Profile Guide
50,000 students

6,100 new students in the winter semester 2014/2015

500 cooperation agreements and exchange schemes

5,000 international students

260 international scholars
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Cologne is the fourth largest city in Germany, neighbouring the important economic and industrial Rhine/Ruhr area North, and the former West-German capital city of Bonn to the South, altogether home to some 12 million inhabitants.

Cologne was founded in the first century as the Roman Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium. It increased in importance during Germany’s medieval period and became Europe’s largest city at the time. The University of Cologne was founded during this golden age (1388). In the early modern period, Cologne was also an important centre of the Hanseatic League, and after periods of decline growing again dynamically during industrialization.

Unfortunately, bombing during World War II destroyed most of the city, but with its unique location and the economic boom of the late 1950s and 60s, Cologne succeeded to become a hub for services and international trade. Since then, Cologne has also evolved into a centre of innovation. Today, science is the third largest employer with some 20 000 people earning their living in research and teaching.
The University of Cologne is one of the largest universities in Germany, and, considering its founding over 600 years ago, also one of the oldest higher education institutions in the country. Today, the university remains an integral aspect of the city, and has shaped its cultural landscape in many ways.

The University of Cologne was closed in 1798 under French occupation and reopened in 1919. Only six years later, the UoC was among the largest universities in Prussia, second only to Berlin.

Today, the University of Cologne is a research oriented university offering a broad range of BA, MA and PhD-Programmes spanning six faculties: Management, Economics and Social Sciences; Law; Medicine; Arts and Humanities; Mathematics and Natural Sciences; Human Sciences.

Good Ideas since 1388

http://ukoeln.de/868E1
The University of Cologne is home to teaching and research in six faculties and a number of cross-faculty institutions. About 50,000 students and a total of 10,000 academic and non-academic staff are studying and working at the university. Teaching and research alone account for 6,250 staff members at the university and the university hospital.
The University of Cologne is one of the biggest universities in Germany, offering a broad selection of studies. Priding itself on being a dedicated research hub, most of the programmes at the University of Cologne focus on research rather than application. Additionally, teacher training programmes are an integral part of the University’s profile. Applied science study programmes such as engineering or architecture are not offered. The UoC is a founding member of “German U15”, an association of research universities.

This strong research orientation is most prominent in the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, where cross-cutting fundamental research is a priority. Within the broad field of Arts and Humanities there are distinguished foci on the ancient world, literature, non-European languages, especially regarding the African continent and contrastive linguistics.

The Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law have built an excellent reputation and are among the best research institutions in their respective field. Recently fundamental research activities in the areas of quantitative and experimental economy and international law have been expanded.

Many students are attracted to University of Cologne because of its excellent teacher education programmes, combining practice-oriented methodology and close ties to interdisciplinary research.
WISO-FACULTY
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences

8 750 students
(12.3% from abroad)

Photo: Lisa Geller
NUMBER OF STUDENTS
With almost 9,000 students the WiSo Faculty is the largest faculty of its kind in Germany.

INSTITUTES
Some remarkable cross-cutting foci of research and teaching include Design and Behaviour, Business Informatics, Health Economics, Psycho-Economics, Social Psychology, Comparative and European Politics, International and Comparative Political Economy, Economic and Social Geography.

INTERNATIONAL DOUBLE MASTERS WITH
Louvain School of Management // Aalto University School of Business // Warsaw School of Economics // Indian Institute of Management and University of Maastricht.

MASTER’S IN INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT (CEMS MIM)
This international Master Programme provides excellent academic and practical training in international management, together with an international focus for careers in international business environment.

LAUREATES
Prof. Ockenfels, who won the Leibniz prize in 2005 is today heading UoC’s key profile area: “Behavioral Economic Engineering and Social Cognition” and DFG Research Unit “Design & Behavior”

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING
The WiSo Faculty maintains partnerships with over 100 leading institutions of higher education across the globe.

In the field of Management, Economics and Social Sciences WiSo Faculty Cologne leads with respect to internationalisation. More than 50 high-profile professors offer an extensive course programme of unique breadth and variety. Guest lecturers from business as well as public administration make their contribution to hands-on training and education including a wide-ranging and attractive course offer in English, on both Bachelor’s and Master’s level.

The WiSo-Faculty is one of the founding members and the only German participant in a joint study programme with 15 renowned European business schools. Joint degrees are awarded to international programme students together with other Community of European Management Schools (CEMS) like the HEC in Paris, the Bocconi in Milan or the LSE in London. Furthermore, the Faculty is the only German member of the Master’s in International Management programme (MIM), collaborating with 50 worldwide renowned universities. With participating in the Master’s in International Management (CEMS MIM) students have unlimited access to this network.

The WiSo-Faculty also actively engages in cross-faculty cooperations, supporting various interdisciplinary majors, such as media studies, regional studies, or business mathematics. The variety of the major fields of study, its international orientation and interdisciplinary scope, render the WiSo-Faculty one of the most important European faculties of management and economics.

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
zib@uni-koeln.de
www.wiso.uni-koeln.de
FACULTY OF LAW

Students from abroad

4,850 students
(11% from abroad)

Photo: Zweimalig GbR
INSTITUTES
The Faculty of Law at the university of Cologne is one of the oldest and biggest German law schools. Cologne was the first German university in 1388 to offer both canonical law and Roman law. More than six hundred years later the faculty of law is known for its broad variety of specialisations, research areas and international cooperations.

A free language course for the duration of five to six weeks is being offered before the semester starts. Lectures will be held in German.

COOPERATIONS
Individual joint doctorates have been arranged with international universities, among others with the Universities of Bologna (Alma Mater Studiorum), Université Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne), Paris II (Assas), Firenze, Milano (Sacro Cuore), Metz, Prag and Ferrara.

While the traditional curriculum is still one of the biggest programmes of its kind covering civil law, criminal law and public law, leading to the “Staatsexamen”, today, there are plenty of international programmes and specialised programmes offered at the University of Cologne’s Faculty of Law. These international programmes are embedded in a dense exchange network on both student and research level. Through a unique offer of specialisations and close interaction with real world application Students are well trained for different aspects of the local and international job market.

The broad spectrum of research within the faculty is represented by a multitude of specialised institutes which focus on one or more research areas.

CERTIFICATE IN UNITED STATES LAW
This certificate course provides an introduction into the legal system of the United States. The programme is open to visiting students such as participants of ERASMUS. Please note that a “certificate” is not a university degree in law, but a useful addition to your studies.

On a Bachelor level there are double- and joint degree programmes offered in co-operation with partner universities in England, France and Turkey. For law graduates from abroad there is a tailor made LL. M. programme covering both German law and additional specialisation areas. Graduate students can do a Masters at the University of Cologne in corporate tax law or business law. Finally, there are binational LL. M. programmes in French/German and Turkish/German business law.

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, LAW
zib.jura.uni-koeln.de
zib-jura@uni-koeln.de
THE OVERALL VIEW - TEACHING
Teaching is a stronghold of the Medical Faculty – besides patient care and research. The Medical Faculty sets major priority in teaching the future generations of physicians educated in high academic scientific standards.

THREE BASIC DEGREE COURSES LEADING TO THE FIRST UNIVERSITY QUALIFICATION
- Human Medicine
- Dentistry
- Neuroscience

“MODEL DEGREE COURSE COLOGNE”
- Provides practical and behavioural skills for later medical practice
- Unique skills training at the Cologne Interprofessional Skills Lab and Simulation Centre (KISS)
- Multidisciplinary approach to medical care by teaching integrated knowledge in 60 competence fields during pre-clinical and clinical phases of the degree
- Students are enrolled in scientific projects introducing them to independent scientific work

MODEL FOR TEACHING: COLOGNE STUDENTS
- Have the required knowledge and skills to recognize the important and most frequent diseases as well as acute life-threatening situations, and initiate the appropriate treatment;
- Observe codes of behaviour and attitudes that are acceptable by patients and their families as required for a career in healing as well as the reputation of professional physicians in society;
• Are willing and suited to take on self-motivated and knowledge-based further training, not only in general medicine, but also in a clinical discipline or a basic research topic of their choice.

THE UNIVERSITY CLINIC COLOGNE – CUTTING-EDGE MEDICINE, DAY BY DAY. HAND IN HAND.

• Modern hospital with maximal care
• Dedicated to research-oriented, innovative and human cutting edge medicine
• 58 clinics and institutes offer almost the entire range of medical services
• More than 50,000 in-patients and over 20,000 out-patients each year
• With 11 subsidiary companies and about 8,400 employees one of the largest employers in Cologne

NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE – RESEARCH AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

• About 1800 scientists work at the Faculty of Medicine
• Their research span profiles the entire range of molecular medicine, from cell biology and animal models to translational research
• The Faculty of Medicine has deliberately created scientific networks to achieve synergy in research: Faculty research foci, Cluster of Excellence in Cellular Stress responses and Aging-Associated Diseases (CECAD), Centre for Molecular Medicine (CMMK), Centre for Clinical Studies (CCS)

руз RESEARCH FOCI
Tissue Homeostasis, Metabolism and Degeneration // Tumours, Infections and Immune Defence // Neuromodulation.

руз EMERGING FIELDS
Pathological mechanisms of the ageing heart // Cellular plasticity // Health Literacy in Complex Environment // Inflammatory diseases of the eye

руз INTERNATIONALISATION
65 European partner universities // 17 non-European partner universities // 120 incoming students per academic year

The Center for International Relations (ZIB Med) coordinates the international activities of the Faculty of Medicine by:
• Organisation of study visits and internships for incoming and outgoing students and their supervision
• Advice and support of foreign visiting physicians and scientists
• Advice and supervision of foreign degree students and coordination of the Programme “Studienstart International”

руз CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
zibmed.uni-koeln.de
Contact: Dr. Benjamin Köckemann
benjamin.koeckemann@uk-koeln.de
FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

14 200 students
(11.5% from abroad)
The Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Cologne is one of the largest teaching and research institutions of the Arts and Humanities in Europe. Teaching and research comprises a varied and diverse range of subjects that are thematically and methodologically broad-based and include European, non-European, and classical Philologies Linguistics, Literary Studies, Art History, Musicology, History, Ethnology, Archaeology, Cultural and Media Studies, Digital Humanities and Philosophy. There are a number of interdisciplinary projects, e.g. in the fields of pre-history and archeology, linguistics, medieval philosophy and history, and global south studies. In addition, a number of the Faculty’s research institutions are internationally recognized for their high level of academic achievement, e.g. the Thomas Institute, the Husserl Archive, and the Cologne Digital Archaeology Laboratory.

At 27 institutes and departments, internationally renowned professors and their staff teach and conduct research. The Faculty offers a total of 28 bachelor’s degree programs with a duration of six semesters and equip graduates with the skills they need to access the employment market. A four-semester major in one of the 32 master’s degree courses, which cover 57 fields, gives students the opportunity to embark on in-depth, research-oriented degree program. The structuring of the teaching program in modules, and the introduction of the credit transfer and accumulation system provide an easy overview and encourage student mobility within Europe. The faculty-wide a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne offers graduates a structured PhD program and a great variety of scholarships and institutional support.

The Faculty of Arts and Humanities maintains an extended network of international partner universities, fostering the exchange of students, researchers and staff. The many affiliations with a significant number of universities from all over the world offer students a great variety of options for studying abroad. Guest lecturers and invited professors complement our permanent teaching staff, creating a vibrant environment for academic discourse and exchange.

The particular appeal of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities lies in the diversity of its research-oriented cultural studies programs. These courses not only impart specialist skills and knowledge, they also equip students with a wide array of key qualifications: the ability to structure and comprehend highly complex problems, systematic reflection of one’s own and other people’s cognitive perspectives, intercultural competence, language skills, and proficiency in communicating complicated facts and interaction. Beyond that, the Faculty covers the entire spectrum of teacher training, from special education to elementary and secondary school types, such as “Gymnasiums” (high schools), comprehensive schools and business colleges.

Center for international relations of the faculty of arts and humanities
ukoeln.de/14QK3
Contact: Niko Vagkidis and Kristina Eder
philfak-zib@uni-koeln.de
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

10,250 students (7.5% from abroad)

Photo: Sebastian Knoth
The Faculty for Mathematics and Natural Science is home to 9 Collaborative Research Centres (SFB) funded by German Research Foundation (DFG):

- SFB 956: Conditions and Impact of Star Formation
- SFB 502: Molecular Mechanisms of the Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Therapy of Morbus Hodgkin and related diseases
- SFB 572: Pattern formation and cell type specification
- SFB 608: Complex Transition Metal Compounds with Spin and Charge Degrees of Freedom, and Disorder
- SFB 635: Posttranslational control of protein function
- SFB 680: Molecular Basis of Evolutionary Innovations
- SFB 806: Our Way to Europe, Culture-Environment Interaction and Human Mobility in the Late Quaternary
- SFB/Transregio 12: Symmetries and Universality in Mesoscopic Systems
- SFB/Transregio 32: Pattern in Soil-Vegetation-Atmosphere Systems: Monitoring, Modelling, and Data Assimilation
FACULTY OF HUMAN SCIENCES

8 450
students
(4,5% from abroad)
The Faculty of Human Sciences was founded in 2007 and has already established successful research foci in, e.g., intercultural education and social psychology. In addition, its department of special education and rehabilitation is one of the largest centres in Europe. The Faculty aims to further develop educational research as one of its key research foci.

Teaching Human Sciences at UoC is structured along research contexts and focussed on different practical areas in our programmes. This ensures both scientific and practical relevance of the programmes offered. Not only during the Ph.D. phase, but even during Bachelors and Masters studies spaces are created to foster our students’ growing research interests.

The Faculty of Human Sciences at the University of Cologne is the most important center for teacher training and a hub for research-oriented programmes in education, social sciences, Psychology and rehabilitation sciences.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS
Managing Diversity and Transition
Well-Being right into Old Age

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
http://www.hf.uni-koeln.de/31519
Contact: Dr. Stefan Neubert
zib-hf@uni-koeln.de
Students with a very good command of German can be admitted to undergraduate studies with a recognised secondary school leaving certificate. If an international certificate does not grant immediate admission, students can prove their competence by passing the aptitude test, "TestAS".

The application for the bachelor programmes at the University of Cologne will be processed by www.uni-assist.de.
Bachelors
The University of Cologne offers 221 programmes ranging from Archaeology to Practical Philosophy including highly specialised programmes like Economy of Medicine, French-German Business Law, Physics of the atmosphere and Intercultural Education.

As a member of German U15 Research Universities, University of Cologne puts strong emphasis on the link between on-going research and excellent teaching. Many subjects can be combined to form a dual-subject bachelor leading towards earning a B.A., B.Sc. or B.Ed.

Some modules are already taught in foreign languages like English or French and UoC has dedicated itself to internationalisation both at home and in exchange. However, please note that German still is the main language of instruction and examination. Advanced proficiency of German is therefore indispensable to follow an undergraduate programme at University of Cologne. → Studienstart International and our → Department for German significantly increase the success rate of international students.

Masters
89 Master programmes and a number of state examinations, especially in law and medicine are being offered for young researchers from all subject areas. A growing number of Master’s programmes is taught in an international setup and taught in English, → International Programmes

Teacher Education
University of Cologne is very strong in educating teachers and is attracting many students from across Germany. Over 13 000 students are pursuing a teaching degree such as Bachelor of Education. This makes Cologne one of the most important centres for teacher education worldwide. The Centre for Teacher Education (ZfL) collaborates with 1350 schools and seven teacher trainee centres in the region. ZfL coordinates studies and training of students while subject matters and subject specific teaching methods are taught in the respective subjects. Teacher education in Cologne covers all subject areas including special education, early childhood education and adult education.

In 2015, ZfL will implement an award winning programme called “Heterogeneity and Inclusion – Strategy for the Future of Teacher Education (ZuS)”. Within this framework, teacher education will offer even more practice-oriented teaching methods, stronger interdisciplinary networks with regard to education, support for young researchers and systematic quality assurance. The Graduate School for Teacher Education is open for international Ph. D. candidates.

ZfL
Zentrum für LehrerInnenbildung

→ ZfL
www.zfl.uni-koeln.de
SHORT COURSES AT THE UOC

Cologne Summer Schools
The Cologne Summer Schools program offers courses in various university disciplines, all designed to broaden basic as well as advanced knowledge and targets students from different academic backgrounds and levels. Additionally, during these summer schools the students are able to gain insight into the general academic program of the University of Cologne.

The Cologne Summer Schools’ participants benefit from an intercultural and intereducational experience in the beautiful and vibrant city of Cologne at one of the oldest and most renowned German universities.

Organized by the International Office of the University of Cologne in cooperation with a university body, an interdisciplinary Cologne Summer School focusses on a different topic each year. Since the 21st Century can be said to be the century of cities, in 2015 thirty students from thirteen different countries came together to discuss current topics on Environmental Studies: Sustainable Cities.

This is a program specially designed for students from partner universities of the University of Cologne and of the network Santander Universities.

colognesummerschools.uni-koeln.de

German Language Summer/Winter Courses
You are invited to improve your German language proficiency and extend your knowledge about Germany in the International Language Courses held during the semester each winter (January and February) and during the summer break (August). Summer courses are open to any international student with at least lower intermediate level proficiency in German (CEFR: B1). For the summer course, tuition fees of 540 € apply, students from partner universities are granted a reduced fee of 300€.

DAAD scholarships for “summer/winter university courses” are available to assist with costs of tuition, stay and travel. For more information, please visit: www.daad.de/deutschland/studienangebote/sommerkurse/en.
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

B.Sc. in Health Economics // The programme prepares students to comprehend the complexity of health-care specific problems and to solve them in the best way possible.

International Master in Environmental Science (IMES) // IMES is an inter-faculty environmental study programme. The programme covers human-environment interactions in all fields like biosphere, atmosphere, geosphere and hydrosphere, using methods from law, cultural, economical, political and medical sciences.

M.Sc. Business Administration and Double Master European Studies // The Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences offers a variety of international Master’s programmes, including but not limited to: Political and Social Sciences, Accounting and Taxation, Corporate Development, Finance, Marketing, Supply Chain Management or Media Management.

M.Sc. Culture and Environment in Africa (CASC) // CASC focuses on pre-historical, historical, and contemporary political ecology of the African continent at the intersection of global, national, regional and local subsystems. The programme provides an interdisciplinary approach to human-environment relations.

M.Sc. in Biological Science // Within the framework of this programme students will acquire a strong background in basic biological science and in modern biological research practice, making them well-suited for many careers in both academic and applied environments.

M.Sc. in Physics // By design, the Master of Science program imparts a comprehensive view of physics and its inter-relations. Guided towards the frontier of current research, M.Sc. students acquire the scientific tools to tackle and solve problems of modern physics, some beyond present knowledge.

EARNING A PH.D. AT UoC

English speaking Ph.D. candidates are invited to apply to our Graduate Schools (p. 27). Knowledge of German is appreciated but not a requirement, supporting German courses will be offered.

Most Ph. D. candidates in Germany do an exclusively research-based Ph.D. under supervision of an academic advisor. If you hold a Master’s degree and have a promising Ph.D. project you can get in touch with a professor in your field and ask for supervision. Most professors will accept both thesis and examination in English.
ALBERTUS MAGNUS GRADUATE CENTER

The Albertus Magnus Graduate Center (AMGC) is the central contact for everyone interested in pursuing a doctorate as well as for all current doctoral candidates at the University of Cologne. Together with the faculties, graduate schools, research training groups and other institutions, the AMGC works towards a constant improvement of the quality and the framework conditions of doctoral studies at the University of Cologne. In so doing, it explicitly respects the diversity of disciplinary cultures and the different paths to earning a doctorate.

SUPPORT FOR DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON

• the different paths to a doctoral degree
• application procedures
• contact persons within faculties, graduate schools and doctoral programs
• practical matters like visa, insurance, accommodation
• support measures for doctoral candidates with children
• in cases of conflict

QUALIFICATION

• Workshops and seminars on research-related topics
• Transferable skills for professional development inside and outside academia
• Language classes (English, German)

NETWORKING

• Welcome Days for new doctoral candidates
• International “Stammtische” (cultural activities and chatting over drinks & snacks)
• Lectures, science slams, fireside chats etc.

amgc.uni-koeln.de
Through its excellent teaching concept and first class research environment the BCGS enables young physicists to work on a high international level in a very productive scientific atmosphere.

Max Genske, PhD-Student
GRADUATE SCHOOLS AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

Admission of Ph.D. candidates usually lies with the faculty and each faculty has at least one graduate school. All faculties accept English speaking Ph.D. candidates, though the choice of colloquia may be limited. Some graduate schools are completely held in English, these are marked “(E)”.

Cross-Faculty
Graduiertenschule Fachdidaktik (teaching methods)

Arts and Humanities
a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne
DiXiT Digital Scholarly Editions Initial Training Network (E)

Human Sciences
Graduate School of the Faculty of Human Sciences

Law
Graduate School of the Faculty of Law

Management, Economics and Social Sciences (WiSo)
CGS - Cologne Graduate School in Management, Economics and Social Sciences (E)
International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) on the Social and Political Constitution of the Economy (E)

Mathematics and Natural Sciences
Graduate School for Biological Sciences (E)
Graduate School of Mathematics
Graduate School of Geosciences (E)
SusChemSys - Sustainable Chemical Synthesis
Graduate School of CEPLAS - Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences (E)
BCGS - Bonn-Cologne Graduate School of Physics and Astronomy (E)
HITEC - Helmholtz Interdisciplinary Doctoral Training in Energy and Climate Research (E)
Patterns in Soil-Vegetation-Atmosphere Systems (E)
BioSoft - Biophysics and Soft Matter (E)
Understanding Complex Plant Traits using Computational and Evolutionary Approaches (IMPRS) (E)
Astronomy and Astrophysics (IMPRS) (E)
ITaRS - Initial Training for Atmospheric Remote Sensing (E)
CodeAge – Chronic DNA Damage in Ageing (E)

Medicine
IPHS - Interdisciplinary Program Health Sciences (E)
Helmholtz Space Life Sciences Research School (E)

Medicine & Mathematics and Natural Sciences
IPMM - Interdisciplinary Program Molecular Medicine (E)
Cologne Graduate School of Ageing Research (E)
GERMAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

While there are some international programmes offered in English at the University of Cologne, the majority of courses are taught entirely in German. Therefore, a good command of German is one of the most important prerequisites a foreign applicant has to meet if one wants to carry out his/her studies successfully.

The University of Cologne provides language courses for our international students and researchers ranging from beginners level to near-native.

Registering for a regular programme
In order to fully register for a programme taught in German you’ll need a proof of language proficiency (e.g. TestDaF 4x4, DSD2, DSH2 or GDS). Students from non-European countries benefit from

→ Studienstart International (SI), a tailor-made programme designed to give you the best start into German academia, including intensive language courses and intercultural and subject specific training.

We strongly suggest you get in touch with our department German as a Foreign Language. This way you’ll get the best out of your stay in Germany, even if your course is taught entirely in English.

http://ukoeln.de/T8FNS
STUDIENSTART INTERNATIONAL

The University of Cologne provides international students with a propaedeutic course, preparing students for academic studies in Germany. Even before boarding the plane to Germany you can access our online platform Uni Köln International (UKI), where a “buddy” will guide you through the process and answer your questions.

Propaedeutic courses at UoC include orientation in Cologne and on campus, language courses, subject specific foundations, intercultural training, individual coaching and continuous support by our team.

Studienstart International has been awarded and supported by DAAD as an outstanding benchmark project for the support and integration of international students. Our statistics suggests that an international student’s chance of gaining his or her degree within the standard period of study doubles with the help of Studienstart International.

To join Studienstart International, advanced intermediate proficiency in German is a requirement. During the preparatory term you’ll participate in language courses both general and subject specific. The courses will lead to an exam confirming your proficiency and enabling you to successfully complete your studies at the University of Cologne.

http://ukoeln.de/T8FNS
RESEARCH AREA
IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

With 18 million inhabitants North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) is Germany’s biggest federal state, producing more than 20 % of GDP. NRW alone produces the same GDP as the Netherlands and is stronger than Saudi-Arabia.

Good infrastructure and the presence of industry and technology have made North Rhine-Westphalia an attractive place for applied science and research. In total NRW is home to 68 universities and dozens of research institutes.

>> 37 universities of applied science,
>> 13 academies and
>> 18 full universities.
>> 53 special research areas financed
    by the German Research Foundation (DFG),
>> 11 of them being located at the University of Cologne.

Within a one hour drive of Cologne you can access more than 50 universities with a total of more than half a million registered students.

Furthermore, NRW hosts 13 Fraunhofer-Institutes, 12 Max-Planck-Institutes, 10 Institutes of the „Leibniz Association“, 3 Helmholtz-Centres (Research Center Jülich, German Aerospace Center DLR, German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases, the Centre of Advanced European Studies and Research (caesar) and five Johannes Rau research institutes.

Through the Research Alliance Cologne (see p. 33) the UoC is embedded in a dense network of regional non-university research institutions and has excellent, long-standing collaborations with these partner institutions.

qr.net/NRWinvest

25 % of foreign direct investment goes to NRW
Important companies settled in NRW: 3M, Bayer, BP, e-on, Ford, Henkel, Krupp-Thyssen, LG Electronics, QVC, RWE, Toyota and Vodafone
RESEARCH ALLIANCE COLOGNE

COLOGNE
- Center for Integrated Oncology (Col, Bonn)
- German Aerospace Center
- German Center for Infectious Diseases (Col, Bonn)
- Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Col, Mannheim)
- MPI for Biology of Ageing
- MPI for Neurological Research
- MPI for Plant Breeding Research
- MPI for the Study of Societies

BONN
- Center for Advanced European Studies & Research
- German Center for Neurodegenerative
- MPI for Mathematics
- MPI for Radio Astronomy
- MPI for Research on Collective Goods

JÜLICH
- Research Center Jülich

ST. AUGUSTIN
- Fraunhofer Institute for Algorithms & Scientific Computing

The colors refer to the KPAs and CAs these institutes contribute to:
- Aging and Demographic Change
- Quantitative Modeling of Complex Systems
- Social and Economic Behavior
- Cultures and Societies in Transition

Major non-university research institutions in the Rhineland.
Institutions participating in the Research Alliance Cologne
The University of Cologne’s excellent reputation among its students is for a good reason: both national and international rankings have repeatedly shown that Cologne is among the leading universities in Germany.

University of Cologne has been distinguished within the framework of the Initiative of Excellence. German Research Foundation (DFG) and German Science Council awarded the title of “Universities of Excellence” to the UoC, acknowledging its role in the top 11 out of 400 universities in Germany. Funding by the federal state has been awarded to implement the institutional strategy, including support for both top level research and young scientists, for development at home and internationalisation. Within the same framework UoC has received funding for two Clusters of Excellence (CECAD & CEPLAS) and two Excellent Graduate Schools (a.r.t.e.s. & bcos).

According to the German business magazine Wirtschaftswoche, Human Resource Managers place the University of Cologne and its graduates on second, third and fifth rank among German universities in the fields of economics, business administration and business informatics respectively. The University of Cologne is consistently ranked among the top ten percent of universities worldwide: Shanghai-Ranking places the UoC among the top 200. In the recent 2013/14 THE-ranking the University of Cologne was ranked among the top 300 universities worldwide, scoring especially well on international outlook.

However, despite previous achievements, the University of Cologne continuously aspires to further improve and advance the development of its leading position.

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) about UoC

Institutional strategy of UoC:
exzellenz.uni-koeln.de
The UoC’s research profile has been substantially developed and sharpened in the last few years by making numerous strategic hires, advancing collaborative research, and building new supportive infrastructure. These rapid developments have been carefully steered by the UoC to develop four thematically focused UoC Key Profile Areas (KPAs) within the Excellence Initiative. The KPAs represent internationally competitive research foci with substantial critical mass, and address topics of high scientific, technological, and societal relevance. These four KPAs also benefit from the strong networks and close collaborations with many regional non-university research institutions as well as industrial partners.

Each of the four KPAs is embedded in a thematically much broader highly interdisciplinary UoC Competence Area (CA) that performs inter-faculty research and supports the integration of the KPAs into the University as a whole. In addition to its four KPAs, the UoC also has advanced excellent research in emerging areas, in particular cross-linguistic research, molecular evolutionary biology (including experimental and theoretical biophysics), and plant sciences. Moreover, educational research constitutes an important, but not yet fully developed, research profile area of the UoC.

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COMPELENCE AREA I: AGING AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

Aging and demographic change do not only raise medical and scientific issues, but pose fundamental challenges in the fields of ethics, law, economics, humanities and social science. Their analysis and the quest for solutions require a joint effort of all disciplines involved to ensure truly satisfactory outcomes. In Competence Area I, projects and activities on aging and demographic change of researchers from a variety of different fields and departments are tied together. Thus, CA I ideally supplements the research activities of the University of Cologne’s Key Profile Area I “Aging-associated Diseases” and is well positioned to evolve into an internationally visible center for research on aging that engages in a variety of interdisciplinary research activities.

Founded at the University of Cologne in November 2013, the Cologne Center for Ethics, rights, Economics, and Social Sciences of Health (CERES) provides the institutional framework for this cooperation. CERES is supported by five faculties of the University of Cologne and is dedicated to research, teaching, the promotion of young researchers, as well as to fostering public discussion and promoting public awareness for pressing health-related issues.

Key Profile Area I: The Cologne Cluster of Excellence in Cellular Stress Responses in Aging-associated Diseases (CECAD) provides an extremely dynamic environment for research into the aging process and related diseases. The aim of CECAD is to understand the general mechanisms underlying the aging process. The vision of the cluster is to enable the development of new therapies for aging-associated diseases such as cancer, diabetes and neurodegenerative disorders. CECAD takes an interdisciplinary and international approach – its outstanding research teams working in six main project areas, enable the group to maintain a leading position in international research on the aging process.
COMPETENCE AREA II: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR

Research at Cologne University within the broadly defined Competence Area II benefits from a diverse spectrum of cooperation and cross-faculty initiatives within the university. Examples are collaboration with Ethnology, Macroeconomics, Law, Marketing, Media Research, Neurosciences, Psychology and Sociology, as well as extra-mural cooperation with regional research partners such as the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies and the Jülich Research Centre. In addition, research work in this Competence Area is embedded within a worldwide network of close cooperation with renowned academics, from e.g. the Naveen Jindal School of Management, University of Texas at Dallas and Columbia Business School (Columbia University).

Social and economic behavior affects the success of societies, politics, markets, organizations, and individuals. Understanding its determinants and gaining insight into how it can be ‘managed’, is thus of crucial importance for addressing major challenges of society and humanity. Psychology and economics has made substantial progress on a laboratory level and in theory in understanding the basic principles that drive human behavior. A major task now, is to integrate the various research streams and to explore how useful the discovered principles are in providing solutions to societal and economic challenges. Complementary core areas in KPA II are Social Cognition research and economic engineering. The Center for Social and Economic Behavior (C-SEB) is the established Center of Excellence (CoE) of KPA II.
The research within the competence area „Quantitative modelling of complex systems“ covers a wide range of areas and builds a natural bridge between many research topics. Through its techniques, it embraces the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, the Faculty of Medicine, and the WiSo-Faculty of the University of Cologne.

The ideas of the competence area are central in many coordinated grant programmes within the University of Cologne. They include among others, SFBs 956 (Star formation), 608 (Complex metal transitions), 680 (Molecular basis of evolutionary innovations), SFB/TR12 (mesoscopic systems), and SFB/Transregio 32 (Pattern in soil-vegetation-atmosphere systems).

"Quantum Matter and Materials“ (QM2) is a fascinating field of research driven both by the intellectual challenge and the promise of application. Within QM2, researchers of mathematics, experimental and theoretical physics, anorganic and physical chemistry and crystallography collaborate to unravel the properties of quantum matter. The mathematical structures underlying topological matter, the prospect to functionalize “Dirac matter” like graphene, new states of matter arising from spin-orbit interactions, quantum matter far from thermal equilibrium, the use of nanostructured materials for wide ranges of applications, and the development of organic electronics, are some of the research topics important for QM2.
COMPTENCE AREA IV: CULTURES AND SOCIETIES IN TRANSITION

The Competence Area IV “Cultures and Societies in Transition” (CA IV) supports innovative research in the domain of social and cultural transformations across different disciplines and faculties of the University of Cologne. Its goal is to foster research activities across the UoC and to carry research results beyond university settings. The CA IV is closely connected to the Global South Studies Center (GSSC) and helps to establish the GSSC among university researchers whose expertise and interests fall within the area of the CA IV. Themes of joint activities comprise subjects such as mobility and migration, adaptation, resilience and collapse, the transformation of societies, cultures and livelihoods, identity, demographic change and citizenship, ecological and social dynamics, global environmental change, as well as methodological concerns of comparison more generally. Together with the GSSC, the Competence Area provides a broad platform for research activities concerning the Global South.

CA IV helps connect individual researchers with the relevant university institutions and scientific centers, as well as with museums, public spaces and media beyond the university. The goal is to improve public outreach, increase international visibility, and foster internal and international collaboration.

KPA IV enhances the international and national visibility of interdisciplinary studies on cultural, social and economic transformations in the Global South. In an era of rapid globalization, it acts as an incubator for coordinated projects and creates an academic environment conducive for the academic development of junior researchers. KPA IV contributes to the emergent field of comparative and interdisciplinary research on entanglements embodied in material and non-material flows within the Global South and between the South and the North. It offers an interdisciplinary approach, focusing on exchanges and flows between continents, regions, metropolitan areas, and hinterland. The Global South Studies Center Cologne (GSSC) is the established Center of excellence (CoE) of KPA IV.
COMPETENCE AREA V:
SOCIAL INEQUALITIES
AND INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION

Social inequalities are tied to societal and power relations, structures, and practices, and are also (re-)produced within the context of educational institutions. At the same time, reducing such social disparities and unequal educational opportunities are key societal and educational policy objectives. Thus, how are the emergence and reproduction of social inequalities – in terms of socio-economic background, ethnicity, language, gender, ability/disability, age etc. – related to formal and informal educational structures, discourses, and practices? And how do stakeholders in education respond to relevant challenges in the context of diversity and demands for educational equality and equality of opportunity?

sinter.uni-koeln.de
Clusters and Graduate Schools
Funded by the Excellence Initiative

Cellular Stress Responses in Aging-Associated Diseases (CECAD)

The CECAD Excellence Cluster is jointly supported by the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine, it comprises six main research areas – made up by over 40 research groups and over 400 scientists from the University of Cologne, The University Hospital of Cologne, the Max Planck Institute for Neurological Research, Max Planck Institute Biology of Ageing and the German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE). Since 2007 CECAD is funded by the DFG within the Excellence Initiative of the Federal Government. Up to now CECAD appointed 17 internationally acclaimed scientists, established new research groups and created junior groups.

Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences (CEPLAS)

CEPLAS is a joint effort of Heinrich Heine University (HHU), University of Cologne (UoC), Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research (MPIPZ) and Research Center Jülich (Forschungszentrum Jülich, FZJ).

Plants are the basis of all human life; they provide food and feed, medicine and drugs, and raw materials for clothing, housing and energy production. Due to global change, the role of crop plants as the foundation of human civilisation becomes threatened. Therefore, innovative strategies for crop improvement that aim at enhancing crop productivity while minimizing resource requirements are indispensable.

In this context, the mission of CEPLAS is to contribute new paradigms to solve urgent problems in plant performance and production through exploitation of natural variation and biodiversity.

CEPLAS holds a unique position within the German Excellence Initiative as the only cluster focusing exclusively on plant science. It applies a new approach that is driven by evolutionary analysis and synthetic biology. Connecting evolutionary and synthetic biology will not only aid in understanding the architecture and the mechanistic functioning of complex traits, but the design and synthetic phase will promot a greater understanding of the evolutionary process.
a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne

The a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne enables academic work at the highest level. It promotes an interdisciplinary approach to the humanities, thus extending the academic dialogue beyond the borders of the specific subject and aims to contribute to the understanding of knowledge processes in their entirety. a.r.t.e.s. is one of the university’s five excellence projects funded by the German Excellence Initiative. It provides optimal conditions for Master students, PhD students and postdocs.

The a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School differentiates between two options for PhD candidates: the Regular Track PhD programme, the standard model for PhDs at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, and the Integrated Track PhD programme, the structured PhD programme, which includes a scholarship and aims to enable PhD candidates to complete their PhD within three years. In addition to the PhD scholarship in the Integrated Track program, the a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne also offers scholarships for a period of six months to candidates for the preparation of the PhD.

As another integral component of the Graduate School, the Research Master with its tailored program is especially suitable for students planning to do a PhD after their Master’s degree.

With the Research Lab, a.r.t.e.s. supports candidates in their direct transition to an academic career. Two postdoc research groups examine questions on the history and philosophy of science as well as questions of anthropology and life sciences.

artes.phil-fak.uni-koeln.de
Bonn-Cologne Graduate School for Physics and Astronomy (BCGS)

The Bonn-Cologne Graduate School for Physics and Astronomy BCGS is a joint program of graduate studies between the universities of Bonn and Cologne. The program leads students with a bachelor’s degree through an MSc phase to doctoral studies. Students with MSc degrees are admitted directly to the PhD stage.

The BCGS provides mentoring and research internships, scholarships and travel funds, and a vibrant research environment at the forefront of modern physics. Research areas at the two departments of Bonn and Cologne span almost the entire range of current physics; from astrophysics, biophysics and condensed matter research to particle physics, quantum optics and string theory.

PhD students are usually paid a salary and contribute to teaching at the undergraduate or Master level. For full scholarships for the Master course and PhD positions, shortlisted applicants are invited to Bonn and Cologne for interviews in early spring every year. Stipends (on top of the standard salary as a teaching assistant) are awarded to PhD students with an excellent performance during their first year.

www.gradschool.physics.uni-bonn.de
3 Liaison offices: Beijing, Delhi, New York
7 Global Network Partners
69 Official University Partnerships
500 Exchange Programmes
There are close to 50,000 students currently enrolled at the University of Cologne, more than half of which are female. According to statistics, over 1,400 of the 8,700 freshmen registered during the Fall Semester of 2014/2015 hold a foreign passport. In the faculty of Medicine, more than 30% are international students.

In addition to the 4,900 degree seeking international students, there are nearly 1,000 short-term exchange students at the University per year.

Every year about 700 young researchers graduate with a Ph.D. from UoC. Among the foreign Ph.D. students, the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences is particularly popular, with forty Ph.D. candidates graduating successfully in 2013 alone.

About 250 international scholars visit the University of Cologne each year for research. The Key Profile Areas at UoC attract outstanding international researchers in the framework of the International Faculty Programme. Currently, there are fourteen internationally renowned guest scholars working in five Key Profile Areas.

University of Cologne maintains offices abroad in Delhi, Beijing and New York for outreach, marketing and alumni gatherings as well as international recruitment.
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) distinguished University of Cologne twice as an innovative centre for International Research Alumni (2012/2013).
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The International Office at the University of Cologne will be more than happy to welcome you in Cologne. To facilitate your arrival and stay, we’ve set up a network of institutions coordinated by the International Office.

ALBERT’S INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

International guest scholars and scientists are invited to get in touch with our Welcome Centre. We provide consulting and support for both foreign scholars and their hosts at the departments and institutes of the University of Cologne.

In order to offer you the best possible assistance and to make your stay successful and enjoyable, the International Office has established a special service for guest scholars: We will support you upon your arrival and during your stay in Cologne, assist you in your search for housing, with bureaucratic procedures, and with your first administrative steps at the university. We will provide you with information regarding daily life in Cologne, as well as counselling in academic or private matters.

It is our wish to meet the needs and expectations of guest and host alike.

ALBERT’S GLOBAL RESEARCHER NETWORK

With support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the UoC is building a strong network of international scholars and researchers who have spent time at our university or affiliated institutions, be it as a PhD-student, Postdoc-researcher, or guest professor. As researcher alumnus or alumna of the UoC, we’ll invite you to share your knowledge and academic know-how with young researchers in our Mentoring Program. You’ll be invited to our Global Network Conferences and your hosts can recommend you for a Reunion Grant at the University of Cologne.

Albert’s International Assistance is a member of EURAXESS — a network of certified service institutions assisting international researchers across Europe. In Germany, EURAXESS is coordinated by the Alexander-von-Humboldt-Foundation.

Recently, with its concept to further the academic welcome culture, the International Office won the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s Researcher Alumni Competition and the prize „Vielfalt gewinnt“ (diversity wins).

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campussport-koeln.de

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www.kstw.de

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Most of the mandatory social fee for enrolled students is spent on the “Semesterticket“. This will allow our students to use any bus or tram or tube or train for free throughout North Rhine-Westphalia (except high speed trains IC, ICE, EC).
www.kvb-koeln.de/english
A Letter from ....

New University Blog
University of Cologne International

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