Broaden your mind – study with us
Guide for international students
Dear Students,

We are pleased that you have chosen to undertake your study abroad experience at Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences (UAS) and welcome you most warmly. We offer attractive international programmes of study for students from all over the world. Professors, the staff at the International Office and the Career Service, as well as students involved in the Buddy Programme will support you with advice and practical assistance in order to make your day-to-day life as easy as possible.

This guide gives you an initial overview of Aschaffenburg UAS and its programme as well as providing you with practical information about your arrival and your time in Aschaffenburg.

We wish you the best of luck with your studies and we hope you enjoy enriching experiences in Germany, Aschaffenburg and at Aschaffenburg UAS!

Your International Office
Germany is located directly in the heart of Europe and extends from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Alps in the south. The highest mountain is the Zugspitze; the longest rivers are the Rhine, Elbe and Danube.

Germany is not big in size but offers one of the highest standards of living in the world as well as diverse art and culture and it is well-known for its high-quality products. With its 82 million inhabitants it has the largest population of all EU member states.

Aschaffenburg is a medium-sized city with a population of around 70,000 and offers a good quality of life. The city lies on the River Main and is famous for its seven municipal museums, its interesting and varied cultural programme and a wide variety of cafés, bars and clubs. Annual festivals such as the Afro-Caribbean Festival, the Volksfest in June and the big Stadtfest in August attract visitors from all over the country. They are permanent highlights in the city’s event calendar and popular among young and old alike.

Situated between large conurbations and areas of unspoilt nature, Aschaffenburg has often been described as a city where people can enjoy life to the fullest.
Aschaffenburg UAS is one of Germany’s leading young universities and was founded in 1994. We offer forward-looking programmes geared towards putting the latest research into practice so as to provide our students with outstanding prospects for their future careers.

Aschaffenburg UAS became a teaching institution in 1995 and it has grown rapidly ever since. Today, more than 150 professors and lecturers teach approximately 3,400 students. Due to its achievements in teaching and research as well as the international outlook of its programmes of study, Aschaffenburg UAS has been rated among Germany’s leading institutions in various rankings.

Aschaffenburg UAS offers its students all the advantages of a small yet modern university: a personal atmosphere, small study groups, individual mentoring by highly committed teaching staff as well as modern equipment in lecture halls and labs. The campus with its historical buildings and green area is situated close to the town centre and all facilities are within walking distance.
2.1 FACULTIES AND DEGREE PROGRAMMES

All study programmes taught at Aschaffenburg UAS are housed in two faculties: the Faculty of Business and Law and the Faculty of Engineering. Each faculty comprises a roughly equal number of students and is responsible for all activities within its respective disciplines, including teaching, research and development.

Exchange students and international degree students can choose from the following degree programmes:

Faculty of Business and Law

Bachelor’s Programmes
- Business Administration (B.A.)
- Business Administration for SME (B.A.)
- Business Administration and Law (B.A. / LL.B.)
- International Real Estate Management (B.A.)

Master’s Programmes
- Business Administration and Law (M.A./M.Sc./LL.M.)
- International Management (M.A.)
- Real Estate Management (M.A.)

Faculty of Engineering

Bachelor’s Programmes
- Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (B.Eng.)
- Renewable Energies and Energy Management (B.Eng.)
- International Technical Sales Management (B.Eng.)
- Multimedia Communication and Documentation (B.Sc.)
- Mechatronics (B.Eng.)
- Industrial Engineering (B.Eng.)
- Industrial Engineering and Materials Technologies (B.Eng.)

Master’s Programmes
- Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (M.Eng.)
- Industrial Engineering (M.Sc.)

Grading System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Grade</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,0 - 1,3</td>
<td>VERY GOOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,7 - 2,0</td>
<td>GOOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,7 - 3,3</td>
<td>SATISFACTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,7 - 4,0</td>
<td>SUFFICIENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,0</td>
<td>FAIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winter Semester: October 1st
Summer Semester: March 15th

Exams: End of January/ beginning of February
End: February 14th

2.2 COURSES

Course Offer

Degree Students
The language of instruction for our Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes is generally German. The Faculty of Business and Law offers an English-taught Master in International Management. You will need to provide evidence that you have reached a certain level in German for admission. For further information concerning the application process and the German tests that are accepted at Aschaffenburg UAS, please have a look at our homepage:

www.th-ab.de/admissions

Exchange Students
You can choose from the regular range of courses taught in English and from the courses taught in German, depending on your German skill level.

www.th-ab.de/course-offer

German as Foreign Language

Aschaffenburg UAS offers “German as a Foreign Language” courses for different levels. These courses are taught in the winter and summer semester.

2.3 ACADEMIC YEAR

No fees will be charged by Aschaffenburg UAS, but you will have to pay the Studentenwerk (student services) fee, which is currently € 50 per semester.

2.4 FEES
Aschaffenburg UAS is a beautiful campus with historical roots. Our facilities including the library and many laboratories are fitted with the latest technology and equipment, providing for an inspiring learning environment.

3.1 CAMPUS MAP

A small, walkable campus means you’re always just a few minutes away from your classmates and professors. All student facilities are clustered on campus, too, so you have easy access to sports and study services. And if you happen to need any outside inspiration, Aschaffenburg city centre is just outside the campus area of course.
3.3 CAMPUS CARD

Every student of Aschaffenburg UAS is issued a personalised Campus Card which can be used as follows:

- Student ID
- Paying in the Mensa (cafeteria)
- Copying
- Borrowing books in the library
- Accessing rooms in the Computer Centre and Language Centre
- Getting discounts at museums, cinemas, theatres, etc.

You can charge this card at one of the terminals (using a Maestro card) or at the cash-desk in the Mensa.

For more information check our guide to the library:
www.th-ab.de/library

3.4 SPORTS

Our sports programme include a mix of exercise classes, health-oriented courses, and current trend sports, all taught by experienced teachers. All students are welcome to participate, from beginners to advanced athletes.

You can find the current sports programme on our website:
www.th-ab.de/sports

3.5 STUDENT UNION

The Student Union (Studentenvertretung Aschaffenburg) is the voice of students on campus, serving as both a student government with representation in the university leadership and as an organisation offering social and extracurricular events on campus.

International students are warmly welcomed to get involved!

www.studentenvertretung.de
4.1 COUNSELLING

Administrative and Social Counselling

If you have any questions of a personal, administrative or social nature, please contact the International Office:

International Office

Building 1 / Room E13
Phone: +49 (0)6021/4206-850
E-mail: incoming@th-ab.de

Academic Counselling

For questions concerning your subject of study, please contact your international departmental coordinator:

Faculty of Business Administration and Law

Prof. Dr. Alexandra Angress
Building 20 / Room E04
Phone: +49 (0)6021/4206-740
E-Mail: alexandra.angress@th-ab.de

Faculty of Engineering

Prof. Dr. Kai Borgeest
Building 4 / Room E01
Phone: +49 (0)6021/4206-842
E-mail: kai.borgeest@th-ab.de

Prof. Dr. Sylvana Krauße
(International Technical Sales Management)
Building 24 / Room 208
Phone: +49 (0)6021/4206-908
E-mail: sylvana.krausse@th-ab.de

Prof. Dr. Peter Gordon Rötzel
(Multimedia Communication and Documentation)
Building 24 / Room 209
Phone: +49 (0)6021/4206-510
E-mail: peter.roetzel@th-ab.de

Faculty of Business Administration and Law

4.2 APPLICATION

If you plan to attend one or two terms at our university, please contact the International Office at your home university. Your home university informs us about your nomination you will apply online in our application system. Please fill in the form online, print it out, obtain the necessary stamps and signatures and send it to us by e-mail or post. Please bear the application deadlines in mind and note that we will not accept you without a nomination from your International Office. Your application has to be signed by all the relevant coordinators. A Letter of Acceptance will be sent after approval of application.

Application Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>summer semester</td>
<td>December 1st at least</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beginning of lectures</td>
<td>mid-March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>winter semester</td>
<td>June 1st at least</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beginning of lectures</td>
<td>beginning of October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application Deadlines

Due to the limited number of rooms in the student residence, we cannot guarantee all our incoming students a room. Please apply online as soon as being accepted by Aschaffenburg UAS, no later than the above deadlines, sending the original documents directly to the Studentenwerk Würzburg, which runs the student residence in Aschaffenburg. Please note that you also need to upload your Letter of Acceptance at:

http://bit.ly/2fzEW2E (Studentenwerk)

Shared Accommodation

In Germany, many students live in a Wohngemeinschaft (WG) – a private form of flat sharing. Each tenant has their own room but the kitchen and bathroom are shared. The cost of electricity, water, internet and telephone is also shared. For a furnished room in a shared flat you can expect to pay between €300 and €400.

Please check the following websites for rooms to let:

- www.th-ab.de/accomodation
- www.wg-gesucht.de/en/
- www.studenten-wg.de

Temporary Overnight Accommodation

Temporary overnight accommodation can be found on the website of the Tourist Information of Aschaffenburg:

www.info-aschaffenburg.de

Household Package

Studentenwerk offers international students a household box containing bedding (pillow and blanket), the most essential kitchen equipment as well as cleaning utensils.

The household package, which is primarily intended for those students living in the student residence, can be purchased on application and for a small fee.
5.0 During your stay

5.1 BUDDIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

As an international student, you’ll be matched with a local “buddy” who will help you to get settled in Aschaffenburg. Your buddy, a full-time student at Aschaffenburg UAS, will help you with all your administrative and social queries. For instance, they will assist you with registration in town, opening a bank account and answer any questions you have about studying here.

5.2 REGISTRATION IN TOWN

Within a week of your arrival you need to register at the Residents’ Registration Office (Einwohnermeldeamt). After registration you will receive a Confirmation of Registration (Meldebescheinigung) that is required to open a German bank account.

Don’t forget:
- your passport / ID
- your certificate of enrolment
- your rental contract and documents („Wohnungsgeberbescheinigung“)

5.3 OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Most international students open a current account (Girokonto) with a German bank in order to pay their rent and other monthly expenses. You will receive a German debit card (EC-Karte) allowing you to withdraw money from ATMs without paying a service fee and to make cashless purchases.

Don’t forget:
- your passport / ID
- your confirmation of registration
- your certificate of enrolment

Students from countries participating in SEPA do not necessarily need to open a German bank account. Please check with your bank to find out about possible fees for money transfers and withdrawals outside your home country.
5.4 INTERNET, PHONE AND MEDIA

There is free WiFi on the whole campus. You can connect with your student account.

International students can buy a German pre-paid card for mobile phones. Your buddy can assist you in finding a suitable provider.

Every household in Germany is required to pay a licensing fee (Rundfunkbeitrag) of about € 18 per month for public TV and radio. Even if you do not own a TV or radio, you have to pay this fee.

www.rundfunkbeitrag.de

5.5 ORIENTATION WEEKS

Prior to the start of the semester, the International Office offers its exchange students two Orientation Weeks. These weeks are not compulsory for our exchange students but we highly recommend you attend them.

During these weeks we offer intensive German courses. You will be allocated to a group according to your skill level based on an online DaF course (DaF = German as a foreign language).

In addition to the language courses, we plan a welcome programme with excursions as well as a get-together with all the other exchange students and buddies. The programme will be distributed prior to your arrival in Germany.

5.6 SCHEDULE AND LEARNING AGREEMENT

The International Office will help you find all the courses you have selected and create a schedule. Change of Learning Agreement will be possible within a given period of time. Please be aware that all parties have to sign this and keep a copy of it.

5.7 CLASSES

Active participation is expected:
- do ask, if you have questions
- contribute whenever there is an opportunity
- get in contact with your German classmates and don’t be afraid of taking the initiative

However, for most classes, attendance is not compulsory. You are invited to organize your learning in a responsible and self-regulated way.

Often, so-called “Tutorien” are offered, in particular, in the first year. Students help you in these additional classes to grasp the material and help with problem solving, e.g. in maths. They are announced by your professors and on campus.

5.8 GERMAN COURSES

Aschaffenburg UAS offers special German courses for exchange students. These courses are divided into different groups according to German skill level.

5.9 EXAMS

When you register for the courses in the International Office, we also take care of registering you for the exams. The exam period lasts two weeks and you will be issued with an exam schedule two weeks before exams start (see 2.3 for the Academic Calendar).

5.10 EXCURSIONS

During the semester the International Office offers you subsidised excursions to famous sights in and around Aschaffenburg. These will be communicated in our Facebook group (International Students Aschaffenburg) and via e-mail. You can register at the International Office.

5.11 BEFORE RETURNING HOME

Before leaving Germany and Aschaffenburg UAS there are some things you need to settle:

- If you live in the student residence: make an appointment with your buddy & the caretaker two weeks before leaving to show him your room. He will check to ensure everything is in order.
- Inform the Residents’ Registration Office about your departure.
- Close your German bank account.
- Return your household box to the International Office.
- Get your Confirmation of Mobility from the International Office. Your Transcript of Records will be transmitted as soon as your grades have been delivered through the teachers.
6.1 TRANSPORTATION

How to get to Aschaffenburg

Aschaffenburg is located just 40 kilometres from Frankfurt am Main, one of Europe’s main air hubs, making it easy to reach the area by plane. From Frankfurt or other European cities, it is easy to reach Aschaffenburg by train with the Deutsche Bahn network or by long-distance buses.


Getting around

Aschaffenburg public transport facilities include buses, taxis and trains. The buses and trains operate regularly from Monday to Sunday.

For details of tickets and times:
[Links: www.vab-info.de]

Aschaffenburg has three different railway stations: the main station (Hauptbahnhof), the station Aschaffenburg South (Südbahnhof) and one station next to the University (Hochschule). The main station is the most important since long-distance trains stop there.

If you like to explore the region by bike, there are several places to rent a bike in Aschaffenburg.

For example:

- Bike Depot
  Würzburger Str. 64
  www.bike-depot.de

- Heeg Zweiradgeschäft
  Südbahnhofstr. 18
  www.zweirad-heeg.de

- Zweirad Stenger
  Hauptbahnhof / Main Station
  www.stenger-bike.de
### 6.2 COST OF LIVING

According to statistics, German students need about €800 per month to live on. The following table gives you an overview of the general living costs in Aschaffenburg.

#### Average living costs in Aschaffenburg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent including extra costs</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothes, laundry, personal hygiene</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs for public transport</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance, treatment expenses, medicine</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure, culture, sports</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone, Internet, licencing fee for public radio and TV</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.unicum.de (2014)

### 6.3 SHOPPING

Aschaffenburg offers a wide variety of shopping opportunities. Shops are open until 8 pm on weekdays. However, smaller shops and boutiques close earlier. Shops are generally closed on Sundays.

### 6.4 CITY ATTRACTIONS

Aschaffenburg is a hidden treasure in Germany, located on the River Main in the northwest corner of Bavaria, about 30 minutes outside Frankfurt. Here you will find storybook German charm in the form of historical buildings, winding streets and several important landmarks, including the following:

- Johannisburg Castle, an icon of the town dating back to the early 1600s and refurbished in the 1960s
- the Pompeianum, a Roman-style villa built in the 1840s
- the Basilika Church, built in the 10th century
- Schönbusch Park, one of the most beautiful English-style landscape gardens on German soil

For more details of everything the city of Aschaffenburg has to offer: [www.info-aschaffenburg.eu](http://www.info-aschaffenburg.eu)

### 6.5 LEISURE

With its seven museums, a municipal theatre and two cinemas, Aschaffenburg is extraordinarily rich in culture. The city also offers much in the way of sports activities including public swimming pools (indoor and outdoor), an ice rink and a mini-golf course. If you enjoy outdoor pursuits you should take the opportunity to go hiking in the Spessart mountains or take a walk along the River Main, which runs through the city of Aschaffenburg.

**Night Life**

Did you know that Aschaffenburg boasts one of the highest concentrations of inviting pubs and bars in Bavaria? Most cafés, bars, pubs, restaurants and clubs are in the town centre, so you don’t have to go far. Going out is a good way to meet new friends. Just ask the German students what’s on and where they spend their evenings.

#### Bars

- Aloha-Bar
  - Roßmarkt 21
  - [www.alohabar.de](http://www.alohabar.de)
- Cena
  - Weißenburger Straße 8
  - [www.cena-ab.de](http://www.cena-ab.de)

#### Beer gardens

- Adriaans Hofgut Fasanerie
  - Bismarckallee 1
  - [www.adriaans.de](http://www.adriaans.de)
- Hofgarten
  - Hofgartenstraße 1
  - www.hofgarten-kulmbach.de
- Schönbusch
  - Kleine Schönbuschallee 1
  - [www.schoenbusch-ab.de](http://www.schoenbusch-ab.de)

#### Pubs

- Gully
  - Riesengasse 8
  - [www.gully-ab.de](http://www.gully-ab.de)
- Hanseherzel
  - Kleberstraße 4
  - [www.hanseherzel.de](http://www.hanseherzel.de)
- Schlappeseppel
  - Schlappesgasse 28
  - [www.schlappeseppel-ab.de](http://www.schlappeseppel-ab.de)

#### Clubs

- Anna
  - Heinsestraße 5
  - [www.anna-ab.de](http://www.anna-ab.de)
- Colos-Saal
  - Roßmarkt 21
  - [www.colos-saal.de](http://www.colos-saal.de)
- Sedgwick
  - Elisengasse 24
  - [www.sedgwick.de](http://www.sedgwick.de)
Technische Hochschule Aschaffenburg
Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences

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Würzburger Straße 45
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