Erasmus+ for international students at the Faculty of Human Services, Institute for Social Work & Social Welfare

**BASICS**

- 3-12 months
- 30 ECTS per term

*Application Deadlines:*
- Spring Semester -> Jan. 15th
- Autumn Semester -> July 15th

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The University of Kassel is one of the few full universities in Germany offering a **BA degree in social work**. The Institute of Social Work & Social Welfare also runs three Master programs; moreover, it is widely engaged in graduating doctoral students. The department has a strong research orientation, dealing with various issues around social work and social welfare provision, including its legal, educational, psychological, and methodological dimensions (information on this in English can be found on [https://www.uni-kassel.de/fb01/en/departments/sozialwesen/home.html](https://www.uni-kassel.de/fb01/en/departments/sozialwesen/home.html)).

The Department welcomes **ERASMUS students** enrolling with a teaching programme of which a substantial part is held in the English language (examples of courses are given below). The University also offers a broad range of international courses, including the learning of the German language. This fact sheet provides **basic information** for those interested in an exciting stay at a vibrant academic institution in the geographical centre of contemporary Germany!
Application/ Enrolment Process:
- online via https://unikassel.moveon4.de/locallogin/59e8322184fb9689435f7fd8/eng
- exchange students are required to send
  - a letter of motivation
  - proof of language proficiency
  - learning agreement (with the signature of the ERASMUS coordinator at your home university)
- applications can be written both in German or English
- after your application has been approved you will receive your acceptance letter and information about the ‘semester fee’ etc.
- the course selection concerning your learning agreement operates via http://uni-kassel.moveonnet.eu/e-mobility/

Semester Fee/ Student ID:
- the current ‘semester fee’ for all students at the University of Kassel is 280,58 EUR.
- it’s compulsory to pay it right after your arrival in Kassel
- the fee includes a free bus, tram & train ticket in the area of the North Hessian Transport Association (NVV) and certain routes outside
- after paying the fee you’ll receive your student ID/semester ticket & Certificate of Study
- should you want to stay longer than one term, you must pay the fee again (at the start of the second term)

Language Preparation Courses:
- an intensive German language course is offered before the start of each term
- this course prepares you for your stay in Kassel and will improve your general communication skills in German, with good opportunities to meet new people
- key facts regarding this course:
  - duration: 10 days; 4h daily
  - course fee: 80 EUR.
  - 4 ETCS for completing the course
- registration via http://www.uni-kassel.de/sprz/erasmus-anmeldung/

Registration in Germany:
- following your arrival you have to register with the citizens’ office in Kassel within the first week of your stay
  Address: Rathaus Kassel/Bürgerbüro Obere Königsstraße 8 34117 Kassel
- you’ll need:
  - a rental agreement for your flat/dorm
  - a confirmation from your landlord (‘Wohnungsgeberbestätigung’)
  - a valid ID/Passport

Health insurance:
- as a citizen of an EU country, you’ll be covered by the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)
- it provides sufficient health care in emergency situations in hospitals
- check your EHIC with your health insurance/system & apply for additional international insurance if you need to

Arrival/First Steps:
- traveling to Kassel:
  via train:
  - the train station for express trains in Kassel is ‘Kassel Wilhelmshöhe’
  - from there you can take buses or trams to get to the university or your flat/dorm
  via plane:
  - the nearest airports are Kassel Calden Frankfurt/Main Paderborn or Hannover
  - from there you can get to Kassel via coach or train, or take a taxi or Bus (Kassel Calden – city centre)

- when you arrive in Kassel make sure you sign your rental agreement & get rental confirmation if you haven’t received it previously
- open a German bank account (‘Girokonto’) and transfer the ‘semester fee’ to the University
- depending on the time and date you arrive you can visit the ‘Welcome
Erasmus Code: D_KASSEL01

Centre’ (Moritzstr. 18, Campus Center) to receive your student ID, confirmation of study and more information
- register your place of residence with the citizens’ office (see above)
- activate your UniAccount & apply for a library card online via https://userapp.its.uni-kassel.de/sspr/public/activate?locale=en

Accommodation/Housing:
- it is not easy to find cheap accommodation in Kassel; therefore you should start looking and applying rather early (that is, long before coming to Germany)
- there are 16 student halls of residence in which you can stay for one or (max.) two semesters
- prices for rooms range from 200-400 EUR/month, all rental agreements running over a full term
- online application via: http://www.studentenwerk-kassel.de/index.php?id=591&L=1 concerning private rentals, you can check for shared flats (‘Wohngemeinschaften’/WGs)
eg, on https://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/ or https://www.facebook.com/Wohnungen frei in Kassel/?hc_ref=ARQqoYaNqQnb0DVnU4HarF8gu1UR_3wrQXxtjFut-Nyt9ydzUHKlaPauzLyaldSFy8
- if you weren’t able to find an accommodation for your entire stay you can check in for a ‘short term furnished accommodation’ until you find something else (e.g. hostels, AirB&B or hotels)

Orientation Week:
- each term, you can participate in the ‘Orientation Week’ for international students at the University of Kassel
- it’s a whole week full of events helping you to get to know the city, the university, and meet plenty of new people
- it’ll help inform you about the structure and organization of your studies, and you’ll get the chance to ask all the questions that you might have
- registration online via www.uni-kassel.de/go/oweek

(Exemplary schedule of the O-week – summer semester 2018)

- after the ‘Orientation Week’, you also have the opportunity to contact international ‘tutors’ for further questions
 https://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/en/internationales/international-services/welcome/advice-and-services/contact-persons/tutors.html
you can also apply for the ‘Buddy programme’:
- it provides you with an individual contact person that can help you during your stay in Kassel
- fellow students of the University provide support concerning the organization of your studies etc.
- contact: buddy@uni-kassel.de
Social Activities/Living in Kassel:

- an excellent opportunity to socialize and meet up with new people is to join the Campus Club
  [https://www.studentenwerk-kassel.de/en/content/wohnen/unterstuetzung-help/campusclub/](https://www.studentenwerk-kassel.de/en/content/wohnen/unterstuetzung-help/campusclub/)
- a further option is sports (UniSport: [http://hochschulsport.uni-kassel.de/home.php](http://hochschulsport.uni-kassel.de/home.php))
- you can always check the ‘Calendar of Events’ on the Website of the University to see if excursions or other activities are offered
  [http://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/en/internationales/international-services/events/calendar-of-events.html](http://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/en/internationales/international-services/events/calendar-of-events.html)

Teaching Programme (courses held in English) summer term 2019

- Comparing welfare states in Europe
- Psychological perspectives on social situations
- Introduction to international social work
- Migration, transnational families and social work
- Social framing of social intervention
- Public management and welfare provision
- … and others outside the BA (social work) programme

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