Your excellent conditions:

- All modules taught in English
- Fully credited with 30 ECTS points per semester
- Small courses
- Stay for 1 or 2 semesters
- Live on-campus in Birkenfeld, Germany
- No tuition fees

Location:

- The Environmental Campus Birkenfeld was awarded to be Germany’s most sustainable university, pronounced at

The Environmental Campus: A unique idea

Our campus is one of the three sites of the Trier University of Applied Sciences, which is more than 30 years old and cooperates with more than 140 partner institutions worldwide.

Founded in 1996, the Environmental Campus Birkenfeld is still very young and well equipped. We are following a residential campus concept with academic departments, libraries, residences, as well as social and sports facilities in one place.

We not only develop sustainable technologies, we also use them: energy and heat are supplied by a neighboring biomass combined heat and power station, which uses waste wood and biogas. All roofs are equipped with solar panels, the lighting and geothermal climate systems are highly energy efficient.

The Environmental Campus is located near the town of Birkenfeld on the Nahe river, close to the major European centers of Frankfurt, Luxembourg and Trier. The campus has its own railway station and is close to the Kaiserslautern-Trier motorway. It has a direct rail connection to Frankfurt Airport (less than two hours), and Ryanair’s Frankfurt-Hahn hub is only 40 minutes away.

Study Conditions, Accommodation and Fees

Participants in the program will live and study on our modern campus with over 2,700 other students of environmental business, law, sustainable science, information and media technology. All student apartments are reasonably priced. They are fully equipped and provide high-speed internet access as well as being connected to our university intranet.

The university does not charge a tuition fee for the Study Semester. Students will have to pay a 500 Euros administration fee per semester that also covers excursion costs and a general admissions fee of approx. 170 Euros per semester that also allows free rail travel in the region.

Students will enjoy the benefits of our “buddy” concept, with German students providing individual help in getting oriented and integrated in campus life.

All Study Semester course modules are credited in full compliance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

How to apply?

Applications should be submitted by

- 1 May for the winter semester
- 1 November for the summer semester

Please use the electronic forms provided on our website (www.umwelt-campus.de/studysemester).

The application forms have to be signed personally by applicants and by the responsible university referees. They can be sent back via regular mail and via e-mail to studysemester@umwelt-campus.de

Umwelt-Campus Birkenfeld
Study Coordinator „Principles of Sustainable Business”
P.O. Box 1380
55761 Birkenfeld, Germany

In addition to the application form, the following documents must be included with each application:

- Statement of Motivation
- Letter of Reference
- Most Recent Grade Transcript
- Certificate of English Language Proficiency or an equivalent (see website for more information)
Explore Sustainability in Germany

Modules Winter Semester

Module 1: Environmental Management Systems
From cradle to cradle: Together we create a system integrating the interaction between ecological and economical systems via an Eco-Efficiency Approach. Let’s explore value-based management as a powerful tool to measure a company’s profitability. Applications will be tools for sustainable management, such as Environmental Management Systems, Corporate Social Responsibility, Material Flow Management and hands-on Financial Modeling skills to guarantee that eco-friendly solutions are economically feasible.

Module 2: Industrial Ecology and Life Cycle Assessment
Nature knows best: Industrial Ecology Management is based on the thorough understanding of ecological principles. This module focuses on innovative Industrial Ecology applications like eco-industrial networks, resilience management and recycling concepts for critical materials. Lessons will cover the application of a Life Cycle Assessment Software Tool where students will learn how to calculate Product Carbon Footprints.

Module 3: Ecological Economics and Law
Lasting change needs a strong foundation: Germany has been a technocrat in creating a regulatory, legal and economic framework encouraging sustainable development. Restricting the use and waste disposal of resources for economic purposes, growth as an economic target, and the efficient use of declining resources are key topics of this module. Legal areas under discussion include environmental justice, credits and credits and policy gate principles. We study competing concepts and policies in Germany and the EU.

Module 4 & 5: Applied Sustainability Projects
Theory is half the story – Get in the game: We believe that practical application needs to be an integral part of education. In those modules you will have the opportunity to explore the practical aspects of the various facets of sustainability in small teams for an intense learning experience of several days each. Both projects will be organized as excursion workshops in close cooperation with partner institutions and companies.

Module 6: German and International Business Culture
Successful business in both global and local: As an introduction into German business culture and society, this course teaches about the 2000-year tradition of natural protection, why “quite good” means “excellent” and why management needs permission to let you work overtime. We will further look at intercultural perspectives and gain insights into neighboring cultures. This lays the groundwork for your visits to businesses and sites in the region where Germany, France and Luxembourg meet and where global and local business practices are forged.

Modules Summer Semester

Module 1: Solar Energy
Renewable energy for the future: Solar energy is the renewable source with the largest potential; we provide students with extensive knowledge about photovoltaic systems (PV), especially their design, operation and technical components. After learning about these basics, we proceed to a typical PV system with planning, construction and operation phase. Ultimately, participants will be able to successfully plan and operate a PV system.

Module 2: Challenges of Climate Change and Water Resources.
Climate change has arrived: We have already faced with the challenge of understanding global climate. Because to impact in different regions of the world, we will discuss a variety of measures including local adaptation and mitigation strategies. The module will cover practical issues in this scenario. Accordingly, we strive to comprehend human, political, ecological and water management requirements and tools for European and developing countries.

Module 3: Land Use Management and Urban Development
Land is the basis: Land is the beginning and the end of any life cycle, the base for industrialization and food. Classical economics has a broad selection of tools, which includes but not today all “nature”. As we cannot increase the land itself we are forced to make the best and most efficient use of it. Accordingly, we address the relevant tools, such as sustainable urban planning, legal frameworks for urban development and demographic solutions.

Module 4: Fundamentals of Entrepreneurial Management
Good ideas need entrepreneurs: This module aims to raise fundamental elements of managerial competences needed in the field of entrepreneurship and related fields such as financing of ventures and funding alternatives, corporate financial modeling as well as areas such as marketing and cost accounting. We strive to improve the chances of entrepreneurial success for our students and their ideas for a more sustainable future.

Module 5: Consumer Culture and Strategic Marketing
Do good and talk about it: We will question the continuing validity of the traditional equation: human progress = economic growth, and discuss the impact on corporate social responsibility generally of consumers’ developing sense of responsibility towards our environment. Step by step we will illustrate how companies have to employ strategic marketing management in order to withstand markets and optimize the relations between companies and customers.

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