



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Preparatory course



German Education Gate: Studienkolleg NRW

Hochschule Fresenius - University of Applied Sciences • Köln



Overview

Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• German• English
Date(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 March 2025 - 28 February 2026• 1 September 2025 - 31 August 2026
Mode of study	Less than 50% online
Phase(s) of attendance in Germany (applies to the entire programme)	Yes, compulsory
Pace of course	Instructor-led (Specific due dates for lectures/assignments/exams)
Additional information on dates and mode of study	<p>The courses are generally taught on site. Occasionally, some classes may be taught online as an exception.</p> <p>Applications may be submitted year-round.</p>
Description/content	<p>German Education Gate is a preparatory programme offered by Studienkolleg NRW (SK NRW) of Hochschule Fresenius. German Education Gate is aimed at international students who do not have a direct German university entrance qualification. This preparatory course is an intensive, high-quality programme that prepares students for the university qualification examination (i.e. "Feststellungsprüfung"). The "Feststellungsprüfung" takes place directly at the Cologne campus of Hochschule Fresenius at the end of the programme. This exam is state-recognised by the Cologne Regional Council ("Bezirksregierung Köln").</p> <p>We offer focus courses in the following three subject areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicine (M course)• Technical sciences (T course – also offered in English!)• Economics (W course) <p>Students can choose either German or English language focus courses and will take the "Feststellungsprüfung" in German or English accordingly.</p> <p>Students in the M course take biology, chemistry, physics and German language classes. Students in the T course take mathematics, physics, chemistry and German or English language classes. Students in the W course take mathematics, economics and language classes in German and</p>

English.

After passing the German "Feststellungsprüfung", students may apply for undergraduate studies (e.g. Bachelor's programmes) at any German university. The English "Feststellungsprüfung" entitles students to apply for undergraduate studies in English in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

From day one, students will have access to all services of the Hochschule Fresenius campus in the centre of Cologne and benefit from the international education environment. Students will be well integrated into small international groups and will be supported by the experienced SK NRW team and lecturers.

Our services at a glance:

- Assistance with visa process, blocked account and travel issues
- Assistance with accommodation, health and liability insurance, public transport ticket
- Academic preparation in the student's subject area (focus course)
- Language courses: B2 + C1 (in the first/main language) and B1 in the second language (W course)
- Intercultural training
- Welcome and orientation programme: living and studying in Germany
- Cultural programme, including culture course and business excursions
- Sample exams
- Individual feedback on learning progress
- "Feststellungsprüfung"
- Timely issuance of certificates for application to universities in the upcoming semester
- Graduation ceremony

Course Details

Course components

- Subject-specific preparation
- General preparation for studies
- Intercultural training
- Orientation "Living in Germany"
- Excursions
- Preparation for entrance examinations
- Language course

Further information on the language course / language courses

- The **M course** includes only German language classes.
- For the **T course**, the course language is German or English.
- The **W course** includes both German and English language classes.

A special programme that does not include German language classes is offered to advanced students who already have an official C1(+) level certificate in German.

Recognised language exams offered (e.g. DSH, TestDaF, TOEFL)

No

Average number of hours per week

30

Do course participants have student status?

No

Does this course involve taking the university entrance examination or

Yes

does the course specifically prepare students for this examination?

Preparation for degree programmes

- Bachelor's degree

Preparation for subject groups

- Law, Economics and Social Sciences
- Engineering
- Mathematics, Natural Sciences
- Medicine
- Veterinary Medicine
- Agriculture, Forestry and Nutritional Science

Further information on subsequent admission to degree programmes/guaranteed admission

After students have passed the state-recognised, university qualification examination ("Feststellungsprüfung") that is conducted by Hochschule Fresenius after the foundation programme, they will be guaranteed admission to selected Bachelor's degree programmes at Hochschule Fresenius.

Average number of participants per group/course

15

Costs / Requirements / Registration

Costs

The study fee for the two-semester preparatory programme ("Studienkolleg"), including the regular subject and language courses and the corresponding university qualification examination ("Feststellungsprüfung"), is 11,440 EUR.

The study fees include a one-time registration fee of 600 EUR which will be charged with the first payment.

This price includes

- Course fees
- Accompanying programme
- Course fees for language course

Costs (alternative package)

8,840 EUR for students with advanced German language proficiency (C1/C2)

This price includes (alternative package)

- Course fees
- Accompanying programme

Further information regarding the price

We offer two packages:

1. Classic – 11,440 EUR

- Preparatory courses & "Feststellungsprüfung"
- German or English language courses (B2/C1)
- Language requirements: Recognised language certificate B1

2. Special – 8,840 EUR

- Preparatory courses & "Feststellungsprüfung"
- Without German language courses
- Language requirements: Recognised language certificate C1/C2

Services included in both packages:

- Assistance with visa procedure
- Welcome day & orientation programme
- Mentoring & cultural programme
- University sports activities
- Sample exams & individual feedback on learning progress
- Graduation ceremony

Please ask for the option to pay in instalments if needed.

Academic admission requirements

Academic requirements vary and depend on the country of origin. In general, students must have completed at least a high school degree that enables them to apply to university in their home country in order to be admitted to Studienkolleg NRW.

A higher education entrance qualification will be needed for students coming from certain countries. Studienkolleg NRW will assist with individual cases.

Prospective students should fill in the application form on the [website](#) and submit the following documents:

- High school diploma (in original language and official translation into English or German, if different, both officially certified)*
- University entrance exam certificate of country of origin, if applicable*
- Language certificates(*)
- Application form
- Resume (curriculum vitae)
- Letter of motivation
- Application photo
- Copy of passport

*These documents have to be officially certified and sent in the original language as well as translated into German or English if the original language is not German or English.

Digital documents are sufficient for the application.

Applicants may be required to take an entrance exam or interview in order to be considered for admission to the German Education Gate programme.

Students will be guaranteed a place in the preparatory programme after successfully completing the interview!

If you do not meet the academic requirements for a preparatory programme or "Feststellungsprüfung" but have a direct university entrance qualification in your home country, please ask for **alternative foundation programmes that you can complete at Hochschule Fresenius**.

Language requirements

The following recognised language certificates are the preferred proof of the required language skills in German: Goethe, TestDaF, DSH, DSD or telc. Certificates of attendance cannot be accepted.

For focus courses in German, a B1 level in German is required. Additionally, an A2 level in English is required for the **W course**. The **M course** and **T course** that are taught in German do not require English language skills.

For the **T course** in English, a B1 level in English is required, but no German language skills are required.

The required language levels must already be met and are according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). If a student's language proficiency is below the aforementioned levels, the student has the option to complete a preliminary language course.

Technical equipment and programmes	A laptop is absolutely essential.
Do applicants require a higher education entrance qualification recognised in Germany?	No
Do applicants have to have already been admitted to a study programme at your university?	No
Submit application to	Please use the application form on our website .

Services

Is accommodation organised?	The organiser helps participants look for accommodation.
Meals	Students can buy meals at the university's cafeteria and around the area of the MediaPark. There are a lot of options, such as cafés, bakeries, salad & wrap bars, restaurants and occasionally food trucks.
Is a social and leisure programme offered?	Yes
Description of social and leisure programme	Welcome days, business excursions, mentoring and cultural programmes, sports activities offered by "Hochschulsport"
Free internet access	Yes
Support in visa matters	Yes
Pick-up service from train station/airport	No
Supervisor-student ratio	1:20

Our Partners



Students of Studienkolleg NRW, 2019

Description of the German Education Gate programme at Studienkolleg NRW from the students' perspectives

» more:
<https://youtu.be/moR6BCz5Pwg>

Hochschule Fresenius - University of Applied Sciences



Hochschule Fresenius is a state-recognised university of applied sciences and one of Germany's largest and most renowned privately run higher education institutions. About 18,000 students study at 10 campuses, which are located in Germany and New York; 120 Bachelor's and Master's study programmes are offered at five departments.

Next Generation Education – since 1848: more than 175 years of experience!

Its practical focus, innovative course content, training that meets the requirements of the job market, small study groups, renowned corporate partners and an extensive alumni network are just some of the advantages Hochschule Fresenius has to offer. Hochschule Fresenius has a history that spans more than 175 years. In 1848, Carl Remigius Fresenius founded the “Chemisches Laboratorium Fresenius”, which was originally devoted to practical laboratory work and education.

Studienkolleg NRW of Hochschule Fresenius is located on the Cologne campus; it offers optimal preparation for the “Feststellungsprüfung” for international students whose degrees do not allow them to directly study at a German university. Hochschule Fresenius has also been

commissioned by the Cologne Regional Council ("Bezirksregierung Köln") to implement the "Feststellungsprüfung".



University location

Cologne is Germany's oldest major city and a bustling metropolis of over a million people with a broad variety of impressive sights. It is also home to the famous Cologne Cathedral, the most visited landmark in Germany. As one of Germany's major university cities, it is not only a centre for academic and student life but also extremely rich in terms of business, art and culture. It offers a variety of international restaurants, and one can find the typical "kölsch" charm in the different neighbourhoods of the city. Cologne hosts numerous cultural events and has internationally known attractions: museums, churches, galleries, theatres, a philharmonic hall and an opera house.

Studienkolleg NRW of Hochschule Fresenius is well located in an architecturally modern complex, the MediaPark, which is close to the city centre and the central train station. It is easily accessible by public transport and has excellent connections to motorways.

Contact

Hochschule Fresenius - University of Applied Sciences
Studienkolleg NRW

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🌐 Course website: <https://studienkolleg-nrw.de/en>

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International Programmes in Germany - Database

www.daad.de/international-programmes

www.daad.de/sommerkurse

Editor

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German Academic Exchange Service

Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany

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GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing

www.gate-germany.de

Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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