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1. Welcome to the University of Passau

The University of Passau is all about top-notch teaching, outstanding research and an exciting student experience. The beautiful campus with its modern infrastructure provides the perfect setting to thrive in your studies. Around thirteen thousand students account for a quarter of the city’s population and equip Passau with a young and vibrant student scene.

With its Mediterranean flair and long history dating back to Roman times as well as an unparalleled location at the confluence of the rivers Inn, Danube and Ilz, Passau is the perfect place to be both on and off campus. For weekends and holidays, Munich, Vienna and Prague are just two hours away (by car, train or bus).

1.1 The Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics

The top-rated computer science-based master’s programmes at the University of Passau are ideal for international students with little or no German-language skills. The M.Sc. Computer Science offers both English and German-taught modules, many of which are held completely in English. The M.Sc. Computational Mathematics is taught entirely in English. The Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics has an excellent reputation in the international arena: our professors are leading experts in their fields, and the Faculty and its degree programmes consistently attain top positions in university rankings.
1.2 M.Sc. Computer Science

The M.Sc. Computer Science usually takes 4 semesters to complete, during which you will have to accumulate a minimum of 120 credit points. You will be able to customise your curriculum according to your personal interests. However, you must choose one area of specialisation throughout your studies.

Overall, the 120 credit points must include:

- 30 credit points for a master’s thesis, supervised by a professor (typically in your field of specialisation)
- at least 40 credit points from your specialisation module group
- at least 30 credit points in modules that are not from your specialisation
- the completion of one seminar (5 credit points)
- ‘freely selectable courses’: the residual 15 credit points may stem from any of the modules taught as part of the master’s programme regardless of specialisation, subject area or general area.

You are not required to choose your area of specialisation right away; just keep in mind that we recommend choosing your master’s thesis on a topic from your field of specialisation.

You will select modules from the following five subject areas plus the general subject area. Please note that only areas 3 to 5 can be studied entirely in English. For areas 1 and 2, the number of English-taught modules is insufficient to gain the required number of credits at the moment. However, you may study individual modules from those areas for your residual credits:

1) Algorithmics and Mathematical Modelling (requires German language skills)
2) Programming and Software Systems (requires German language skills)
3) Information and Communication Systems
4) Intelligent Technical Systems
5) IT Security and Reliability

*The general subject area* contains modules that are part of the master’s curriculum but do not belong to any of the subject areas above.

A list of currently taught courses can be found here: [http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/study-options/course-catalogue/faculty-of-computer-science-and-mathematics/by-programme-of-study/msc-computer-science](http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/study-options/course-catalogue/faculty-of-computer-science-and-mathematics/by-programme-of-study/msc-computer-science)
1.2.1 Subject Areas

**Algorithmics and Mathematical Modelling:**
Courses in this subject area convey knowledge about deterministic and stochastic algorithms, their implementation, evaluation and optimisation. You will gain advanced knowledge in computer-based mathematical methods – particularly in the areas of algorithmic algebra and computational stochastics – as well as developing an in-depth expertise in mathematical modelling and complexity analysis of discrete and continuous problems.

**Programming and Software Systems:**
Imparting modern methods for constructing large-scale software systems as well as creating and using software authoring, analysis and optimisation tools, this module group will consolidate your knowledge of the various programming paradigms and languages, the structure of language processing systems, and teach you how to deal with parallelism in programme procedures.

**Information and Communication Systems:**
Courses in this subject area will further your understanding of interactions between information systems and computer networks – being two classic areas in computer science. This module group represents an answer to the problem of increasing volume and complexity of worldwide information distribution and networks, as well as to the growing requirements on quality and performance of computer communication. Additionally, you will learn how to transfer database results to multimedia data.
Intelligent Technical Systems:

This module group will familiarise you with digital image and signal processing, embedded systems and applications of intelligent technical systems in industrial and assistance systems, which are necessary for production automation and process control, traffic control, medical and building technology. You will learn how to develop complex applications using computer systems and deal with topics such as image reconstruction, camera calibration, sensor data fusion and optical measurement technology.

IT Security and Reliability:

Courses from this subject area deal with the security and reliability of IT systems, e.g. hardware circuits, communication protocols as well as complex networked application systems. To ensure the secure operation of these systems, you will learn about design methodology, secure architectures and the technical implementation of the underlying components.
1.3 M.Sc. Computational Mathematics

The M.Sc. Computational Mathematics generally takes 4 semesters to complete, during which you will have to accumulate a minimum of 120 credit points. You will be able to customise your curriculum according to your personal interests.

Overall, the 120 credit points must include:

- **30 credit points for a master’s thesis**, supervised by a professor (typically in your field of specialisation)
- the completion of **two seminars** (5 credit points each, typically in your field of specialisation)
- at least **64 credit points** from your **Compulsory Elective Modules**
- ‘**freely selectable courses**’: the residual **16 credit points** may stem from any modules taught as part of the master’s programme.

You will choose courses from the following eight **Compulsory Elective Modules**:

1) Algebra, Geometry and Cryptography (AGC)  
2) Mathematical Logic and Discrete Mathematics (MLDM)  
3) Analysis, Numerics and Approximation Theory (ANAT)  
4) Dynamical Systems and Optimization (DSO)  
5) Stochastics, Statistics (SS)  
6) Data Analysis and Data Management and Programming (DADMP)  
7) Applications (A)  
8) Key Competencies and Language Training (KCLT)

according to the following rules:

- at least 50 credit points from AGC, MLDM, ANAT, DSO and SS and in doing so:   - at least 15 credit points from AGC and MLDM   - at least 15 credit points from ANAT, DSO and SS
- a minimum of 10 credit points from DADMP and A
- a minimum of 4 credit points from KCLT

A list of all offered courses can be found here: [https://www.fim.uni-passau.de/fileadmin/dokumente/fakultaeten/fim/dekanat/Anrechenbarkeitstabelle/Modulkatalog-Master-CompMath.pdf](https://www.fim.uni-passau.de/fileadmin/dokumente/fakultaeten/fim/dekanat/Anrechenbarkeitstabelle/Modulkatalog-Master-CompMath.pdf)
1.3.1 Compulsory Elective Modules

**Compulsory Elective Modules**

- **AGC**
  - *Algebra, Geometry and Cryptography (AGC):* This module group imparts advanced results in the areas of algebra and geometry, which constitute the foundation for algorithmic calculations – particularly in cryptography, but also in many other mathematical areas.

- **MLDM**
  - *Mathematical Logic and Discrete Mathematics (MLDM):* The theoretical possibilities and limitations of algorithm-based solutions are the subjects of this module group.

- **ANAT**
  - *Analysis, Numerics and Approximation Theory (ANAT):* Methods from the fields of mathematical analysis, applied harmonic analysis and approximation theory for modelling and approximating continuous and discrete data and systems as well as efficient numerical implementation and evaluation of these methods are the scope of this module group.

- **DSO**
  - *Dynamical Systems and Optimization (DSO):* Dynamical systems theory deals with the description of change over time. This module group is concerned with methods used for the modelling, analysis, optimisation and design of dynamical systems, as well as the numerical implementation of such techniques.

- **SS**
- **DADMP**
- **A**
- **KCLT**
**Compulsory Elective Modules**

- AGC
- MLDM
- ANAT
- DSO
- SS
- DADMP
- A
- KCLT

**Stochastics, Statistics (SS):**
This module group deals with methods for modelling and analysing complex random phenomena as well as the construction, analysis and optimisation of stochastic algorithms and techniques used in statistical data analysis.

**Data Analysis and Data Management and Programming (DADMP):**
The core methods used in computer science to analyse data of heterogeneous modalities (e.g. multimedia data, social networks and sensor data) and for the realisation of data analysis systems are the topics in this module.

**Applications (A):**
In this module group, you will learn to use the mathematical methods taught in module groups 1-6 in real-world applications such as Marketing, Predictive Analytics and Computational Finance.

**Key Competencies and Language Training (KCLT):**
Choosing seminars from this module will help you develop your non-subject-specific skills such as public speaking, academic writing and other soft skills; you may also complete an internship with academic supervision. This serves to complement your technical expertise gained during your studies and helps you prepare for your professional life after university.
2. Enrolment

Before you can get started with your studies, you need to complete some formalities. Once you have received an offer for your desired degree programme in the Campus Portal, you still have to enrol. The first step, online enrolment, is to be done remotely. For this, you do not need to be physically present in Passau. By enrolling online, you indicate that you intend to accept the offer.

**Please note:** If you are unable to join the programme for the semester in which you were originally offered a place (cf. 2.2 Admission Deferral below), there is no need to complete the online enrolment procedure. You may do so prior to the semester in which you know you will be able to commence your studies.

After you have arrived in Passau, you need to go to the Student Registration Office located inside the Administration Building (Innstr. 41, ground floor, drop-in hours Monday 10:00 to 12:00 noon, Tuesday to Friday 8:30 to 12:00 noon) in order to present the original documents you provided during the application stage (or legitimately certified copies thereof). Only then will you be properly enrolled at the University of Passau. This may be done until the first day of lectures, at the latest (please consult your offer letter for details).

In addition to the supporting documents from your previous education (school/degree certificates etc.), you should also provide the following documents at enrolment:
• The German-language offer letter (official notice – 'Bescheid').
• Your valid passport (EU nationals may present their national ID instead).
• Proof that you possess a health insurance policy that covers inpatient, outpatient and dental care up to an unlimited amount. For further details, visit: [http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled](http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled).
• A receipt indicating that you have paid a total of EUR 84.50, comprised of the student services fee of EUR 62.00 and the semester bus pass fee of EUR 22.50. You can pay this sum in cash on the second floor of the Administration Building, Innstr. 41, room 217, Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., or by bank transfer made out to: STOK Academic Support Services Studierendensekretariat Student Registration Office Bayern f. UNI Passau, IBAN: DE12 7005 00001401 1903 15, SWIFT/BIC: BYLADEMM. However, please do not make any payments before you arrive in Passau.
• If you were previously enrolled at a German university, please present a corresponding 'Studienbuch' and your 'Exmatrikulationsbescheinigung'.
• Your address details in Passau (if you already know).

Once you are matriculated and in possession of your student documents (enrolment certificate, the CampusCard student ID as well as your username and password for the university computer network etc.), you are officially enrolled in your degree programme!

For questions and problems concerning the enrolment procedure please contact the Student Registration Office:

registry@uni-passau.de

2.1 Semester Dates

In the upcoming summer semester, lectures will start on 12 April 2021 and conclude on 16 July 2021.

2.2 Admission Deferral

The Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics is aware of visa appointment issues in some German diplomatic missions abroad. All students who are admitted to one of our programmes but are unable to arrive in Passau in time for the semester due to visa problems may be granted permission from the Dean's Office to defer their admission to the subsequent semester if they can present evidence that they unsuccessfully attempted to secure an entry visa on time. If this applies to you, please e-mail your International Coordinator at masters@fim.uni-passau.de explaining your situation. He will guide you through the process and notify the Student Registration Office accordingly.
3. Preparing for Your Stay
3.1 Visa and Residence Permit

You will find all necessary information about entry regulations on the website of the Federal Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt): https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/visabestimmungen-node

You can switch to English at the top right corner of the page. Please note that many students have to apply for a visa at a German diplomatic mission (Embassy or Consulate General) in their country, which can take several months to be processed.

After your arrival, you will have to acquire a residence permit (‘Aufenthaltstitel’), allowing you to stay in Germany for an extended period of time (in general for as long as the reason for your stay exists, i.e. for the duration of your studies). However, for students this residence permit is extendable, which means that you can stay in Germany for up to 18 months after completing your studies in order to search for employment.

During Orientation Weeks at the university (see 5.2.1), our team of student assistants will help you to complete the required documents. In order to apply for a residence permit, you need to go to the foreigners’ registration office (‘Ausländeramt’) in Passau.

Address:

Rathausplatz 1  
94032 Passau  
Phone: +49 851 396512  
E-mail: auslaenderamt@passau.de

For further information, please visit: https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/-/229966
3.2 Customs Regulations

Upon entering Germany, there are certain regulations you have to consider regarding restrictions and limitations on certain goods, especially if you come from a non-EU member state.

You will find all information on import regulations on this website: http://www.zoll.de/EN/Private-individuals/Travel/Entering-Germany/entering_germany_node.html

3.3 Health Insurance

Germany has a highly advanced healthcare system. As a university student, you are not only obligated to have health insurance coverage, but the insurance policy must also meet a number of basic German standards. You must provide a health insurance certificate when you enrol at the University of Passau and also when you apply for your residence permit.

If you are an EU/EEA-citizen or a citizen of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, Tunisia or Turkey, your foreign insurance is valid in Germany. You will, however, need a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) and get a certificate stating that you are exempt from the German health insurance requirement (i.e. a certificate of exemption). To request this certificate, contact one of the health insurance companies in Passau (see the university link below for their addresses).

If you are a citizen of a different non-EU member state, you are strongly advised to purchase German health insurance since it is very likely that your insurance will not provide sufficient coverage.

Please note: Citizens of Turkey, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Tunisia need to obtain a certificate of exemption every time they wish to see a doctor, so it might be more convenient for them to acquire a German health insurance policy.
In order for your insurance to be valid, it has to cover:

- medical and dental treatment
- prescription of drugs and clinical material
- in-patient treatment at hospitals
- rehabilitation treatment
- pregnancy and childbirth

If you want to acquire a German health insurance policy, there are special offers for students at lower rates. For additional information, please go to:

http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled/health-insurance/#c38508

Student health insurance coverage starts on the first day (of the month) of the semester, i.e. on 1 October (winter semester) or 1 April (summer semester). Please make sure that you are privately insured (e.g. through short-term traveller’s insurance) during the time between your arrival in Germany and the beginning of the semester.

If you need any help arranging this, the International Office will be happy to lend you a hand.

3.4 Getting to Passau

Passau does not have its own airport. The closest airport to Passau is Munich Airport (MUC). Some airlines might also fly to Memmingen Airport (FMM) or Nuremberg Airport (NUE). The biggest airport in Germany is Frankfurt am Main Airport (FRA). From those airports, Passau is best reached by train. Train schedules and ticket prices can be found on the website of the Deutsche Bahn national railway company: http://www.bahn.de/regional/view/index.shtml
From Munich Airport (MUC)

Take bus line 635 to 'Freising Bahnhof' (Freising railway station) and from there take a train to 'Passau Hauptbahnhof' (Passau railway station). The trip takes approximately 2 hours. For the current bus schedule, please visit:

http://efa.mvv-muenchen.de/index.html#timetables@enquiry

From Memmingen Airport (FMM)

Take bus line 2 to 'Bahnhof ZOB' and take a train to 'München Hauptbahnhof/München Hbf' (Munich railway station). From there take a train to 'Passau Hauptbahnhof' (Passau railway station). For the current schedule, please visit:

https://www.memmingen.de/fileadmin/Allgemeine_Dateiverwaltung/Bereich_Amt12_OEPNV/2020_OEPNV-Fahrplan-MM.pdf

From Nuremberg Airport (NUE)

Take the U2 subway towards 'Nürnberg Röthenbach' and exit at 'Nürnberg Hauptbahnhof/Nürnberg Hbf' (Nuremberg railway station). From there you will be able to catch a long-distance train to Passau. There are many trains with different destinations that stop at 'Passau Hauptbahnhof'.

From Frankfurt am Main Airport (FRA)

Take the train from 'Frankfurt am Main Flughafen Fernbahnhof' (Airport station) to 'Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof/Frankfurt Hbf'. There are different trains with various final destinations that go to or via Passau.
3.5 Regional Day Tickets

There is a special regional day ticket called 'Bayern-Ticket' which allows you to travel affordably within the entire state of Bavaria. Up to five passengers can travel together on one ticket. This means that each person's share of the fare will get cheaper with each additional passenger if you split the total. The ‘Servus-Ticket’ provides an even cheaper option for travelling within Bavaria, with up to five people allowed to share a ticket.

The Bayern-Ticket is valid:

- only within Bavaria (e.g. if you travel from Munich, Memmingen or Nuremberg to Passau)
- only on regional trains as listed on the tickets (they mention a number of different train-types you can use, such as the regional express RE) but NOT on IC (Intercity) or ICE (Intercity Express) trains
- from 9 a.m. to 3 a.m. the following day
- on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from midnight until 3 a.m. the following day

There is also a cheaper night-time ticket, Bayern-Ticket Nacht, which is valid from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following day (or 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekends).

For details concerning the Bayern-Ticket, please visit the Deutsche Bahn railway’s official website at:

https://www.bahn.de/regional/view/regionen/bayern/tickets/bayern-ticket.shtml
4. Accommodation
Finding accommodation in Passau can be challenging, especially if you are searching from abroad and do not speak German well or at all. It is very important that you start looking early, as most places are occupied well before the semester starts. We recommend that you apply for all dormitories and try searching for a private flat or a shared apartment at the same time.

4.1 Dormitories

Ideally, you receive a room in one of the dormitories and sign the contract before your arrival. However, rooms in dormitories are in very high demand, which makes it highly unlikely to receive an offer. Nevertheless, we suggest you apply for a room in all dormitories anyway to maximise your chances.

4.1.1 Public Dormitories

The Studentenwerk operates multiple public student dormitories which are fully furnished and affordable but also extremely sought-after. Getting a room in one of those dormitories is very difficult, especially for international master’s students, because undergraduate and exchange students are favoured. Only German students can apply for a room directly; European and other international students must apply through our International Office. This type of accommodation is high in demand, and they probably won’t be able to offer you a room. However, you should still apply for a room as there are always some last-minute cancellations from which you might benefit.

To apply for a room in a public dormitory, please follow these instructions:

http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled/accommodation
The application deadlines are:

For the summer semester: 15 December
For the winter semester: 15 June

Even if the regular application deadline for the dormitories has ended before you have received your acceptance letter from the university, you can still apply in order to be considered or waitlisted. There is still a chance for you to receive a room if somebody else cancels.

Please contact Ms. Winterkorn at the International Office for advice and further information on the dormitories. She manages all of the University’s dormitory rooms, and she might also have some other offers available on the private housing market. You can find her contact details below:

Raum VW 103
Innstr. 41
Tel.: +49 851 509-1161
Fax: +49 851 509-1164

4.1.2 Private Dormitories

There are numerous privately-run dormitories in the city which are a little bit easier to get into. The rooms in the dormitories are provided by private landlords or real estate agents. You can find a list of private dormitories below. Each of them has their own application form/procedure. You can and should apply for all of them. (Please beware that the Kloster Hamberg is located across the border in Austria.)

Link to the list of private dormitories:

http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/campuslife/housing
4.2 Private Housing Market

Look for an apartment or shared flat on the free housing market as early and relentlessly as possible. Sharing a flat is the most common living arrangement among university students; one-person apartments are rare and usually more expensive. Therefore, you might want to focus on finding a room in a shared flat. That way, getting to know locals and other students is much easier, too.

Although Passau is an *Universitätsstadt* and home to many people from all over the world, there is still a fair share of people who do not (dare to) speak much English. Hence, please try to contact landlords/landladies or real estate agents in German. To do so, most online translation services produce sufficiently satisfactory results nowadays. Please be as polite as possible and try to write formally correct. If you require help drafting a more specific and accurate letter, you may contact us via e-mail at master-help@fim.uni-passau.de.

For a list of websites with accommodation offers, please go to: [http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/campuslife/housing](http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/campuslife/housing).
5. Living and Studying in Passau
5.1 Financing Your Studies

5.1.1 Tuition Fees
There are no tuition fees at public universities in Bavaria, but you have to pay EUR 84.50 per semester, which includes EUR 62.00 for the student services association (Studentenwerk) and EUR 22.50 for the semester bus pass. The latter allows you to use the city’s buses for the duration of one semester. It is valid only within the city of Passau.

5.1.2 Living Expenses
Depending on your accommodation and your lifestyle, the costs of living in Passau may vary strongly. Nevertheless, you should budget up to EUR 853.00 a month for accommodation, food, transport and leisure activities.

5.1.3 Scholarships
The University of Passau’s International Office offers scholarships for international students each year. You may be eligible if you have been enrolled in a degree programme at the University of Passau for at least two semesters.

The application deadlines are:

- For the summer semester: 28 February
- For the winter semester: 31 July

You can also apply for a Deutschlandstipendium, a scholarship available at universities throughout Germany which supports students with EUR 300.00 per month. It is awarded once a year in the winter semester. To be eligible, you have to be enrolled at the University of Passau or plan to enrol for the semester following your application as a regular degree-seeking student at the University of Passau (which all of our master’s students are). Criteria for selection are personal accomplishments, commitment and grades.
More information about the application procedure can be found here:

https://www.uni-passau.de/en/deutschlandstipendium-scholarship/

Furthermore, the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD) runs a scholarship database for international students. **Follow this link and select your status, country of origin and field of study to get information on suitable scholarships for you:**


Depending on the scholarship, there may be additional qualifications that you have to fulfil in order to apply. Also note that there may be application deadlines.

### 5.1.4 Study Grants

Under very special circumstances, under the German Federal Education Assistance Act (Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz, BAFöG), foreign students can receive financial support. That may apply to individuals entitled to political asylum or EU students with children. Usually you will need to have a permanent residence permit, i.e. one that is valid for an unlimited period of time ('Niederlassungserlaubnis'). For more information, please contact:

**Studentenwerk Niederbayern/Oberpfalz**

Amt für Ausbildungsförderung
Innstr. 41
94032 Passau
E-mail: uni-pa@bafoeg-bayern.de

### 5.1.5 Student Employment

In order to finance your studies, you can also take the most common route and work part-time. However, there are some things you have to consider. **EU/EEA citizens** have free access to the German employment market. Lawful employment for students from **non-EU member states** is limited to 120 full days per year (or 240 half days per year). If you want to work more than that,
you have to get a work permit from the employment office (see below) and the foreigners’ registration office (‘Ausländeramt’, see 3.1). The iStudi Coach (see 6.1.2) will help you with questions regarding those regulations.

The employment office address is:

Agentur für Arbeit
Innstr. 30
94032 Passau

5.2 Managing Your Studies

5.2.1 Orientation Weeks for International Students

Most importantly, please be sure not to miss the Orientation Weeks (German: 'O-Wochen') for International Students. There will be plenty of informative events as well as guided tours of the campus, the library and the city of Passau. You will also have plenty of opportunities to ask questions. Furthermore, you will receive an introduction to the Sports Centre (see 5.3.1), the study management platform Stud.IP (see 5.2.3), and so on. O-Wochen are also a great opportunity to make new friends. The Orientation Weeks for the winter semester 2020/2021 will take place from:

20 Mar 2021 - 11 Apr 2021

For more information please visit:
http://www.uni-passau.de/en/study/getting-started/orientation-weeks

Details about the time and place can be found here:
https://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/intl-orientation-weeks
5.2.2 Your Student ID Card ('CampusCard')

Your student ID card is your permission to study. Have it with you whenever you are at the university because, amongst other things, it will allow you to print or make photocopies, eat at the Mensa, grab a snack at the University cafeterias, borrow books and other items from the library, use the sports facilities and access the Computer Science building on Sundays and during night-time for extra-long study sessions. Furthermore, it will allow you to take the buses in Passau for free or even benefit from some special discounts at stores, cinemas or restaurants.

Log on to Stud.IP (see 5.2.3) and click on 'CampusCard'. There, you can apply for your student ID card by filling out the form and uploading a passport-sized picture of yourself. You will be notified when your Campus Card is ready for pick up.

Once you have received your card, all you have to do is to go to one of the local validation machines to validate it. Now your campus card is ready for use. Sounds complicated? Don’t worry – we will guide you through the process during the Orientation Weeks (see 5.2.1).

5.2.3 Stud.IP

Stud.IP is a Study Management Platform that you will use to enrol in lectures and most importantly to download all relevant documents and information of your classes. Furthermore, you can use Stud.IP to communicate with fellow students, professors and international student support staff. Everything concerning your classes can be found and managed here except for signing up for your exams, which is done via HISQIS (see 5.2.4). You can use Stud.IP on any browser or smart phone by simply logging in to the website https://studip.uni-passau.de/studip using your username and password that you received at matriculation.

Registering for a course in Stud.IP is primarily a way for you to access documents and information about the course. Even though attendance is not
mandatory in most lectures, we strongly advise you to enrol and participate. Some seminars or lectures do have a restricted number of spots. For those, you must enrol in order to attend. Attending those classes might also be compulsory, particularly if they are practical or research-intensive in nature. Try to check the available lectures and seminars for upcoming semesters as early as possible to ensure you get a place in your desired courses. You will learn how to use Stud.IP during the Orientation Weeks (see 5.2.1).

5.2.4 HISQIS
Alongside Stud.IP you will also use HISQIS to organize your studies at the University. The platform allows you to sign up for examinations and check your grades. You can find HISQIS using the URL https://qisserver.uni-passau.de. You must use the same login credentials as on Stud.IP. Unlike Stud.IP, however, HISQIS is currently only available in German, but do not worry: we will show you how to use HISQIS during the Orientation Weeks (see 5.2.1) and once again later in the semester.

5.2.5 Campusportal
The Campusportal is the third platform besides Stud.IP and HISQIS helping you throughout your studies. You can find the Campusportal using the URL https://campus.uni-passau.de/ It allows you to perform changes on your address in order to inform the university that you have moved. You can also find your enrolment certificate and other notifications there.

5.2.6 Libraries and InfoGuide
The University has five libraries offering a wide range of materials to support you during your studies. If you want to know whether the libraries have a book that you need, just visit the university library homepage [http://www.ub.uni-passau.de/en](http://www.ub.uni-passau.de/en) and click on 'Literature search'. The library offers free e-books, databases, newspapers and a nice and quiet study environment.

### 5.2.7 German Language Courses

The University’s language centre offers German courses for international students. If you are enrolled at the university you can sign up for free, using Stud.IP ([see 5.2.3](#)). As with most language courses in Europe, the German courses at the University of Passau are based on the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**. It consists of 6 levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2, with A1 being the lowest (basic knowledge) and C2 the highest (native) level. It is highly recommended that you take advantage of these free German language classes to learn some basic German, which is definitely helpful for your daily life in Germany. By the end of your first year of study, you must possess proficiency in German at least at level A1.

Within your first year of studies, you should also take advantage of the possibility to participate in a counselling interview with one of the professors at the faculty. If they are able to have a simple conversation with you in German, your language course requirement may be waived altogether.

If you want to learn more about German culture and language, check out the German Summer Courses which last for four weeks, usually in August. However, unlike the German courses in which you can participate once you are an enrolled student, these summer courses are not free of charge: [https://www.gcp.uni-passau.de/en/german-summer-courses/](https://www.gcp.uni-passau.de/en/german-summer-courses/)

The **Language Café** (‘Sprachcafé’) is a good place to practice what you’ve learned in your language courses. It targets students from various cultural and
linguistic backgrounds who meet in order to practice their language skills in a casual atmosphere at Café Duftleben (Theresienstrasse 22, 94032 Passau) every Thursday at 8 p.m. during the semester. For current information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/Sprachcafe-Passau-811957708969175

5.3 Leisure Activities

5.3.1 Sports Centre
The University of Passau offers a wide range of sporting activities and lessons for all students. Sports Centre membership costs EUR 15.00 per semester. Once you are registered, you can choose from a broad variety of different types of sports. Why not take a course in something you have never tried before? If you just want to play with your friends or meet new people, every section also offers just-for-fun playing sessions. You will learn how to register your student card and sign up for the different kinds of sports during Orientation Weeks (see 5.2.1).

5.3.2 Nightlife
Passau is a great place to study, but also to party and have fun. The city offers a rich selection of clubs, bars and restaurants that will satisfy even the most advanced night owls. Dancing to the latest club tracks, partying on a riverboat at night, enjoying a cold beer in a traditional Biergarten overlooking Passau, or how about playing parlour games at a bar? Passau has it all, and the best thing is that everything is within walking distance. Passau’s streets are full of clubs and bars which are right next to each other and yet completely different. Everyone will find their perfect spot for a fun night out. In addition, there are many annual events and festivals in the city that attract visitors from near and far. From arts and music festivals to infamous Oktoberfest-style celebrations or Christmas markets, Passau has events to offer all year.
6. Assistance
6.1 Contact

6.1.1 FIM International Student Assistants
This Handbook was created by the International Student Assistants of the Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics. We are responsible for all international masters’ student support at the FIM, and we are happy to help you with any problem or concern you might have now or in the future.

If you have any questions or problems regarding your studies, the master’s programme in particular or your life in Passau in general, please do not hesitate to contact us:

mahelp@fim.uni-passau.de

We very much look forward to welcoming you to Passau!

Ashish, Basma and Laura
6.1.2 Other Important Resources

Please address your enquiries concerning the application procedure directly to the academic advice service:

advice@uni-passau.de

For information and questions about internships, student jobs and/or work in or around Passau after graduation, please contact the iStudi Coach. The university’s Centre for Careers and Competencies offers a special career orientation programme for international students and will help you to find internships as well as entry-level positions after graduation.

istudicoach@uni-passau.de

http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/istudi-coach

The new portal careersUp offers you the opportunity to get in touch with employers looking to recruit. Whether you’re searching for an internship, a part-time job or even a career entry-level position, the portal provides you with information about vacancies regionally, Germany-wide and all across Europe. All you need to do is log in using the same credentials you use to get into StudIP. You can use the portal to find jobs not only during your stay at the University, but also after you graduate. Apart from using the portal via your Browser, you can also download the careersUp App by searching for “Job-Teaser” in your app store.

http://www.uni-passau.de/en/careersup
Please direct your questions about visa issues, health insurance or how to finance your studies to the International Office:

international@uni-passau.de

For other non-university-related questions as well as information about events for international students, please contact the international tutor of the “Studentenwerk”:

i-tutor@stwno.de

### 6.2 Useful Links

#### Studying at the University of Passau

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<th>Service</th>
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<td>Stud.IP</td>
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<tr>
<td>HISQIS</td>
<td><a href="https://gisserver.uni-passau.de">https://gisserver.uni-passau.de</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Advice Service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uni-passau.de/en/academic-advice">http://www.uni-passau.de/en/academic-advice</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Portal of the University of Passau</td>
<td><a href="https://campus.uni-passau.de">https://campus.uni-passau.de</a></td>
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#### Living in Passau

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<tr>
<td>International students accommodation service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled/accommodation">http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled/accommodation</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student accommodation (commercial offers)</td>
<td><a href="https://jany.immo">https://jany.immo</a></td>
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Living in Germany

Visa and residence permits
http://www.uni-passau.de/en/international/coming-to-passau/getting-settled/visas-and-residence-permits

Visa information

More visa information
https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/visas/

Travelling

Deutsche Bahn railway
http://www.bahn.com

Long distance coach travel
http://www.busradar.com

Transportation search engine
http://www.fromatob.com

6.3 Facebook Pages

In order to stay informed about current events and get in touch with us as well as fellow international students at our Faculty or elsewhere at the University of Passau, visit our Facebook-Page:

https://www.facebook.com/fim.intl

https://www.facebook.com/UniPassauInternationalStudentsSupport

https://www.facebook.com/ISPassau
6.4 Campus Map