages
  - Note: Most drug stores include a self-service photo printing machine
  - Price range: €€
- d. Pharmacies
  - Marienthaler Apotheke
    1. Approx. 1,2km (Kielmannseggstraße 70, 22043 Hamburg)
    2. Sells: Medication
    3. Note: You'll might need a prescription from a doctor for some medication

## VII. Health insurance

To obtain your student visa for Germany you need to purchase a health insurance equivalent to German standards, i.e., it must cover full medical treatment in Germany. In conclusion, a **standard travel insurance is not sufficient!**



Please take care of this matter as soon as possible, as procedures might take a while depending on where you come from. For some students, exceptions apply (see below).

If this is not the case for you, we suggest you check out the following website, which provides detailed information about how to choose an insurance for studying in Germany: <https://www.studying-in-germany.org/health-insurance-germany-guide/>

a. Exceptions:

- Military students: covered by their respective Service Academy
- ERASMUS students: covered by EHIC

## VIII. Student Life

### 1. Free time on campus

- There are many different student groups (i.e. for Security Policy, Marching and different troop types) and working groups for all kinds of sports (football, handball, basketball, volleyball, etc.)
- Throughout the year a variety of events of a military or academic nature take place (i.e. political education, military events on Thursdays, academic presentations, etc.)
- In addition to military and academic activities, there are also opportunities to participate in various sports on campus. In addition to a running track in DB, there are soccer and basketball fields (in DB) and a beach volleyball court in HB. There is also a gym in the DB and HB that can be used free of charge by members of the university, the same goes for the two Military Fitness Containers.
- If you do not want to run only on the track, you will find many possible routes of different lengths outside the campus (e.g. around the Öjendorfer See). Feel free to ask your roommates for suggestions and more information.
- Normally, internal events are often held with the members of your dormitory. These can be joint sports activities, but also events of a social nature, such as barbecues, watching films or celebrating.

## 2. Free time off campus

- Free time off campus can generally be freely arranged according to one's own interests. In addition to the sights mentioned above, there are many other possibilities. For example, numerous concerts of famous artists or plays, as well as musicals take place throughout the year. There are also many museums and other exhibitions on various topics. Also, other common activities, such as mini-golf, paintball and escape rooms can be done all year round in Hamburg.
- Here is a list of sights in Hamburg and surroundings (free time suggestions): Speicherstadt, Binnenalster (Jungfernstieg), Hafencity/harbour tour, Reeperbahn, musicals/theaters, concerts, bars and restaurants in the „Schanzenviertel“ (subway station “Sternschanze”), Elbphilharmonie, Landungsbrücken, Boberger Dünen, city park “Planten un Blomen”

## IX. Mobility

- In general, for the use of public transport through Hamburg, the “hvv-switch” app is recommended, which can be used free of charge. This app shows the fastest possible connections to the desired destination and additionally the required means of transport. In addition, several providers of public transport are brought together on one platform, so that the ticket booking is simplified and clearer.
- From DB: 5 minutes walk to the bus station “Universität der Bundeswehr“ (take the bus in the direction of „U Wandsbek Markt“ to reach the next subway station)
- From HB: Subway (station called “Horner Rennbahn”) 20min within walking distance (use U2 in the direction of “Niendorf Markt/Nord” or U4 in the direction of “Elbbrücken” to get to the city)
- Car-Sharing (i.e. “MILES”) and E-Scooter-Sharing (“TIER”, “Lime”, “Bolt”, etc.) via Smartphone-App

- For comparatively little money is also the transport offer of MOIA. This can be accessed via the MOIA app or via the hvv-switch app.
- bus station nearby (2 minutes from main campus), taxi 24hrs a week, main campus (DB) within walking distance (15min) or 5 min by bicycle
- bicycle repair by the “Bicycle-grandpa” (just ask your living levels members for further information), App “Swapfiets” for rentable bicycles with a repair service (starts at 16,90 Euros/month) or StadtRAD (Bike-sharing-service from the city of Hamburg), find available bikes and bike stations with the app (30 free minutes, 10 cents for every minute afterwards)

## X. Packing list

Here are some recommendations about items to bring with you:

- Clothes for rainy days (climate is often very humid in northern Germany)
- LAN cable
- Towels
- Adapter
- Your own car, but a parking permit is required for parking on the campus
- Guests are welcome, but must be registered at the main gate. If they wish to stay overnight, they must pay for accommodation on campus