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Bachelor's degree

International Business Information Systems
Furtwangen University • Furtwangen im Schwarzwald

Overview

Degree
Bachelor of Science (BSc)

Teaching language
- English

Languages
All modules of the study programme required for graduation are taught in English.
Additionally, students may choose from a broad range of German-taught elective modules at Furtwangen University. Examples of German-taught elective modules include: software development, app development, consumer research, consumer psychology, online marketing, entrepreneurship, finance management, e-shop design, graphic design and digital media.

Programme duration
7 semesters

Beginning
Summer semester

More information on beginning of studies
Applicants who want start in the winter semester should contact the study programme's director via e-mail: pavel.rawe@hs-furtwangen.de

Application deadline
15 January for summer semester (starting 15 March)

Tuition fees per semester in EUR
Varied

Additional information on tuition fees
There is a 1,500 EUR tuition fee per semester for non-EU citizens.
Students with a European Union citizenship do not pay tuition fees.

Joint degree / double degree programme
No

Description/content
Digitalisation is the biggest growth market worldwide – waiting for young talents to shape it! The "International Business Information Systems" Bachelor’s programme delivers know-how and key qualifications in digital business, computer science and data science for the 21st century.

Professors with extensive management and research experience teach applicable knowledge and methods to prepare students for careers in business management and consulting.
Four qualities make this programme and faculty unique:

- It is the only accredited Bachelor’s programme in Germany in the field of Business Information Systems taught 100% in English, combining digital business management with computer science and data science.
- It is the first faculty in Germany that founded Business Information Systems (in 1971).
- It is the only faculty in Germany and the first faculty worldwide that teaches and certifies students to become experts in Efficient Resource Planning (ERP) on its own SAP system.
- The faculty has some of the best hardware and software equipment in Germany to teach and train students in data science, big data analysis and eCommerce (eShop Design).

Students benefit from dedicated mentoring and individual talent-based career development plans, combined with the faculty’s excellent reputation and professors with management experience, helping them to achieve outstanding career perspectives worldwide.

The Business Information Systems degree programme teaches the theory and practice of business administration in combination with computer science.

Examples of topics students learn during the first three semesters include the following:

- Business Management & Financial Accounting
- Programming Fundamentals
- IT Systems & Network Architectures
- Databases, Applied Mathematics & Statistics
- Digital Marketing & eCommerce

With these fundamentals, students in advanced semesters learn to:

- collect, store and secure data for business strategy and decision-making
- analyse big data for business intelligence reports and controlling
- understand business processes to plan the efficient use of company resources
- configure and apply information technology (IT) to solve and optimise tasks in production, logistics, marketing, and revenue management

Work-based learning right from the start: Professors and industry managers work with students on case studies and hands-on exercises, providing first-hand insight into current topics.

Excellent career perspectives:

- Eighty-five percent of the faculty’s international students get a full-time job and stay in Germany.
- Students can meet representatives from more than 90 different companies at the university’s career fair twice a year.
- After only 1.5 years of study, students have their first opportunity to earn money and carry out IT-related work during an internship.

Choose the best possible start for your business career in Germany and internationally!

Course Details

Course organisation

The International Business Information Systems Bachelor’s degree programme at Furtwangen University is designed to take **seven semesters (3.5 years)**.

- Each six-month semester consists of lectures and a three-week exam period followed by a break of several weeks.
- The teaching language is English. German language courses at the university are available at no extra charge.

In the first three semesters, students take foundation courses and learn the fundamentals of business management and computer science.
In the fourth semester, students gain practical experience in a paid internship. They spend six months in a company, during which they apply the theoretical knowledge and skills learned.

In the final three semesters, students take advanced courses. Five elective courses may be chosen to acquire deeper knowledge of special subjects of individual interest. Electives can be taken, for example, in app development and advanced programming, performance marketing, data analytics or logistics & digital supply chain management. Elective courses may also be taken at a partner university abroad.

The study programme is completed with the Bachelor’s thesis in the seventh semester.

- The thesis is dedicated to research in a topic of the student's special interest.
- Students are prepared for the thesis by a dedicated course in scientific working, research methods and academic writing.
- The Bachelor’s thesis may be carried out in cooperation with a company to develop a solution for a real-life task.
- A successful thesis carried out in cooperation with a company at the end of a study programme is an advantage for our students, as it might be easier to gain full-time employment in the company afterwards.

Hands-on exercise with technical systems and applied methods in state-of-the-art laboratories are an essential part of the practically-oriented study programme. Students train their skills in various case studies, business projects and software projects.

PDF Download

Types of assessment
- Written exams
- Solution-oriented projects
- Creative solutions in team work
- Case studies
- Scientific elaborations
- Bachelor’s thesis
- Oral exam

A Diploma supplement will be issued
Yes

International elements
- Integrated study abroad unit(s)
- Language training provided
- Training in intercultural skills

Integrated study abroad unit(s)
In the sixth semester, students may study abroad as free movers or at one of the 28 cooperating partner universities worldwide.

Various elective courses may be taken in English at a partner university abroad. The Faculty of Business Information Systems cooperates with leading universities worldwide, such as:

- Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology – Korea
- University of Economics, Prague – Czech Republic
- Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio de Janeiro – Brazil

The chosen and successfully passed elective courses at the partner university abroad are credited to the student once he/she returns to Furtwangen University (according to ECTS = European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System).

Integrated internships
In the fourth semester, students gain practical hands-on experience in a paid internship.

- Students spend six months in a company, during which they apply the theoretical knowledge and skills learned in the first three semesters of the study programme.
- Students apply and select a company of their choice. Already in their first semester,
students are trained by the faculty in the methods and skills needed to successfully apply for a part-time job, an internship, a thesis job and later a full-time job.

Additionally, the Bachelor’s thesis may be carried out in cooperation with a company to develop a solution for a real-life task.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special promotion / funding of the programme</th>
<th>DAAD</th>
<th>ERASMUS+</th>
<th>Other (e.g. state level)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of DAAD funding programme</td>
<td>DAAD-PROMOS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course-specific, integrated German language courses</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course-specific, integrated English language courses</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The course of study can be taken entirely online</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital learning and teaching modules</td>
<td>Virtual classrooms</td>
<td>Video learning</td>
<td>Chats with lecturers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of e-learning elements</td>
<td>VIDEO LEARNING</td>
<td>Access to Lynda.com: online platforms with video tutorials to learn business, software, technology, creative skills</td>
<td>Access to Video2Brain: online platforms with video tutorials to learn business, software, technology, creative skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATS WITH LECTURERS</td>
<td>FELIX provides forums and chats for group discussions and/or individual communication with the lecturer</td>
<td>SKYPE: Students may chat with their lecturer to discuss current topics during their internship abroad or thesis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LABORATORIES</td>
<td>LAB for Efficient Resource Planning (ERP SAP)</td>
<td>LAB for Usability Tests and Online User Experience Design</td>
<td>LAB for eCommerce and eShop Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the e-learning course elements is compulsory</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can ECTS points be</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Can the e-learning elements be taken without signing up for the course of study?  

No

## Costs / Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</th>
<th>1,500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional information on tuition fees</td>
<td>There is a 1,500 EUR tuition fee per semester for non-EU citizens. Students with a European Union citizenship do not pay tuition fees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester contribution</td>
<td>130 EUR administration fee per semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs of living</td>
<td>On average, 650 EUR per month including accommodation, food, health insurance and public transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding opportunities within the university</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university

Option one: The Germany Scholarship supports particularly gifted students whose background suggests that they will be particularly successful in their studies and career. Besides outstanding academic grades, a commitment to social causes and special personal achievements (for example, the overcoming of personal obstacles in one’s academic background) are taken into consideration in the selection process for the Germany Scholarships. The scholarship is awarded for a minimum of two semesters and is normally only granted for the duration of the regular study period. The Germany Scholarship is awarded by the university. The application period is announced well in advance. (Only matriculated students may apply.)

Option two: DAAD Stibet Programme (only matriculated students may apply), deadlines 1 March and 1 September

For further information please contact the director of the international study programme: pavel.rawe(at)hs-furtwangen.de

## Requirements / Registration

### Academic Admission Requirements

1. **Copies** of school leaving certificates (and university certificates, if available) must be **verified at a German embassy or consulate** in the home country of the candidate.
2. **These verified copies must be validated** by the Studienkolleg Center for International Students in Constance, Germany.
3. Proof of **proficiency in written and spoken English at B2 level** (see language requirements)
4. **Letter of motivation** (one page explaining your background, goals, and strengths)

### Language requirements

Applicants are required to prove their proficiency in written and spoken English at B2 level (upper-intermediate level) of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), or Cambridge FCE level indicated more precisely by one of the following tests:
- TOEFL ibt test score minimum 79 (TOEFL cbt score min. 213, TOEFL PBT min. 550)
- IELTS test score minimum 6.25
- Cambridge English scale minimum 175
- Cambridge English scale minimum 175
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English, grade B or above
- Cambridge Advanced Certificate in English, grade A
- GCSE in English, grade B or above
- International GCSE in English as a second language, grade B or above
- German Abitur or Fachhochschulreife, English mark of 2.0 (10, 11, 12 points) or above

Alternatively, students may submit a confirmation from their previous university that their education was conducted in English if the student has successfully completed at least one year (two semesters) at a different university.

Application deadline
15 January for summer semester (starting 15 March)

Submit application to
All applicants apply at dosv.Hochschulstart.de.

Applicants from abroad must send verified copies of their school leaving certificates for validation by postal mail to Studienkolleg.Center for International Students in Constance.

The application must be sent via postal mail to
Hochschule Furtwangen
Zulassungsamt
Robert-Gerwig-Platz 1
78120 Furtwangen
Germany

Services

Possibility of finding part-time employment
Sixty-five percent of students in the Business Information Systems department have a part-time job working two days a week.

- Students can get in contact with more than 90 regional and international companies at a job fair organised by Furtwangen University at the campus twice a year.
- Enrolled students find hundreds of available part-time jobs, internships, thesis jobs and full-time jobs at the job portal of Furtwangen University.

Students who learn to speak fluent German may apply for a Cooperative Trainee Programme. This is a paid traineeship integrated in the study programme. Students participating in this programme earn approx. 850 EUR per month and work only during lecture-free periods, and they also work in the fourth and seventh semester while working on their theses in cooperation with the company.

For further information, please contact the director of the international study programme: pavel.rawe(at)hs-furtwangen.de.

Accommodation
The cost of accommodation in a shared student apartment in Furtwangen start at approx. 195 EUR per month.

There is a variety of available student accommodation facilities for 230 EUR. Furtwangen has the lowest cost of accommodation in Germany.

The faculty of Business Information Systems has prepared a directory of accommodation facilities for students in Furtwangen.

Career advisory service
Furtwangen University is highly job-focused. This entails the following:
Furtwangen University offers an excellent, multidisciplinary education and enjoys an excellent reputation in industry. Furtwangen University is an ideal starting point for a study abroad semester or a Master’s programme abroad. I graduated from the Information Systems programme in Furtwangen, studied abroad in the US and Hong Kong and did my Master’s in Management Science & Engineering at Stanford University in the United States.

Study at Furtwangen University – Business Information Systems

Video made by students in the Business Information Systems Bachelor’s programme at Furtwangen University

more: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vG2ZVdsE4P4

Furtwangen University

Dedicated talent-oriented development plans for each student worked out with his/her counselling professor
Mentoring and training in job application skills
Furtwangen University’s online job portal with thousands of available jobs
Job fair taking place at the university campus two times a year with more than 90 local and international companies participating

Specific specialist or non-specialist support for international students and doctoral candidates
Welcome event
Buddy programme
Tutors
Specialist counselling
Cultural and linguistic preparation

Furtwangen University

Felix H.
MSc, BSc

Supervisor-student ratio 1:16
Faculty of Business Information Systems at Furtwangen University Germany
© Prof Dr Pavel Rawe

Furtwangen University of Applied Sciences is a leading, state-run university of applied sciences in the south-west of Germany. The university was founded in 1850 and has nine departments and offers 51 fully accredited degree programmes, mainly in the fields of technology, health, and business. The excellent facilities include modern lecture halls, an outstanding IT infrastructure, cutting-edge laboratories, and one of the best academic libraries in Germany.

In the International Student Barometer, Furtwangen University was ranked one of the best universities in Germany in the following areas:

- Study programme organisation (second place)
- Quality of lectures (third place)
- Class size and learning support by professors (third place)
- Support through buddy programme (third place)
- Internationally oriented lectures (third place) and
- Host culture (second place).

Benefit from the welcoming culture of Furtwangen University!

University Location

Furtwangen is a safe, friendly and peaceful town with 9,000 inhabitants and 3,500 students. The town benefits from a healthy climate being situated in the heart of the beautiful Black Forest surrounded by lakes, mountains and ski resorts. Furtwangen has the advantage of low costs of living and a high level of employment thanks to the many successful companies located in the area. Both France and Switzerland are within driving distance by car or public bus and train. It is the ideal place to enjoy the great outdoors and to explore the culture that the nearby cities of Freiburg, Heidelberg, Baden-Baden, Stuttgart, Strasbourg, Basel or Zurich have to offer.

Furtwangen is located in one of the most prosperous states in Germany (Baden-Württemberg). This is the state with the highest level of research and development, an employment rate of 97% (2018) and many well-known international companies such as Daimler, Porsche, Bosch, Siemens, Hugo Boss and SAP. This innovative, highly industrialised region is one of the "Four Motors of Europe". Additionally, it is the most popular destination for immigrants to Germany; in 2013, 28% of the population had a migrant background.
Contact

Furtwangen University
Faculty of Business Information Systems

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Tel. +49 77239202950
pavel.rawe@hs-furtwangen.de
Course website: https://www.hs-furtwangen.de/studiengaenge/international-business-information-systems-bachelor/

Last update 19.02.2020 09:36:09
International Programmes in Germany - Database

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The publication is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and by contributions of the participating German institutions of higher education.