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Academic calendar 2020/21

Exchange students are welcome to study with us in the winter semester 2020/21 and summer semester 2021.

Winter semester 2020/21

Welcome Days (mandatory attendance)

Welcome Days for students registered for any pre-semester program(s).

September 2 - September 3, 2020

Welcome Days for all other students:
September 28 - September 29, 2020

The Welcome Days will be offered in a hybrid format. The first day will be held online. On the second day we will organize a tour of Campus WU for those students who are able to join us physically.

Pre-semester programs (optional)

Orientation and Cultural Program:

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the Orientation and Cultural Program in September 2020 has been cancelled. We will organize some orientation activities throughout September for those students who are able to join us physically in Vienna.

Pre-semester German language courses:

September 7 - September 18, 2020
The pre-semester German language courses are planned to take place in small groups on campus.

Teaching period

October 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021

Christmas break: December 24, 2020 – January 6, 2021

We plan on having a mix of course formats in winter semester 2020/21 (e.g. on campus, online, hybrid). We offer distance-learning options for students, who can not come to WU.

Several courses end before the Christmas break; students who cannot stay at WU in January should choose their courses accordingly.)

Semester break

February 1, 2021 – March 1, 2021

Summer semester 2021

Due to the current COVID-19 situation and as a precautionary measure, all courses will be held in an online format until the end of March 2021 (Easter). For the time after Easter, nominated students will receive an update how teaching will be resumed.

Welcome Days (mandatory attendance)

Welcome Days for incoming exchange students:

February 15, 2021 (online)
February 16, 2021 (enrollment on campus) or
February 26, 2021 (enrollment on campus)

Students who spend their entire exchange semester in distance mode need to enroll online and will receive information on how to do so via email. All other students may choose between the offered enrollment dates.

Pre-semester programs (optional)

Orientation and Cultural Program:

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the Orientation and Cultural Program in February 2021 has been cancelled.

Pre-semester German language courses (takes place online due to COVID-19):

February 16 – February 26, 2021

Teaching period

March 1, 2021 – June 26, 2021

Easter break: March 27, 2021 – April 6, 2021

Pentecost break: May 23, 2021 – May 24, 2021

Registration and nomination deadlines

General information	WU only accepts exchange students nominated by their home universities. The home university exchange coordinator is responsible for nominating students online and forwarding WU's Nomination Letters to the nominated exchange students.
Webinar for prospective students	If you are a student at one of WU's partner universities and interested in studying at WU as an exchange student, you can join our informative webinar sessions. More information can be found here .
Online nomination	Partner universities are asked to send an email to WU coordinators, indicating the number of students they wish to nominate, after which the online nomination link will be provided.
Nomination deadlines	For the winter semester: May 1 For the summer semester: November 1
Application deadlines for students in the summer semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-semester German language courses Application deadline January 15, 2021• Online pre-enrollment for students Deadline November 15, 2020 <p>Invitations to apply online for the pre-semester German language course will be sent out after May 1/November 1.</p>
Language requirements	Depending on the language of instruction (English or German), undergraduate exchange students must have a B2 level or above (according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages , CEFR) in English OR German. Graduate exchange students must have a level equivalent to C1 of the CEFR. WU does not request official language certificates, as we trust our partners to only send students who fulfill the aforementioned criteria. However, if students do not meet the language requirements, we reserve the right to exclude them from courses.

Course information

Courses in English	Our English-taught course options for exchange students include more than 250 courses offered each term, covering all core fields of business and economics as well as related areas. Some courses are offered in block format to make scheduling easier.
Courses in German	Apart from courses offered in English, incoming exchange students can also attend a variety of courses taught in German. Courses & FAQs for bachelor's and master's students: https://www.wu.ac.at/io/academics
Class format	Although WU has seven different examination types, approx. 90% of courses available to incoming exchange students are continuous assessment ("PI") courses. These courses are highly interactive courses including lectures, case studies, papers, presentations, and group projects. Exams and tests are held during the regular course sessions, and there is no special exam week at the end of the semester.
Attendance and participation	Attendance is mandatory in all continuous assessment courses ("PI"), which account for 90% of all courses at WU.
Course registration	WU's online registration system LPIS allows students to register for courses even if they overlap. As attendance is mandatory, it is the students' responsibility to only register for courses they can attend in full. Course registration is based on a first-come, first-served principle; therefore, we strongly recommend that students choose two back-up courses in case their registration for their preferred courses is not successful. Course numbers at WU have a purely administrative function and change every semester.
Course load	Students are expected to take a full workload at WU, which corresponds to 24 to 30 ECTS credits. The maximum course load is 36 ECTS credits excluding language courses.
Exam dates	Exam dates depend on the courses chosen. There is no specific examination period for all courses.

German language courses

Before the semester	WU offers pre-semester German language courses with levels ranging from absolute beginners to highly advanced speakers. These two-week intensive language courses are principally free of charge. Only a fee for administration and teaching materials (€ 40) will be charged. To participate, students need to apply by May 15 for the winter semester and by November 15 for the summer semester. Places are limited.
During the semester	WU's Business Language Center offers German courses at all levels. For students, courses (30 contact hours) cost € 195.

Documents

Confirmation of Stay	Please note that a Confirmation of Stay will only be issued for the period of the student's actual studies at WU . The Welcome Days that students participate in will be given as their date of arrival. The last day that can be confirmed on the Confirmation of Stay is the last day that students need to be present at WU (e.g. last day of classes, last exam).
Transcript of records	We will issue a transcript or grade report for each student at the end of the semester, which will be sent to the coordinator at the home university.
Grading	<p>The following grading scale applies at WU:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 excellent (Sehr gut)2 good (Gut)3 satisfactory (Befriedigend)4 sufficient (Genügend)5 fail (Nicht genügend) <p>WU does not use a standardized percentage-based grading scale. The percentage scores needed to receive the grades given above differ from course to course. In most cases, the course-specific grading scales can be found in the course descriptions online.</p>

Orientation services for exchange students

Orientation and Cultural Program	WU offers a two-week program, which includes a variety of activities such as social events, a sightseeing program, out-of-town field trips, presentations on Austria, etc. and costs € 260. To participate, students need to apply by May 15 for the winter semester and by November 15 for the summer semester. Places are limited.
Academic advisors	For each WU partner university, a specific WU faculty member acts as an academic advisor. Academic advisors support students in selecting appropriate courses and give advice on relevant academic matters.
Buddy Network	The Austrian Students' Union (ÖH) at WU are available to help exchange students find a "buddy" – a WU student who acts as their personal mentor. The Buddy Network also organizes a number of social activities for exchange students (skiing trips, trips to neighboring countries, theater evenings, etc.).



Accommodation

General information

Off-campus student housing is available through student residence providers. Private flats can be found for example through the housing platform Housing Anywhere.

For more information on finding accommodation, click here:

<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/programs/incoming-students/exchange-semester/your-semester-at-wu-from-start-to-finish/accommodation>

Living costs

Housing | approx. € 450–650 / month
Insurance | approx. € 50 / month
Food, personal expenses | approx. € 220–300 / month
Utilities (phone, etc.) | approx. € 15–30 / month
Vienna public transport | approx. € 75–160 / semester
Books | approx. € 75–150 / semester
Students' Union dues | approx. € 20 / semester

Entry and residence regulations

General information

Before traveling to Austria, students should make sure they are familiar with the regulations concerning visas and residence permits. Please also keep an eye on potential entry restrictions caused by COVID-19.

Nationals of non-EU/EEA countries and Switzerland (so-called "third country nationals") need an entry visa or residence permit for entry into and residence in Austria. The type of permit depends on the length and purpose of the stay.

Further details: <https://oead.at/en/to-austria/entry-and-residence/>

About Vienna

Vienna ranks among the most attractive cities in the world. Tradition and culture, research and education, economic growth, and a safe and livable environment make it a place with a very high standard of living that is recognized internationally.

Further details: <https://www.wien.info/en>



International Summer University^{WU}

We will offer the International Summer University^{WU} both on campus WU and online. Depending on how the situation will develop, the program formats might change to an online format entirely.

General information

As an alternative to a full exchange semester, WU offers intensive three-week programs. These **short academic programs** take place at WU from **July 5 – 23, 2021**, and **July 26 – August 13, 2021**. Students can attend two to three business courses on undergraduate or graduate level. All courses are taught in English and cover several business-related topics. Undergraduate students can earn 8 ECTS credits; graduate students can earn 9 ECTS credits.

The program includes networking opportunities and a cultural and social program with fellow students from over 25 countries.

Registration

WU partner universities can nominate their students to participate in this program as exchange students.

Further details: <https://www.wu.ac.at/io/isuwu>



Marketing Spring Program

The Marketing Spring Program is expected to take place on campus WU in accordance with security and hygiene regulations. Depending on how the situation will develop, the program formats might change to an online format entirely.

General information

The IMC – WU Spring Program is a joint intensive program for international bachelor's students, which takes place in the last two weeks of May, at [IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems](https://www.imc-krems.ac.at/) and WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business).

The academic course aims at deepening the participants' knowledge in the field of marketing management in tourism. Latest trends and strategies, real-life project work and intercultural teamwork are the main pillars within the English-taught course. Participants can earn 6 ECTS credits for this course.

The program fee includes course materials, lunch on lecture days, public transport in Vienna and Krems and a cultural and social program to intensify the networking opportunities with fellow students.

Registration

WU partner universities can nominate their students as exchange students to participate in this spring program.

Further details:

<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/programs/incoming-students/marketing-spring-program>