

# Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg

## Introduction

The University of Erlangen-Nuremberg is among the largest universities in Germany. Following the maxim “advantage through networking” and in a vivid dialogue between disciplines and faculties, an almost unique interdisciplinary offering developed. The focus of research and teaching here is placed on all areas of the natural sciences, technology and medicine, while closely collaborating with the classical academic disciplines: law, theology and the humanities. Economics and pedagogy complete the extensive offer.

The University of Erlangen-Nuremberg is a cosmopolitan university open to people of all nationalities. It maintains contacts with 500 universities in more than 62 countries on every continent. Around 3,000 of the 26,500 students at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg are nationalities other than German.

The University of Erlangen-Nuremberg offers excellent educational opportunities. The assortment of courses spans the entire range from technical and science programmes through to programmes in law, education, medicine and the humanities.

Even while following their degree courses, the students are offered the possibility to become acquainted with research of the highest calibre. They benefit from a course offering that is multidisciplinary, international and designed to have a sound practical element. The University of Erlangen-Nuremberg thus ensures an ideal framework for successful studies for its students.

## Geographical Situation

The cities Erlangen and Nuremberg are situated in Northern Bavaria in the centre of the metropolitan region of Nuremberg. They are centrally located between three of Germany's most prominent metropolitan centres: Munich (170 km), Frankfurt a. M. (200 km) and Berlin (400 km).

Prague is 400 km away and can easily be reached by train.

The main railway station in Nuremberg is an important national and international junction. It is integrated into the Euro-city network, into the German Railways' IC network, and into the high-speed network (ICE). Erlangen (15 minutes away by train) can thus be reached easily from all over Europe. Within Germany, train times to Erlangen (via Nuremberg) are, for example: Frankfurt 2.5 hours, Munich 1.5 hours, Berlin or Hanover 4 to 5 hours.

A large number of national and international airlines fly into Nuremberg Airport, and so all almost all European capital cities can be reached direct from Nuremberg Airport. Destinations which cannot be reached directly from Nuremberg can be reached via Frankfurt or Munich.



## City of Erlangen

Erlangen, with a little over 102,000 inhabitants, is Bavaria's eighth-largest city. Its social infrastructure provides a wide range of opportunities. Erlangen is first mentioned in documents dating from 1002, but its real history began with the influx of Huguenot refugees from France in 1686. The town was specially rebuilt for the Huguenot settlers, and that original layout and that essential architectural concept can be seen to this day. In Germany there are few examples of the "ideal cities" of the Baroque period which are as well-preserved as Erlangen.

One of Erlangen's best known and best loved attractions – aside from the extensive network of cycle paths – is the Bergkirchweih, ([www.der-berg-ruft.de](http://www.der-berg-ruft.de)) the local beer festival, though local is hardly an apt description. The beer festival has taken place at Pentecost ever since 1755 (!) It is one of the most enjoyable and enjoyed festivals in southern Germany, and each year it attracts around 1 million visitors from near and far. Among the other highlights of the colourful cultural year in Erlangen are the International Comic-Salon (<http://www.comic-salon.de/>), the Figurentheater-Festival (puppet theatre), the Poets' Festival are the highlights of the colourful cultural life of the community. This panoply of the arts has ensured Erlangen's reputation as a unique cultural venue.

In the wider world, Erlangen is also renowned both as home to the second largest university in Bavaria, which is home itself to a highly regarded Faculty of Technology, one of the most important Siemens AG sites alongside Munich and Berlin, and a committedly environmentalist city.

With its broad range of privately and publicly funded research facilities Erlangen has developed into an important European centre in the field of micro-electronics. The basis of much of the success has been the close co-operation between science and business. Currently, Erlangen is establishing itself as a significant centre in the fields of Medicine and Health.

The homepage of the City Erlangen provides information about festivals and other cultural events: <http://www.erlangen.de/>

## City of Nürnberg / Nuremberg

The history of Nuremberg is an illustrious one. The history of the town of "nourenberc" (rocky mountain) begins in 1050 with the freeing of the serf Sigena, an event recorded in a document issued by the Emperor Henry III., to begin with the town spread randomly around the southern face of the rocky hillside on which the castle is built. The rise of the city was based on foreign trade and tradesmanship and these enabled the town to grow, supplied funds for charitable foundations and guaranteed the inhabitants a prosperous lifestyle and supported a flourishing of the arts. Karl IV often held court in Nuremberg for months on end, and in 1356 with "the Golden Bull" he determined that each newly elected German king must hold his first Imperial Diet in Nuremberg.

In 1424, when the city on the Pegnitz was given keeping of the imperial treasure the free city of Nuremberg reached the height of its power. This European metropolis became the centre of German Humanism, of science, and of painting and sculpture. Works of art to rank with the best in Europe were created in the workshops of woodcarvers, stone masons, iron-casters and painters.

The Thirty Years War and the discovery of trade routes at sea dealt Nuremberg near fatal blows. The city of 40.000 inhabitants sank into a long and troubled slumber from which it awoke only with the era of industrialization, and the building between Nuremberg and Fürth of the first railroad in Germany. In January 1945 „the jewel casket of the German Empire” was razed to the ground by Allied bombing. The rebuilding process after the apocalypse was long and hard.

Today it is possible, once again, to imagine the lost power and majesty of the "Medieval cosmopolis". The city now has about 500,000 inhabitants and once again boasts fine town houses, magnificent churches, a castle and 5 kilometres of city wall. Millions of visitors from all around the

world are attracted each year to Nuremberg by international fairs and conferences, cultural events of international standing and by cultural amenities such as the Museum of German Art and Culture.

Nuremberg, with a total of 300,000 jobs, is the second largest economic centre in Bavaria, specialising in the technologies of information and communication, in traffic technology and logistics, in energy technology, in automation and manufacturing, in measurement technology and control engineering, and in entertainment technology. Brand leaders in the fields of typewriters and food production can also be found in Nuremberg. In addition to this, Nuremberg is of great economic importance as Germany's principle centre for engraving, as an international centre for industrial fairs and for service industries (consumer research, computer centres, facility management, banking, and insurance).

You can find useful information on Nuremberg at: [www.nuernberg.de](http://www.nuernberg.de)

### Terms of Exchange

#### Types of Exchange

1 Semester or 2 semesters admission as exchange student for studying, in some cases research projects are possible (contact academic advisor, see below)

**Study Level:** Undergraduate level and in some cases, postgraduate level

**Language of Instruction:** German and some degree programmes and modules in English

**On-Campus Housing:** available

**Information:** <http://www.uni-erlangen.org/international/students/exchange-students/>

### Application Procedures for Exchange Students

**Information:** <http://www.uni-erlangen.org/international/students/exchange-students/application.shtml>

#### Deadline for Applications

- May 31st for the following winter semester
- November 30th for the following summer semester

#### Supporting documents to be uploaded in the online application

- Copy of Secondary level certificates (High School Diploma)
- if applicable, a copy of the University Entrance Exam of your home country. Please note: depending on the country, some evidence of one to two years of study in your own country (transcript of records) might be necessary.
- Certificate of registration at home university and Transcript of Records
- Certificate indicating level of German
- Confirmation from the home university (or scholarship awarder) of nomination as exchange or programme student

It is not necessary to send originals, photocopies will be accepted. Translations for Documents in English are not required.

**German Proficiency:** Basic level completed (European Language Reference frame level A2)

**Restricted Programs:** Elite Master Programmes

**When will students receive their acceptance package?**

About 4 weeks after their complete application has been received

## Course Registration and Academic Information

### Semester Dates

#### **Winter term (1<sup>st</sup> Oct – 30<sup>st</sup> March):**

- Optional Intensive Language Course for exchange students: September
- Lecture period. Mid October – beginning of Feb
- exam period: January – middle of February
- holidays: Middle of February – end of March

#### **Summer term (1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> Sept)**

- Optional Intensive Language Course for exchange students: March
- Lecture period. Mid April – end of June
- exam period: June – end of July, in some degree programmes until August
- holidays: August-September

**Study Programs:** <http://www.uni-erlangen.org/studying/degree-programmes/>

Especially Engineering: <http://www.techfak.uni-erlangen.de/studium/studiengaenge/>

**Syllabus:** <http://univis.uni-erlangen.de>

The current university course prospectus (*Vorlesungsverzeichnis*) has details of all classes (lectures, seminars, etc.) for the following semester.

#### **A selection of Master' degree programmes with Lectures in English::**

Advanced Materials and Processes (elite programme) – Master of Science

[www.elite-map.tf.uni-erlangen.de/englisch/home.htm](http://www.elite-map.tf.uni-erlangen.de/englisch/home.htm)

Advanced Optical Technologies (elite programme) : [www.aot.uni-erlangen.de](http://www.aot.uni-erlangen.de)

Chemical und Bioengineering – Master of Science: [www.cbi.uni-erlangen.de/englisch/home.htm](http://www.cbi.uni-erlangen.de/englisch/home.htm)

Computational Engineering (elite programme) : [www.informatik.uni-erlangen.de/Studies/CE](http://www.informatik.uni-erlangen.de/Studies/CE)

International Information Systems: [www.iis.uni-erlangen.de](http://www.iis.uni-erlangen.de)

Master in International Business Studies (MIBS)

[http://www.wiso.uni-erlangen.de/masterstudiengaenge/international\\_business/](http://www.wiso.uni-erlangen.de/masterstudiengaenge/international_business/)

**Curriculum Structure:** Bachelor / Master / PhD

**Workload per semester:**

30 ECTS credits (exchange students should though consider an average of 20 ECTS per term)

**Grading system:**

1 – very good (*sehr gut*): seldom achieved,

2 – good (*gut*): given less frequently than the American „B“ grade,

3 – satisfactory (*befriedigend*) : considered a (rather) good result and does not correspond to the American „C“ grade

4 - sufficient (*ausreichend*),

5 - deficient (*mangelhaft*): no course certificate awarded

**Academic Transcripts:**

Available, student can extract non-official ones from the internet, official transcripts are issued by the relevant “Prüfungsamt” – Examination Office in German upon request and handed out directly to the students.

### Accommodation

Accommodation in student residences is available to exchange students.

**When can exchange students move-in to the Hall of Residence?**

1<sup>st</sup> Sept / 1<sup>st</sup> Oct for winter term

1<sup>st</sup> March / 1<sup>st</sup> April for summer term

**Period of stay for on-campus accommodation:** 1 term or 2 terms, max. 12 months

**Information:** <http://www.aaa-tutoren.uni-erlangen.de/get.php?page=wohnheimliste>

**Cost of accomodation per month**

Only single rooms. Varying from 120 € (shared bath room and kitchen and common facilities) ) to 300 Euro (single apartment with own bathroom and kitchen)

**When to make payment for accomodation?**

A deposit must be paid in advance, about 3 months before arriving. The monthly rates are paid in Germany after arrival.

## Visa – non EU citizens

### Entry Visa for students:

Obligatory for Non-EU citizens. Please inform yourself at the German Consulate or Embassy in your home country about the entry- and residence regulations for citizens of your country. Do under no circumstance enter the country with a tourist visa!

### Work permit:

Necessary for non-EU-citizens wish to find an employment and to do practical training outside university.

## Health Insurance – Non EU citizens

### Health Insurance:

Must be purchased AFTER arrival. Obligatory German Public Health insurance scheme for non-EU citizens.

Travel insurance health cover will not be accepted when registering with the university, nor will it be counted as valid when you are applying for the obligatory residence permit (*Aufenthaltserlaubnis*) and, therefore, such travel insurance should be used ONLY to provide insurance cover up until your arrival in Germany. On arrival in Germany you should join one of the health insurance schemes provided by the German State (*gesetzliche Krankenkassen*) for example, the TK, AOK, etc. Health insurance costs approximately € 56 per month. All of these schemes provide the same level of cover for students.

### Doctors:

If you should become ill in Germany, you are entitled to see any doctor of your choice. The services provided by health insurance schemes change quite often, so it is advisable to ask exactly what costs are covered by the insurance policy before you agree to sign up.

## Money Issues

**Must I open a bank account while I study in Erlangen?** Yes, to be done during orientation week

**Acceptable Credit cards in Germany:** Mastercard, Visa

### Estimated Cost of Living per month

- Rent
  - Hall of Residence (depending on the size of the room and the age of the accommodation)  
€ 120 - € 250
  - Individual apartment (depending on size, location and the age of the accommodation)  
€ 200 - € 350
- Health Insurance ca. € 56
- Travel costs

- Food approx. € 200
- Study materials approx. € 50 - € 100

## **Arrival, Orientation and Support**

**When should I arrive?** One day before the Orientation Program starts.

### **Orientation Program**

The Central Office for International Affairs in Erlangen and the International Relations Office in Nuremberg organise an Orientation Course (*OK*) for all exchange and scholarship students coming to study at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. The course takes place in the week before the start of semester and lasts several days. We strongly advise you to take part in this course. It provides a pain-free opportunity to discover essential information about the university and about the local area, and also offers help in dealing with the necessary bureaucracy. Not least, the orientation course is the ideal opportunity to get to know other exchange students and the German student tutors. Details of the course program will be sent to incoming students by e-mail in September or in February.

<http://www.uni-erlangen.org/international/students/exchange-students/ok.shtml>

### **Services available to exchange students:**

University Library, University Sport center, University Computing Center

### **Culture and Leisure:**

Throughout the semester the international office organises excursions, film evenings and get-togethers for foreign students, where they can get to know each other. Students also have the opportunity to become acquainted with other towns and cities in Germany.

The programme alterations and details of other activities connected with the Central Office for International Affairs can be found at the tutors' homepage (*Tutoren-Homepage*) for Erlangen and Nuremberg: [www.aaa-tutoren.uni-erlangen.de](http://www.aaa-tutoren.uni-erlangen.de)

### **Buddy Program:**

Buddies are German and international students from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, who give their time voluntarily to support international exchange and scholarship students, especially in the first few weeks after their arrival in Germany. Buddies can help by providing answers to a range of practical questions and take responsibility for integrating international students into German student life.

<http://www.uni-erlangen.org/international/central-office/helpers/buddies.shtml>

### **Contact Details Central Administration**

The Central Office for International Affairs is responsible for all international issues concerning the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. Its work deals mainly with the organisation of exchange and scholarship programmes, and with the support of visiting academics and exchange students

<b>Office dealing with Student Exchange &amp; Study Abroad</b>	Central Office for International Affairs
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Schlossplatz 3, 91054 Erlangen
<b>Fax Number</b>	+49-9131-85.26225
<b>IRO Website</b>	<a href="http://www.uni-erlangen.org/international">www.uni-erlangen.org/international</a>
<b>Acting Director</b>	Dr. Brigitte Perlick
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