



HBC. HOCHSCHULE BIBERACH

INCOMING GUIDE

WELCOME!

INCOMING GUIDE

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Dear international students,

Welcome to Biberach University of Applied Sciences!

Our university stands for future-oriented sustainable teaching and research. We have established thematic focal points in the fields of biotechnology, energy, construction and business administration. Our study programs are closely linked to professional practice and set up in an interdisciplinary manner with an international perspective. With numerous laboratories, studios and workshops, you can enjoy an optimal infrastructure and facilities to exploit your potential, expand your skills and knowledge.

This welcome guide has been compiled to make you feel at home, help you to have a good start and answer questions concerning HBC and your time in Biberach.

The staff of our International Office, our international coordinators as well as the staff of HBC's faculties are happy to assist you for your study exchange at HBC.

Contact: incomings@hochschule-bc.de



HBC.
HOCHSCHULE
BIBERACH
UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES



KEY FACTS ABOUT HBC

OUR COMMUNITY

2.500 STUDENTS IN 17 STUDY PROGRAMS

INTENSIVE SUPPORT

85 PROFESSORS, 340 LECTURERS, 210 EMPLOYEES

CLEAR GOALS

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL UNIVERSITY BY 2040

SPACE FOR DEVELOPMENT

2 CAMPUS LOCATIONS IN BIBERACH CITY AND ASPACH

COMMITMENT

WE ENSURE EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AT HBC

IMPORTANT DATES AND APPLICATION

| | WINTER SEMESTER (OCT - FEB) | SUMMER SEMESTER (MAR - JUL) |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| NOMINATION DEADLINE | May 1 st | November 1 st |
| APPLICATION DEADLINE | May 15 th | November 15 th |
| ORIENTATION WEEK | 1 week before semester start | 1 week before semester start |
| SEMESTER PERIOD | October - February | Mid-March - July |
| EXAM PERIOD | January | July/August |

Incoming exchange students must be nominated by their home university: digital nomination via the EWP network (for Erasmus exchange students) or via E-mail for non-Erasmus exchange students to: incomings@hochschule-bc.de. After the nomination is accepted, HBC's International Office will send nominated students a link to our online application portal with instructions on application as well as other practical information.

HOW TO FIND US

CAMPUS STADT (CENTER CITY)

Address: Karlstr. 6-11, 88400 Biberach

Located right in the city center with only 10 minutes walking distance to the market square and 15 minutes to the train station.

CAMPUS ASPACH

Address: Hubertus-Liebrecht-Straße 15, 88400 Biberach

The Faculty of Biotechnology is located at Campus Aspach, 15 minutes by bike from Campus Stadt. There is also the possibility of taking the bus, which will be a 9-minute ride from the main train station in Biberach.



STUDY PROGRAMS

AT HBC

HBC is a transformative university and offers study programmes in the fields of Architecture and Energy Engineering, Civil Engineering and Project Management, Business Administration and Biotechnology.

Theory and practice go hand-in-hand in all of our study programs. Students can acquire extensive theoretical knowledge and practical experience which are highly relevant to the professional requirements in the future workplace.

Faculty of Architecture and Energy Engineering

- Bachelor of Arts in Architecture
- Bachelor of Engineering in Energy Engineering
- Master of Science in Architecture
- Master of Science in Energy and Buildings Systems

Faculty of Business Administration

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Master of Science in Business Administration

Faculty of Civil Engineering and Project Management

- Bachelor of Engineering in Project Management/Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering in Timber Construction Project Management/Civil Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Project Management
- Master of Engineering in Engineering Management
- Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering

Faculty of Biotechnology

- Bachelor of Science in Industrial Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- Master of Science in Industrial Biotechnology
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology





EXCHANGE PROGRAM

AT HBC

An exchange semester HBC will enrich your studies with a unique and memorable experience. Not only will you acquire specific knowledge and improve your language skills, you also have the opportunity to get to know Germans and their culture. Spending time abroad enhances and consolidates your intercultural competence while giving you an important advantage for your future career.

ENGLISH TAUGHT PROGRAM: INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAM (IIP@HBC)

HBC offers intercultural and inter-disciplinary courses in English to give students the competence to address the climate change and its effects on the ecosystem with an international perspective.

Students can choose up to 30 ECTS according to your field of study with a combination of intercultural competence courses, transdisciplinary reflection topics, interdisciplinary projects and subject-specific electives. The courses are offered at Bachelor level.

Designed Sustainability

(Designed for students in Architecture, Business Administration, Civil Engineering, Energy Engineering and Project Management)

The focus is on sustainability in the design and planning of buildings. Students will work on subject-specific tasks in interdisciplinary projects. Competence is imparted to develop an independent approach to a design task and to weigh up real, contradicting boundary conditions on a subject-specific basis. It also includes business topics such as international management, marketing and sales.

Sustainable Biotechnology

(Designed for students in Biotechnology)

Energy balance of processes classically associated with biotechnology (fermentations, heat sterilization, etc.) is addressed. In addition, courses in modern processes of biotechnological production (cultivation of animal cells, from the cell culture bottle to the fermenter), biochemical analysis and purification of proteins are also included.

ENGLISH AND GERMAN LECTURES

A general overview of all lectures offered in English by HBC's faculties can be found [here](#). Your minimum English language level should be B1.

Students who are proficient in German language (minimum B1 level) can also enrol in German-taught courses.

Module manuals in German and English can be found on our website at the corresponding faculties and their study programmes.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

HBC welcomes students from around the world and maintains bilateral agreements with partner institutions in various countries. Incoming exchange students from partner institutions can have an exchange study for one or two semesters without paying tuition fees if the home institution has a bilateral agreement with HBC.

HBC incoming students must be nominated by their home university as a first step, followed by an online application by the deadline (see page 2, online application process).

EXCHANGE STUDY AS FREE MOVER

If your university is not a partner institution of HBC, you can apply as a Free Mover. Free Movers can enrol for one or two semesters at HBC with tuition fees of EUR 1500 per semester (subjected to changes). Free Movers must meet the same language and academic requirements as other exchange students to be admitted. Please contact the International Office which will send you the link for the online application.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Erasmus+ Scholarship: Students from HBC's Erasmus+ Partner institutions (please see following link for our Erasmus+ partner institutions: [HBC Partner Institutions](#)) can apply for an Erasmus+ scholarship at their home institution. Please contact the International Office at your home institution for details of application procedure.

DAAD Scholarships: There are several other [scholarship opportunities](#) offered by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service). Check it out!

Other scholarships: There are also other scholarship opportunities for students from our partner institutions through HBC's various international cooperation projects. Information will be given to students of participating partners in the projects.

CREDIT AND GRADING SYSTEM

ECTS stands for 'European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System' and is a common European grading framework designed to facilitate academic exchanges. Each ECTS credit generally requires 30 hours of work, approximately.

The scale of German grading system is as follow:

1 - 1.5 Very good / 1.6 - 2.5 Good / 2.6 - 3.5 Satisfactory / 3.6 - 4.0 Sufficient / Below 4.0 Fail

COMING TO BIBERACH

VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT

Visa requirements for exchange studies vary, depending on the student's citizenship. As visa application takes time, it is essential that incoming exchange students start the application process at an early stage. Please contact the German Embassy or Consulate in your country immediately after you receive the Letter of Acceptance from HBC's International Office. Detailed information on student visa can be found [here](#) and also in the [Visa Navigator](#). After arriving in Biberach, students must register at the city and apply for the residence permit at the foreigner registration office (for non-EU citizens only). The International Office will arrange the appointments for students during orientation.

MENTORING PROGRAM

Incoming students will be assigned an HBC student as their mentor before they travel to Germany. The mentors will assist the incoming students to settle down in Biberach and to integrate in the campus life at HBC.

GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES

Getting in touch with local culture and people is an essential part of the exchange experience. To facilitate this, HBC offers German language courses (2 ECTS) on beginner and advanced levels (A1 – B2) to incoming exchange students that begins during orientation week and continues throughout the semester.

INSURANCE

Statutory health insurance is compulsory for all students in Germany. Our online application form includes a membership declaration of a well-known insurance company (AOK) that is accepted by HBC. You must pay a monthly fee (approx. EUR 110) directly to AOK and then you are authorized to receive healthcare or go to the hospital. Most of the fees are covered. Health insurance from abroad, especially travel insurance, cannot be considered. If you have your own insurance, please make sure that it is accepted at HBC.

Students who are from another EU country are covered by their home insurance. Please bring your insurance card.

HOUSING

We recommend students to stay in shared apartment ('Wohngemeinschaft' (WG) in Germany). It is usually an apartment shared by several tenants, each with their own room and shared areas such as bathroom, kitchen and living room. Living in a WG is a great way to make friends and learn more about local cultures. There are fully furnished rooms at affordable prices available in Biberach. You can look for a private room on the following websites:

www.wg-gesucht.de

<https://www.wg-suche.de/>

<https://www.immobilienscout24.de/>

ORIENTATION WEEK

We know going abroad to a foreign country is a big challenge and transition – have no fear! Our orientation program will help simplify your stay and make it more enjoyable. During orientation students will visit the university's facilities and obtain information on all administrative procedures related to the study period. It is also particularly important to get to know the structures in Germany, therefore all administrative issues will be accompanied by us. registration at the city and foreigner registration office, opening a bank account, amongst others.

We will also organize an intercultural training seminar. We all need intercultural skills in our studies, on the job and in daily life. As you are new in Germany, this is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on your individual experiences and improve your intercultural competence.

COSTS OF EDUCATION AND LIVING

Germany is not that expensive compared to other countries in Europe. [Here](#) you can find an overview of the estimated costs.

SPORT PROGRAMS

HBC offers a wide range of sport activities – for free. You can play volleyball, basketball, football, ultimate frisbee, do workouts or go for a run with your study colleagues. If this is not enough, you can join several other sport groups in or around Biberach. And if you are interested in Football: There is a successful American Football team in town – the [Biberach Beavers](#).



CAMPUS FACILITIES

LOGIN DATA

You will receive your personal HBC login access after successful enrolment. After activating your login, you can get access to the campus Wi-Fi internet, webmail and all online platforms that are essential for your studies.

STUDENT CARD

The HBC student card has several different functions: identification, access control, cashless payment for food and beverages in the campus area, library card and use of the photocopy machines on campus. Your personal student card will be issued during Orientation Week after students have paid the Semester contribution to Student Services (EUR 60,-).

LIBRARY

Whether researching, writing a seminar paper or preparing for an internship - with numerous workstations and an extensive stock of literature relevant to the course of study, the HBC library offers everyone a quiet and practical place to work. It also offers various training courses for information literacy. Students can make an appointment with a librarian so that special needs can be catered for.

CANTEEN

The canteen is operated by the Student Services and offer a wide range of catering. You can enjoy meals with conscience, fair trade coffee and the side dishes of pasta, rice and potatoes that are mostly organically grown. Payment can be made with a bank card or pre-loaded student card. Outside opening times, vending machines are available on the campuses to ensure the supply of drinks and snacks.

IT SUPPORT

Our IT help desk assists students with technical issues related to HBC digital platforms.

E-Mail: helpdesk@hochschule-bc.de

STUDENT SERVICES - STUDIERENDENWERK

'Studierendenwerk' is responsible for the economic, social, health and cultural care and support of students. As a non-profit organization, it offers its services at an optimal and fair price-performance ratio. They also offer counselling services for students in need.

STUDENT PUB 'HECHT'

'Hecht' is a self-organized pub by students for student's right on the city campus. This is where people meet, play and celebrate. In addition, of course, there are other social events like the first semester party, parties organized by the student councils and the winter ball at the end of the year.





BIBERACH AND THE REGION

HISTORIC AND ENERGETIC

Biberach is located in upper Swabia between the river Danube and Lake Constance. It can look back on a rich historical past. Nowadays it also a significant industrial location in the southwest of Germany where numerous renowned multi-international corporates establish their headquarters.

LEISURE AND NATURE

Body and soul feel at ease here, historical and nature highlights are in the immediate vicinity, it is also only 152 km from Munich, near The Alps and Lake Constance. Many leisure activities are offered in the region, both outdoors and indoors for all seasons.

CULTURAL AND SPORT ACTIVITIES

HBC offers various clubs for students who are interested in cultural or sport activities. For music lovers, bring along your instrument and join the HBC orchestra, big band, and choir. You can also experience a wide range of sport activities, like volleyball, basketball, football, running groups or even American football organized by students, together with local sports clubs. Joining sport activities is not only fun and keep you fit, you can also quickly get to know other students!

FESTIVE EVENTS

‘Schützenfest’ is a historic festival held annually in July and lasts ten days. The name ‘Schützenfest’ comes from the German noun Schütze, meaning marksman. The city is filled with festive atmosphere with lots of events organized throughout the city. The Christmas market is another highlight of the year. Stalls with different crafts and cuisine are set up in the beautiful historical market square. It is a perfect place to meet friends for a warm mulled wine.



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

You can use the city's well-developed bus network (ÖPNV). During the day, buses run at least every 30 minutes and even more frequently, depending on the district. All bus lines congregate at the market plaza and train station. There you can easily switch from one bus to the next. At night and on weekends, you can use the dial-a-ride transit programme (Anrufsammeltaxi, or AST).

You can check the public transportation connection in the following websites:

Bus timetables:

<https://www.swbc.de/verkehr/fahrplaene.php>

Travel planner:

<https://www.ding.eu/fahrplan/fahrplanauskunft>

BIKE RENTAL

It is very easy and convenient to get around with a bike in Biberach, no matter it is for daily commuting or for a bike tour around the region.

There are several bike rentals companies in Biberach offering rental service of bicycles, mountain bikes and e-bikes.

<https://tourismus.biberach-riss.de/aktiv-erholen/rad-tipps/fahrrad-verleih/>

COSTS OF EDUCATION AND LIVING

In order to achieve the goal of an energy self-sufficient and emission-free university campus, we offer students and staff a vehicle sharing scheme consisting of e-scooters, bicycles, pedelecs and e-cargo bikes.

Biberach University of Applied Sciences is developing a sustainable, economical, community-orientated sharing service in rural Baden-Württemberg. This enables us to offer our students and staff a productive, flexible and environmentally friendly mobility service.

With this, we want to fulfil our role as a driving force for the city, region and state of Baden-Württemberg and achieve our goal of becoming a climate-neutral university by 2030. By looking at things from two perspectives - users and the operators - we can offer smart solutions to everyone involved.



Image: Fouad Vollmer Werbeagentur

EMERGENCIES

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| EMERGENCY NUMBERS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police: 110• Fire Department: 112• Paramedics: 112• Poisoning: +49 761 19240 |
| REPORTING AN EMERGENCY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who are you?• Where has the emergency taken place?• What has happened?• Who is affected?• What is the current situation?• Are people in danger? |
| EMERGENCY SERVICES (DOCTOR) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 116 117 |

USEFUL LINKS

| | |
|--|---|
| HOMEPAGE OF THE CITY OF BIBERACH | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://welcome.biberach-riss.de |
| STUDY IN GERMANY GENERAL INFORMATION AND TIPS ABOUT STUDYING AND LIVING IN GERMANY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.study-in-germany.de/en/ |
| RAILWAY: TIMETABLE, TRAVEL CARD & TICKETS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://ww.bahn.de |
| TOURISM OFFICE OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.tourism-bw.com |
| DIRECTORYS / SERVICES | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.gelbeseiten.de/ |



MINI DICTIONARY

ENGLISH - GERMAN - SWABIAN

| ENGLISH | GERMAN | SWABIAN |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hi (informal) | Hallo | Hallöle |
| Hello (formal) | Guten Tag | Grüß Gott |
| Hi everybody (informal) | Hallo zusammen | Hallöle zsamma |
| How are you? | Wie geht es dir? | Wie gohd's dr? |
| Thanks | Danke | Dankschee |
| You're welcome | Bitte, gern geschehen | Bidde, gern gschää |
| Sorry | Entschuldigung | Tschuldigung |
| What's your name? | Wie heisst du? | Wie hoisch? |
| Where do you come from? | Woher kommst du? | Wohär komsch? |
| Yes, please | Ja, gerne | Jo gern |
| Bye, see you soon | Tschüss, bis bald | Tschüssle |
| Have a nice day! | Einen schönen Tag! | Scheena Dag |
| All the best! | Alles Gute! | Älls Guade! |
| Do you speak German? (formal) | Sprechen Sie Deutsch? | Schwätztad Sie deitsch? |
| Where is the pharmacy? | Wo finde ich die Apotheke? | Wo isch a Abodeeg? |
| headache | Kopfschmerzen | Schädlweh |
| bike | Fahrrad | Drahtesel |
| toilets | Toiletten | Klo |
| windows | Fenster | Fenschdr |
| cell phone | Handy | Händy |
| to call | anrufen | arufa |
| to eat | essen | essa |
| to drink | trinken | saufa |

CONTACT AND ENQUIRY

More information will be available at:
www.hochschule-bc.de/studium/international

For enquiry, please kindly contact:
incomings@hochschule-bc.de

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