# Information for Students on Exchange

| **A. University** | Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn (University of Bonn)  
|                   | [www.studyabroad.uni-bonn.de](http://www.studyabroad.uni-bonn.de) |
| **B. Country**    | Germany |

## C. Academics

### i) Module Mapping & Credits Transfer

Please ensure that your Study Plan is approved by the academics at your home faculty before the exchange. You can check with the SEP Coordinator in the Dean's Office of your home faculty.

Modules approved in the past might not be offered by the host university or approved by your faculty when it is time for your exchange. Please check the latest course offerings at the host universities while you are preparing your Study Plan.

### ii) Academic Calendar

**Semester 1:** Early October to early February  
**Semester 2:** Early April to late July  

[https://www.uni-bonn.de/studying/international-students/study-abroad-in-bonn/jyp/academic-calendar](https://www.uni-bonn.de/studying/international-students/study-abroad-in-bonn/jyp/academic-calendar)

The summer term begins on April 1 and ends on September 30. However, the lecture period only runs from mid-April until the middle/end of July. The remaining time, the so-called "vorlesungsfreie Zeit", is intended for writing papers, preparing exams or for internships, etc.

### iii) Exchange Duration

**Semester 2 exchange is recommended** due to overlapping academic calendar.

### iv) Examination

Students are expected to attend the mandatory examination at Bonn during the official examination period until September. Be aware that earlier or extra examinations for exchange students might not be available and subjected to host university’s discretion and approval.

Examination dates vary between Bonn departments but generally take place between July and September in semester 2.

Please approach the respective Bonn’s departmental coordinator at the start of your exchange for the exact examination dates. If the examination date clashes with NUS’ academic calendar, please consider taking alternative modules which allows you to have the examination by late July.

Leave of Absence from NUS is subjected to your home faculty’s approval and is not guaranteed.
### v) Curriculum Structure

Credit for Bachelor’s and Master’s courses is given in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Students are recommended to take modules amounting to approx. 30 ECTS per semester.

Students who take the maximum credits allowed at host university (i.e. 30 ECTS per semester) will be considered for transferring the maximum credits back to NUS.

### vi) Entry Requirements

- (a) registered as a full-time undergraduate student of NUS
- (b) have successfully completed at least two (2) semesters of study at NUS upon admission to the host university;
- (c) not eligible for exchange in the graduating year
- (d) a student of good standing at NUS with
  - a. a minimum upper division second class honours or;
  - b. a minimum B average grade or;
  - c. a CAP of at least 3.0 (out of 5) for NUS students

### vii) Language Proficiency Requirements

Students need to have reached at least the **A1 level in German** based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages before their arrival.

Students need to show proof of having completed German language courses equivalent to at least 80 units of 45 minutes each (=60h in total) or submit the Goethe-Certificate A1: Start Deutsch A1.

### viii) Modules Compatibility

Limited courses are taught in English. **Students are expected to search for the suitable courses taught in English** if they cannot follow the class in German.

Suitable for students from the following NUS faculties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FASS</th>
<th>History</th>
<th>Philosophy</th>
<th>Global Studies</th>
<th>Political Science</th>
<th>English Literature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FoS</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English-taught courses can be found here: [www.basis.uni-bonn.de](http://www.basis.uni-bonn.de)

**ix) Module restrictions and prerequisites**

Modules offered by Bonn’s medical school is not open to exchange students.

**D. Application**

**i) Procedures**

All NUS student has to be nominated by NUS before they can apply for fee-waiver exchange at the host university. The application procedures and list of supporting documents needed by the host university can be found in the SharePoint. Please look for the SEP coordinator at your Dean’s Office for the link to the SharePoint.

Please check with your faculty for its internal application deadlines. After you have been selected by and accepted your faculty's internal offer, your faculty would give you the application instructions of the partner.

Nominated students will receive an email from Bonn to facilitate the online application via Bonn’s online application portal.

You need to upload the following supporting documents for your online application to the host university:

1. Latest transcripts from NUS
2. Health certificate (please use this form)
3. Biometrical passport photo (requirements for biometrical photos here)
4. Proof of at least A1 skills in German. This can be listed on your academic transcript, OR, with a Goethe-Zertifikat A1: Start Deutsch certificate.
5. CV
6. Letter of motivation (describing major reasons for studying in Bonn and possible future career plans and non-academic motivation behind a study abroad stay)

More information can be found here.

**ii) Deadlines**

All NUS student must abide by the internal application deadline set by their home faculty for exchange participation in the following academic year. After clearing the internal application and selection process, students have to take note of the application deadline set by the host university.

**Application duration for submitting application and dorm reservations to host university:**
| Semester 1: 15 October to 31 May  
| Semester 2: 15 April to 30 November |
|---|---|
| Failure to submit a formal application to the host university will result your exchange being forfeited even if you have been selected by NUS for the exchange. |
| Please apply as early as possible in order not to delay the processing of your application in term for the German visa application. |

### E. Accommodations

#### i) University Accommodation

Students will be housed in one of several student dorms, which are located in different areas of town. All dorms are easily accessible either by foot or by public transportation. All rooms are single rooms. Some are equipped with a kitchenette and a private bathroom while others have shared facilities. Rent is about €200-350 per month. Meals are not included.

More information is found here: [www.studentenwerk-bonn.de/wohnen/](http://www.studentenwerk-bonn.de/wohnen/)

Students who have contract that ends in August or September are expected to pay for the rental until August or September. There will be no refund of the rental if you leave the student accommodation earlier.

### F. Visa

#### Consular/Visa Regulation

EU citizens and citizens from the following countries do not need a visa to enter Germany: Australia, Canada, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the United States. However, after entering Germany, you will have to apply for a residence permit at the local "Auslaenderbehörde" (Immigration Office) if you are staying for more than three months.

Students from all other countries must apply for a visa for study purposes via the German diplomatic representation in their home country. You must not under any circumstances travel to Germany on a tourist visa.

All students are advised to apply for the necessary visa immediately after they received the official offer letter/email from their host university.

Some visa application process could take up to 2 months to process. Your exchange at the host university depends on the clearance by the immigration of the host country.

For more guidance on the visa application, please login NUS VPN and access the information on SharePoint shared in the pre-departure briefing slides.

### G. Safety, Health & Medical Insurance

**i) Health/Insurance**

In Germany, all students must have health insurance. Enrolment at the university is only possible with a valid health insurance certificate. Students must have proof of sufficient insurance coverage upon arrival in Bonn.

Bonn recommends purchasing a German public health insurance policy. It covers the prevention, early-detection and treatment of illnesses for outpatients and also includes dental and hospital treatment. It does not cover repatriation costs and in some cases students may have to contribute to the costs of the treatment e.g. prescriptions. This insurance policy is only available to students up to the age of 29 years. Students over the age of 29 are requested to purchase their own private insurance.

For more information on NUS insurance, please refer to:
- [https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/](https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/)

Students are encouraged to take up additional insurance to cover themselves while abroad.

**ii) Emergency Number at host university**

+49 228 73 60612
110 (for police)
112 (for medical services and fire brigade)

### H. Cost of Living

**i) Estimated Monthly Living Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakdown of Costs</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation (student form)</td>
<td>€200-€400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>€90-€95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>€165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (Books, entertainment etc.)</td>
<td>€210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monthly Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>€665-€870</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is a semester social fee of €300 which includes public transportation in Germany.

In order to receive a residence permit, you need to present to the Ausländerbehörde (local foreigner’s registration office) a statement of financial support proving that you have at least €735 to live on for each
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Useful references</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guide for exchange students</strong></td>
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Last updated: 2021.

Note: All information is subject to change.