

AALEN INTERNATIONAL

 **Aalen University**
of Applied Sciences

Program

**INFORMATION FOR PARTNER UNIVERSITIES
AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS**



STUDY ABROAD AT AALEN UNIVERSITY. CHECK OUT OUR **VIDEO** AND GET A **GLIMPSE OF STUDENT LIFE** IN GERMANY.



04
Become Part of
Aalen University



10
Our Program –
Your Chance



30
Application
Process



34
Services for
International Students

Become Part of Aalen University	04	Hands on: Upgrade to Platinum	27
In the Heart of the South	06	Start here, go anywhere	28
The Economic Center of the South	08	Our easy Application Process	30
Our Program – Your Chance	10	You need more Help?	32
How to pursue a doctoral degree at Aalen University	13	Service for International Students	34
EMBRACE – A new Service Center for Researchers	14	Buddy Program & Family Program	35
Teaching and Learning	16	Accommodation	36
Your Courses at Aalen University	20	Campus Life	38
English Taught Lectures Catalogue	22	City Life	40
Internships: A Golden Opportunity	24	Facts & Figures	42

EDITION NOTE FOR 8TH EDITION, JAN 2024

Publisher: Aalen University, Beethovenstraße 1, 73430 Aalen, Germany **Contact:** hs-aalen.de, Email: info@hs-aalen.de **Edition:** 750 pcs.

Photos: Aalen University, digital publishing AG (Speexx), International Center, Jan Walford, Sandro Brezger, Agentur Karg und Petersen, Sven Döring, Volker Miosga, Tobias Holzinger, Richter lighting technologies GmbH

Design: Freistil Design GbR, frei-stil-design.de

Find friends for a lifetime and build your network for future days: all in one place - Aalen.



BECOME PART OF AALEN UNIVERSITY

THE GERMAN HIGHER EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT PROVIDES FOREIGN STUDENTS WITH **EXCELLENT OPTIONS**. AALEN UNIVERSITY AIMS TO PREPARE ITS STUDENTS FOR THEIR CAREERS IN THE INDUSTRY.

With 4,500 students from 68 different countries, Aalen University is one of the largest Universities of Applied Sciences in Baden-Württemberg. You can design your own experience abroad by attending English or German taught lectures in the fields of engineering, business sciences, health sciences and chemistry.

Aalen University is located in a booming, cultural, vacation-oriented region. With almost 68,000 inhabitants, Aalen is able to offer an array of opportunities, having the characteristics of a big city while maintaining the charm of a small town. Due to Aalen's proximity to many of Germany's most

famous sights, you can easily take day trips to Stuttgart, Munich, Ulm, Augsburg and Nuremberg to explore more of Germany.

DYNAMIC AND MODERN

Aalen University offers innovative educational models and study programs. Successful knowledge transfer with the business community and a growing campus also testify to our continuous development. Aalen University is proud of its partner networks both in the region and all over the world, as well as the 141 partnerships with foreign universities.

SCORING IN RESEARCH FOR YEARS

When it comes to research, Aalen University is one of the leading Universities of Applied Sciences in Germany. The annual research budget exceeds more than 15 Million Euro and the scientific output adds up to more than 300 publications and patents per year. Currently, more than 150 scientists are receiving funding from external sources and more than 100 are pursuing a doctorate. Research infrastructure includes state-of-the-art research centers and modern research equipment, which is upgraded continuously.

Research activities tackle major societal challenges including climate change, energy and resource efficiency, sustainable mobility and digitalization. Key research areas are "Advanced Materials and Manufacturing" and "Photonics". Current crosscutting topics are "Applied Machine Learning/Data Science" or "Industry 4.0". Research is performed within an established network of renowned academic research institutions and leading global companies, many of which are located in nearby neighborhoods such as Zeiss, Varta, Voith, Paul Hartmann or Mapal.



Top rankings in research and close links to industries with excellently equipped laboratories.

Aalen University - Well Connected

- Public State University of Baden-Württemberg
- Member of the European University Association (EUA)
- Member of the HRK – German Rectors Conference, Bonn
- Member of the DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn
- Member of the HAW Doctoral Association
- Member of the Association of Friends & Supporters of the Baden-Württemberg State Foundation
- Hochschulförderung SüdWest (HfSW)
- Experience in state, national and international projects such as LARS, DFG, BMBF, GIZ, Erasmus+, Horizon

IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH – THE SWABIAN ALB

AALLEN IS LOCATED IN THE **ECONOMIC CENTER** OF THE SWABIAN ALB. THE REGION BOASTS A BOOMING INDUSTRY, **LONG HISTORY** AND **BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPE**.

The Swabian Alb is located in the region of East Württemberg and therefore in the center of Europe and in the heart of Southern Germany - close to metropolises like Munich and Stuttgart, and vacation spots like Allgäu and Lake Constance. The alpine countries of Austria and Switzerland are also within reach.

“The region of talents and patents” is what we call East Württemberg. Pioneering spirit, creativity and inventiveness are shaping the daily and professional lives of the area’s population. That is why many growth sectors and future technologies are developed here. Global players, successful medium-sized companies, and ambitious start-ups all call East Wuerttemberg home. Here, the amount of hidden champions is twice as high as in the rest of Germany. Moreover, East Württemberg is a top region in terms of registered patents and innovations within Germany.

EAST WÜRTTEMBERG – THE PLACE TO BE

Although Aalen is located in the economic center of the south of Germany, it has managed to keep its unique fusion of lively urban flair and picturesque rural scenery. Its rich history as well as its natural beauty have always managed to attract people to it. Before the Romans and Celts settled here, humans from the Neolithic period left their artifacts for us to discover. The Romans built their famous frontier, the Limes, on the Swabian Alb and established the largest



When you choose to study in Aalen, you'll be surrounded by beautiful nature.

cavalry fort north of the Alps in what would eventually become Aalen. During the Middle Ages, the people built countless castles, palaces and residences as well as medieval city-fortifications and impressive ecclesiastical buildings that continue to shape our region’s appearance.

However, if you want to explore nature instead of taking a trip into the past, East Wuerttemberg will spoil you with beautiful und varied landscapes. The densely wooded areas in the north of region are perfect for hiking or exploring. The rolling hills of the region around Aalen offer peaceful orchards, meadows and fields. The Swabian Alb is an escarpment running through the whole of East Württemberg with lots of forests fit for fairy tales. On the plateau of the Swabian Alb, you will find light beech forests as well as juniper heathland and dry valleys. The Danube wetland marks the southern end of East Wuerttemberg. In this broad and open valley, you will find countless quarry lakes and reed fields to enjoy. East Württemberg offers something for every taste.

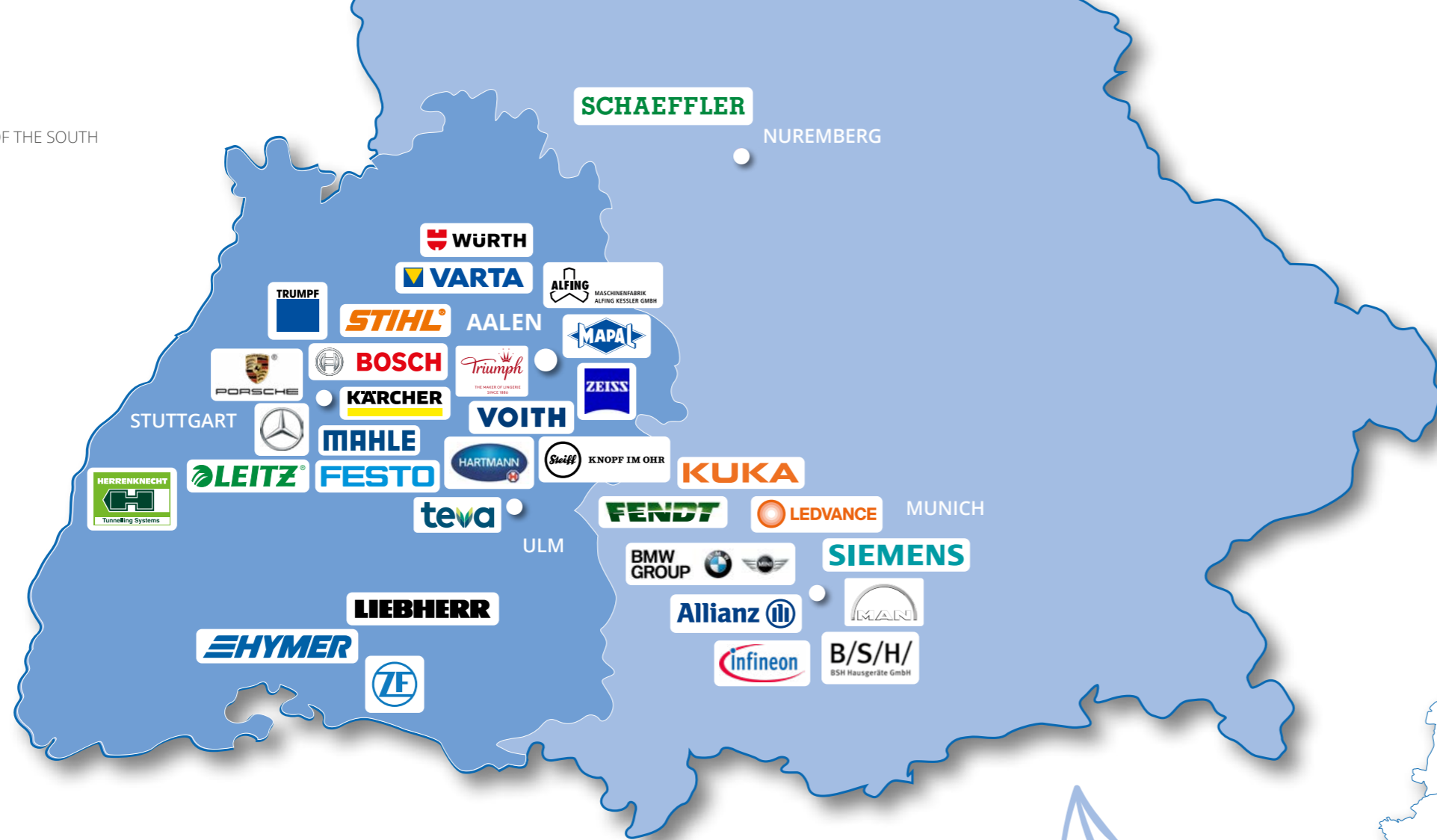
BECOME AN HONORARY AMBASSADOR OF EAST WÜRTTEMBERG

To offer the international students of East Wuerttemberg an incentive to get to know our astonishing region, encourage them to learn German, give them better access to the local economy, and the chance to better integrate into German society, Aalen University created the “East Wuerttemberg Ambassador Program”.

For participation in multiple events (including a German language course), students receive a certificate from the District Chief Officer which recognizes them as Honorary Ambassadors of East Württemberg. This certificate can be used as proof of their successful time abroad for future academic institutions or employers.

Vicente Luna Gutierrez from Mexico is an Honorary Ambassador of East Württemberg





THE ECONOMIC CENTER OF THE SOUTH

BESIDES GLOBAL PLAYERS, WE HAVE **TWICE THE AMOUNT OF HIDDEN CHAMPIONS** AS THE REST OF GERMANY. THESE COMPANIES ARE LEADERS IN THEIR FIELDS IN EUROPE AND AT LEAST THIRD WORLDWIDE. THE CURIOUS THING ABOUT THEM: MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW THEM – ONLY THEIR PEERS CONSIDER THEM **HEROES**. THEY SHARE SPACE WITH **GLOBAL PLAYERS** AND SUCCESSFUL **MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES**.

OUR PROGRAM – YOUR CHANCE

WE ARE EAGER TO ACCOMMODATE THE VARIOUS NEEDS OF ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. THAT IS WHY WE CREATED **A MODULE PROGRAM** YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM **INDIVIDUALLY**. MAKE YOUR STAY WITH US **SILVER, GOLDEN, PLATINUM** OR EVEN **DIAMOND**.

Find all projects descriptions for your **project semester** at Aalen University here. www.hs-aalen.de/en/pages/project-semester



Your regular semester exchange program in Aalen is what we call the Silver Program. Your first option within the Silver Program is to study with our German and international students in the courses you choose from our syllabus. If you prefer working on an exciting project in one of our state-of-the-art laboratories or if you need a flexible solution in terms of credits, choose our **“Project Semester”**. You decide how many credits you earn and which projects you would like to work on. You can also add lectures to your project or even work on various smaller projects simultaneously.

If that is not enough for you, you can aim a little higher with an upgrade to gold. Once you are a registered exchange student at Aalen University, you are eligible to apply for an internship/co-op at any of the regional technology hotspots, including but not limited to Audi, Bosch, Daimler, Porsche, Voith or Zeiss. That is what differentiates our Gold Program from Silver: You study at one of the top universities of applied sciences in Southern Germany and spend some time working in one of the companies nearby. If you prefer consulting, financial services or even investment banking, no problem. We can help you in these fields as well. As soon as you are here, we will support you in all your ventures, help with administrative issues and work permits.

If you liked going gold, why not stay for another six months for a senior project or thesis, and add platinum to your exchange? With our Platinum Program, we offer you the possibility to participate in hands-on research and projects, working in our state-of-the-art laboratories, culminating in your degree from Aalen University.

STRIKING EVEN HIGHER? Join us for a PhD in our **Diamond Program!**



AS A BACHELOR EXCHANGE STUDENT AT AALEN UNIVERSITY, I INITIALLY DID AN INTERNSHIP AND WROTE MY THESIS. CURRENTLY, I AM ENROLLED IN A **MASTER'S PROGRAM** AND SIMULTANEOUSLY I AM WORKING AT BOSCH REXROTH. DURING MY TIME IN GERMANY, I HAVE REALIZED HOW **RELEVANT** MY **EDUCATION** AT AALEN UNIVERSITY IS FOR THE CONSTANTLY CHANGING IT INDUSTRY. THE TOOLS AND KNOWLEDGE I HAVE ACQUIRED HERE WILL BE MOST USEFUL IN MY **PROFESSIONAL CAREER**. IN ADDITION, THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE OFFERS A VERY ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. THE **BUDDY PROGRAM**, WALK AND TALKS AND MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES MAKE ME FEEL VERY **WELCOME**.

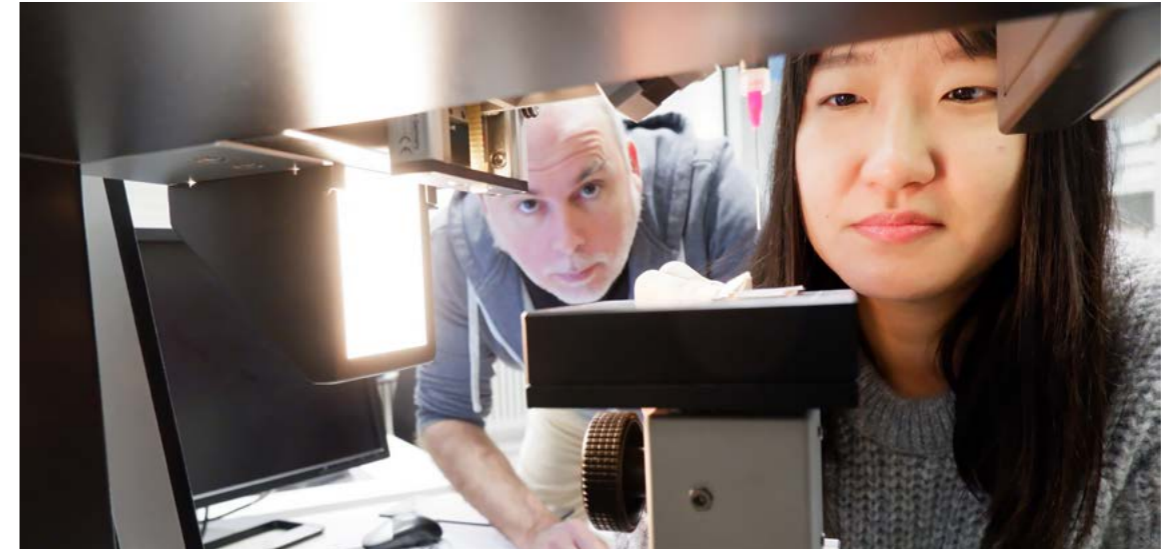
ALEJANDRO SERVIN,
PARAGUAY,
DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENT IN MASTER'S PROGRAM
“MACHINE LEARNING AND DATA ANALYTICS”



I AM A **GRADUATE** OF THE **MASTER'S PROGRAM** IN APPLIED SURFACE AND MATERIAL SCIENCES AT AALEN UNIVERSITY. CURRENTLY, I AM PURSUING A **DOCTORAL DEGREE** AT FINO, FOCUSING ON BIO-POLYMERS. FINO ALLOWS ME TO **CARRY OUT MY RESEARCH** BY PROVIDING ME WITH THE NECESSARY **INSTRUMENTS AND MATERIALS**, AS WELL AS BY OFFERING SUPPORT WHENEVER NEEDED. I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE **RESPECTFUL ATMOSPHERE** ON THE AALEN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AND, AS A MOTHER, ALSO THE **FAMILY-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT**.

**LIU HANG,
CHINA**

PHD STUDENT AT THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATIVE SURFACES (FINO)



HOW TO PURSUE A DOCTORAL DEGREE **AT AALEN UNIVERSITY**

AALEN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS LEAD **PHD CANDIDATES** DIRECTLY TOWARDS **THEIR DEGREE**

In 2022, universities of applied sciences in the state of Baden-Württemberg received the right to award doctoral degrees through the newly established HAW Doctoral Association. The core element of this Association is the Doctoral Center. Professors from different disciplines who can prove that they are actively conducting distinguished research by means of scientific publications and third-party research funding can apply to become members of this Center. The fact that more than 30 professors of Aalen University are currently involved in the Doctoral Center and can independently supervise doctoral candidates proves that research is a central profile element and flagship of the university.



The Center for Innovative Materials and Technologies for Efficient Electric Energy Conversion Machines and the Center Technology for Sustainability house state-of-the-art laboratories. Here is excellent research at home.



EMBRACE – A NEW SERVICE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS AND RESEARCHERS

AALEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES OFFERS **EXCELLENT RESEARCH** OPPORTUNITIES WITH A **GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**. OUR NEWLY ESTABLISHED SERVICE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS WILL ASSIST YOU WITH ALL NON-ACADEMIC MATTERS, TO ENSURE A SEAMLESS **EXPERIENCE** AS YOU EMBARK ON YOUR **RESEARCH JOURNEY**.



Whether you are an international graduate student, visiting scholar, or researcher accompanied by family, we would like to give you the opportunity to fully focus on your research goals. The EMBRACE Service Center offers comprehensive assistance with pre-arrival arrangements, immigration issues, university administration processes, integration, and cultural adaptation. Our goal is to create a welcoming environment and provide valuable support throughout the entire process and during your complete stay. Through our excellent offers and events, you can connect with other (international) scholars and researchers and integrate into the local community. Your feeling of belonging is imperative for us.

Make use of our EMBRACE onboarding services.

WHEN I INTERACTED WITH OTHER NEW FOREIGN STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS GERMAN UNIVERSITIES AND LISTENED TO THEM EXPLAIN THEIR INTEGRATION PROBLEMS, I REALIZED HOW LUCKY I HAD BEEN TO HAVE COME DIRECTLY TO AALEN. THANKS TO **DIFFERENT ORIENTATION SEMINARS** AND AN **INTERCULTURAL TRAINING**, I WAS ABLE TO **INTEGRATE QUICKLY** AND FACE THE CHALLENGES AHEAD WITH CONFIDENCE. MY THESIS SUPERVISOR, PROF. DR. ANDREAS HEINRICH, IS UNCONDITIONALLY SUPPORTIVE, UNDERSTANDING AND ENCOURAGING. THE **WORKING ENVIRONMENT IS HEALTHY AND CHALLENGING**.

ABAH ARIELLE DESIRÉE KOFFI,
CÔTE D'IVOIRE,
PHD STUDENT AT THE CENTER FOR
OPTICAL TECHNOLOGIES





TEACHING AND LEARNING AT AALEN UNIVERSITY

WE WANT YOU TO STUDY SOMETHING THAT EVOKES YOUR **ENTHUSIASM**. OUR LABORATORIES ARE EXCELLENTLY EQUIPPED AND THE THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES WE TEACH HAVE **STRONG TIES TO WORKING LIFE**.

Aalen University wants you to ace your studies. That is why our lecturers teach you in exciting and innovative ways. We offer a wide range of help for your theoretical principles. During the lecture term, there are labs and seminars supplementing and deepening the content of lectures.

As a University of Applied Sciences, we keep our finger on the pulse and adapt our syllabus to teaching innovations. Aalen University is, and will remain, primarily an in-person university, but it also strives to prepare its students for the digital future. In the past semesters, successful hybrid teaching and learning concepts have been developed and applied. Students can use our online platform, Canvas, which offers lecture contents, scripts, practical exercises and much more. Using this platform, students can learn, revise and practice individually.

Germany's largest independent student evaluation portal „StudyCheck“ demonstrates how much our students appreciate the quality of teaching, the practical relevance of the courses as well as the digital offers at our institution. In 2023, Aalen

University placed seventh in most popular university German-wide and first in digital readiness in the state of Baden-Württemberg.



Award winning teaching: Aalen University has top marks in various rankings.

Our library offers a wide range of scientific publications, including around 50.000 physical books and 500.000 e-books. On three floors, students can learn in a bright, quiet environment with tables supplied with electric sockets and free WiFi.

The staff of our library will also help you in individual appointments, as well as courses and seminars with questions regarding lending of books, researching an academic paper or on how to use the online databases properly.

We at Aalen University know that students of today are developers and decision-makers of tomorrow. Our goal is to enable you to develop products and processes that match the demands of the industry. Therefore, our lecturers aim for lectures that discuss current events.

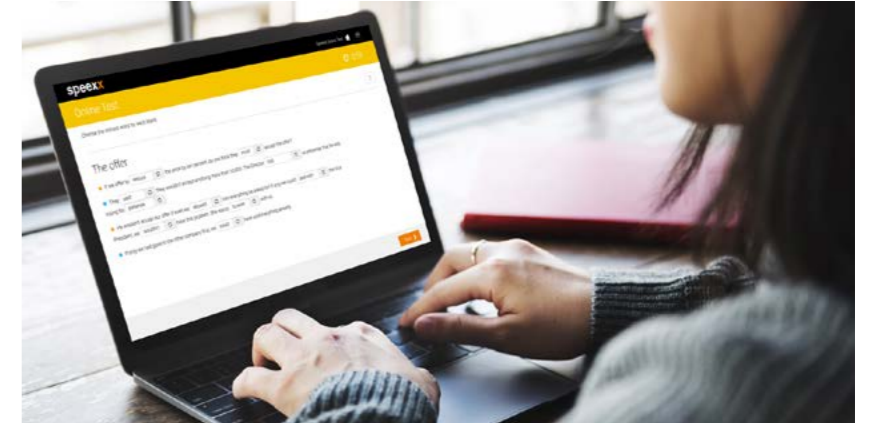
Our syllabus is closely adapted to the demands of the industry. Learning happens in small, individualized and interactive groups lead by lecturers with long-time experience in the industry.



While teaching, our professors aim to pass on even difficult topics effortlessly and with a sense of humor, because we know that laughing charges the brain. To break up the relatively strict structure of lectures and seminars, some subjects at Aalen University offer so-called "Makeathons". Each semester, students form groups to mill over problems and, in the end, construct and program prototypes to solve said problems within three days. Such projects and tasks help our students grow.

Outside our lecture halls, you will find projects and activities to get to know your fellow students and improve your soft skills. Our biggest student project is the "E-Motion Racing Team", an interdisciplinary team of students developing, constructing and testing an electric racecar. During the process, more than twenty subjects from all five faculties at Aalen University are involved in the building of the car. While the team is big, each member is able to contribute their ideas and work on projects within the race team that interest them. The finished product is an electric racecar that participates in competitions all over Europe. During the assembly of the car, students use what they have learned in lectures, along with the soft skills that are necessary for working in any team.

To improve those soft skills further, Aalen University offers a program called "Studium Generale". Each semester, the program runs under a different topic, e.g. industry 4.0, philosophy, or migration and integration. Students can work on their soft skills in small groups or listen to lectures held by international experts in their respective fields. In addition, students can develop their personality through courses held by coaches as varied as actors, rhetoric coaches, cyber security specialists



Polish up your German language skills: before or during your stay at Aalen University!

SPEEXX

**PERSONALIZED AND FLEXIBLE
GERMAN COURSES FOR YOU!
THE LANGUAGE LEARNING
SOFTWARE IS AVAILABLE
TO ALL STUDENTS.**

*Please write to
[rosemarie.francis-binder
@hs-aalen.de](mailto:rosemarie.francis-binder@hs-aalen.de)
if you would like to use
this software before
your arrival in Aalen.*

or anthropologists. During your time in Germany, we strongly encourage you to learn German. In addition to the offers from the Language Center, you can also use the Speexx Online Language Learning software to master the German language. This world-renowned program is flexible, results oriented and available at your fingertips! Especially if you would like to work in Germany, the language is a must!

YOUR COURSES AT AALEN UNIVERSITY

WE ARE HAPPY TO HOST YOU FOR AN **EXCHANGE STUDY SEMESTER**. YOU CAN GAIN **CREDIT POINTS** ABROAD BY ATTENDING OUR ENGLISH OR GERMAN TAUGHT LECTURES OR BY WORKING ON A PROJECT AS PART OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED „**PROJECT SEMESTER**“.



As an exchange student, you can freely select courses from all our study programs. Our English taught programs are thematically structured (see page 23 for the study fields we offer). As of 2024, you can also work on a project of your choice and receive credits for that. Go to www.hs-aalen.de/en/pages/project-semester for more information.

To consider your choice of lectures, you are very welcome to browse through our catalogue to check out available courses offered in English that fit your major. Study together with German and international students in the classes of your choice.



Choose the courses from our syllabus that fit your major.

Set up your learning agreement easily based on the Aalen International Program course catalogue in our Online Application Portal. Please note the following:

- Please only select courses that correspond to your major at your home university.
- Aalen University expects you to take a minimum of 20 ECTS credits related to your study area and, in addition, a German course.
- Pay attention to bachelor and master course offerings. If you wish to take master courses here, you will need to submit an official proof (signed and sealed by a representative of your university) that you have achieved a minimum of 180 ECTS (equivalent to 90 US-credits or 3 years of studies).
- Pay attention to course prerequisites.
- Note that some courses may only be taken in combination with other courses.
- Please consider that some of the course offers might be subject to change at short notice. Therefore, it might be necessary to change your learning agreement during the application process or even after your arrival in Aalen.
- Project work or writing a thesis is generally possible. If you find no suitable offer as part of our Project Semester, please contact our academic staff or the International Relations Office to define the topic and the workload, and to find a supervisor.



If you would like to attend German taught lectures as well, please refer to the offers of our study programs on the website of Aalen University or contact aaa@hs-aalen.de.

Due to our free German language courses, communication with your fellow students from Germany will be a lot easier.

German language courses are free of charge. Exchange students are expected to attend an intensive German course at an appropriate level during the orientation period. Upon passing the exam, they will receive credits. After the intensive course, students will participate in weekly German classes during the semester.

ENGLISH TAUGHT LECTURES CATALOGUE

FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS PAGE TO SELECT COURSES FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL TEACHING PORTFOLIO. FOR OUR ENGLISH TAUGHT COURSES CATALOGUE GO TO WWW.HS-AALEN.DE/EN/PAGES/AAA_ENGLISH-TAUGHT-LECTURES

Preselect your requirements for the courses you plan to take (semester and study area) and generate a list of course offerings by starting your search. Ten courses (if so many are available with your requirements) will be loaded on the first page automatically. If you would like to see more than ten courses at once, indicate a different number of entries.

By clicking on the "i" on the right, the content description for each course will appear. You can save this course description for future reference.

Find all course descriptions and our up-to-date course catalogue here.



COMPUTER SCIENCE & AI

BUSINESS &
MANAGEMENTHEALTH &
NATURAL
SCIENCESGERMAN AS A
FOREIGN LANGUAGEDESIGN &
COMMUNICATIONINDIVIDUAL
PROJECTENGINEERING &
FUTURE
TECHNOLOGIES

INTERNSHIPS: A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

WE WANT YOU TO EXPERIENCE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE DURING YOUR TIME WITH US. WITH AN **UPGRADE TO OUR GOLD PROGRAM**, YOU CAN DIVE INTO GERMAN **WORK LIFE**.

If our Silver Program is not enough for you, you can upgrade to Gold. We certainly encourage it. All you have to do is extend, upgrade and make the best of your stay in Germany. Once you are here, we will support you in all your ventures.

Gain practical experience in a company in our region.

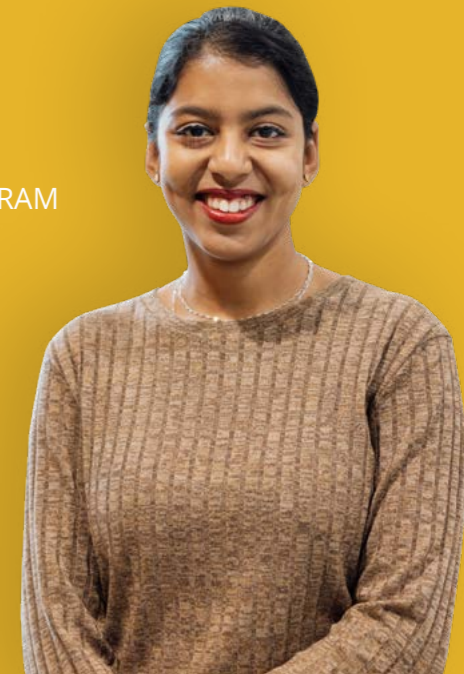


As soon as you are a registered exchange student in the Gold Program at Aalen University, you are eligible to apply for an internship – also called “co-op” – at any of the regional technology hotspots, including Audi, Bosch, Daimler, Porsche, Voith and Zeiss, or in one of the regional start-ups. If you prefer consulting, financial services or even investment banking, we will also help you find an internship that suits all your needs. We will support you in your pursuits and help with administrative issues and work permits. Once you are a student at Aalen University, obtaining a work permit is a very straightforward process. Our International Relations Office can help you with the paperwork. Use the opportunity to experience something new!

Typically, internships in Germany last six months. Companies expect you to commit to this six-month time frame with the possibility for extensions. Shorter internships have become very rare. While working for the company you choose, you will also earn an internship-wage. With the help of our Gold Program, interns dive deep into “real” work at their companies. During their internships, students will often help with a specific project. Do not miss the opportunity to make your stay in Germany golden!

THE TRANSITION FROM THE BUSTLING STREETS OF BANGALORE TO THE **SERENE SURROUNDINGS OF AALEN** HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF TRANSFORMATIVE. THE ACADEMIC RIGOR COMBINED WITH THE **EXPLORATION OF GERMANY** AND THE **INVALUABLE CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES** HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO MY PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH. THE **ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT** AT AALEN UNIVERSITY HAS PROVEN TO BE BOTH CHALLENGING AND REWARDING. THE FACULTY MEMBERS DEMONSTRATE A **COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**, FOSTERING AN ENGAGING AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

BHOOMIKAA RAGHAVENDRA,
INDIA,
EXCHANGE-STUDENT IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM
“INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDIES”



I AM PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL TO HOCHSCHULE AALEN FOR THE INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE SOUTH AFRICA'S RICH HISTORY, CULTURE, AND MODERN FACETS THROUGH THE EVENT THAT WE, THE SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS, HOSTED. YOUR **SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT** HAVE NOT ONLY ENRICHED MY **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE** BUT ALSO ENHANCED MY **CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING**. THANK YOU FOR FOSTERING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE DIVERSITY IS CELEBRATED, AND FOR **EMPOWERING STUDENTS** LIKE ME TO SHARE OUR UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES ON A GLOBAL STAGE.

**IMAAD KHAN,
SOUTH AFRICA,**
EXCHANGE-STUDENT IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM
"INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDIES"



HANDS ON: UPGRADE TO PLATINUM

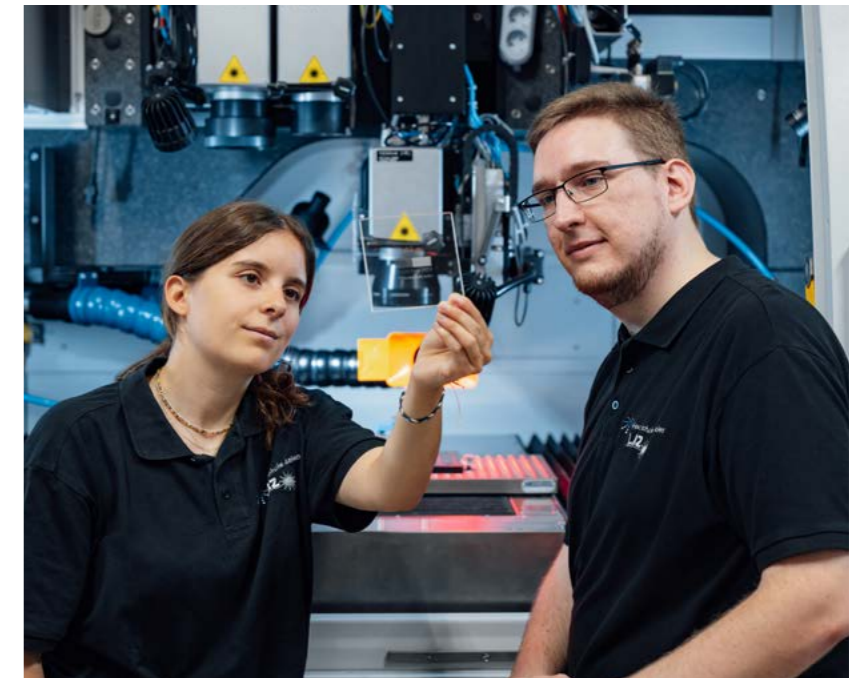
YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF AALEN UNIVERSITY? STAY EVEN LONGER WITH US, WRITE YOUR **THESIS** OR WORK ON A **SENIOR PROJECT** IN OUR **LABORATORIES**.

If you liked going gold, why not stay for another six months? With an upgrade to our Platinum Program, you can stay at Aalen University for a senior project or thesis. You can choose from many different industrial technologies, like digitalization, laser technology, or industry 4.0. We will put you to work in one of our excellently equipped laboratories. You can become a member of the research team and get an assignment for a thesis or a senior project almost instantly. Your advisor will be there to support you throughout the entire process and help you with all your individual questions or needs.

Do you want to work in a lab without having finished a study program or an internship semester? At Aalen University, you can do that too! If you prefer to work in a lab from the get-go, we can tailor your program so that you join a research group right away and work on a research project in your field. From our end, we can provide enough credit points with just lab work if you would rather do that than lectures. Better yet, it is also possible to pair your research project with a few pertinent classes in the field. As you dive deeper into the coursework, you may even be able to take a few classes in German. This individually tailored combina-

tion of research work and courses is what we call the Executive Platinum Program.

Students work and research on topics with future relevance.



START HERE, GO ANYWHERE

AALEN UNIVERSITY IS A CENTER FOR **YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS** AND THOSE WHO WANT TO BECOME **BUSINESS OWNERS** OF THE **FUTURE**.

According to the **Founder Radar** of the national **Stifterverband**, the University is also front runner with respect to start-ups in the group of medium sized German universities.

Aalen University answers the question “Can you learn the spirit of entrepreneurship and a business-like thinking?” with a “Yes!”. Our university encourages students to come up with innovative ideas, develop them and found their own businesses after graduation – or even during their time with us.

Under the phrase “Entrepreneurship University”, programs have been established and bundled with already existing offers concerning the founding of a business. Students interested in this topic can choose from a variety of interdisciplinary consultation and support services. In the programs, work-

shops and courses, students learn to develop their creativity, to have faith in their ideas, to practice team spirit and to hold self-confident presentations. Because at Aalen University, we want to discover the potential of students, hold it in highest regards and help make innovative ideas a reality.

The university's very own entrepreneur initiative “stAart-UP!de” teaches different techniques to solve problems in a creative way or methods for business-like thinking. In the so-called INNO-Z innovation center on campus, students can work during the pre-founding phase in Shared Desk areas to develop their budding ideas. Afterwards, young start-up companies can move into the office spaces of the INNO-Z to build up their company. Since opening its gates to young entrepreneurs three years ago, 50 start-ups have sprouted roots in the INNO-Z. Some of them are already selling their goods or services.

The goal of Aalen University is to educate creative people who think along the lines of modern day businesses and beyond – no matter whether they build up their own company after graduation or take on jobs in already existing companies.



In a fun way, we teach our students problem solving skills within a team.

I VERY MUCH VALUE THE STUDY EXPERIENCE I HAVE HAD IN AALEN; HOWEVER, IT IS NOT ONLY ABOUT STUDYING. THE **WELCOMING AALEN UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY** HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP MANY **INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS** WHICH HAVE BROADENED MY PERSPECTIVE AND MADE MY TIME HERE VERY SPECIAL. STUDYING AT AALEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES HAS BEEN A **REWARDING JOURNEY!**

GULCHIN IBRAHIMLI,
AZERBAIJAN,
DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENT IN MASTER'S PROGRAM
“BUSINESS INFORMATICS”



OUR EASY APPLICATION PROCESS

JOIN AALEN UNIVERSITY AND BECOME A MEMBER OF ITS INTERNATIONALLY
WELL-CONNECTED COMMUNITY.

Academic Calendar Fall term:

September 1st - February 28th

Orientation Weeks
(including a German
intensive course):
approximately four weeks
in September

Lecture Period:
Begin of October - End of January

Examination Period:
First three weeks
of February

Spring term:

March 1st - August 31st

Orientation Weeks
(including a German
intensive course):
approximately two weeks
in March

Lecture Period:
Mid-March - End of June

Examination Period:
First three weeks of July

There are some academic and organizational decisions to be made if you want to study in a foreign country. The coordinators and the international office at your home university will assist you in obtaining information about the program you are interested in and help you handle the technicalities involved in studying at Aalen University.

The International Relations Office at Aalen University is the contact for the nomination and application process. Exchange students first need to get nominated by their home university. As a second step, the exchange students need to upload their application documents through the Aalen University application portal (the link for registration will be sent out after the nomination by your home university to the nominated students). Please pay attention to the nomination and application deadlines.

All relevant application documents will be generated within the application portal of Aalen University. A complete application will contain:

- The general application form (to be signed by you and your institution before sending)
- The enrollment application
- The application form for an Email account
- The learning agreement
- Proof of language proficiency in German (min. B1) and/or English (min. B2)
- A final project request form (in case you wish to carry out your final project / degree dissertation at)
- Recent photo (passport format)
- A transcript of records including all your study results so far
- A full curriculum vitae

The deadline for submitting a full application is November 30th for the Spring term and April 30th for the Fall term.

Please contact us at incomings@hs-aalen.de if you have any questions regarding the application process.



1. NOMINATION (BY PARTNER UNIVERSITY)

We will send a table for you to fill out and send back to us via email to aaa@hs-aalen.de!

Nomination Deadlines

Spring term: November 1st
Fall term: April 1st

2. APPLICATION (BY STUDENT)

Students will apply online and upload various documents that also need to be signed by their home university.

Application Deadlines

Spring term: November 30th
Fall term: April 30th

YOU NEED MORE HELP? WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

TAKING CARE OF SOME **FORMAL ISSUES** IS A NECESSITY, BUT YOU WILL NOT BE LEFT ALONE WITH THE RED TAPE.

Exchange students from most non-European countries will need a visa for Germany and should consider that getting the visa may take quite some time. Therefore, we advise you to apply to Aalen University as soon as possible. After we have received your application, we will send you a letter

of admission, along with an invitation confirming your status at Aalen University. Only then can you apply for your visa at the German Embassy or a German Consulate. Special visa regulations may apply for certain nationalities (e.g. Students from the USA do not need a visa for entry).

When enrolling at Aalen University (normally after your arrival in Germany) the following additional items need to be taken care of:

- adequate health insurance (can also be taken in Aalen)
- the payment of an administration fee to the German Student Association
- residence permit (registration with the City Hall)
- opening a German bank account

The International Relations Office will of course assist you when you take care of these formalities. As soon as you have fulfilled all the enrolment requirements (normally a couple of days after your arrival) you will get your student card.



Our advisors are always there to answer your questions.

I CHOSE TO COME TO AALEN UNIVERSITY BECAUSE OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE PROVIDED TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS **LOOKING FOR INTERNSHIPS**. THE DIFFERENT INFORMATION SESSIONS, **APPLICATION WORKSHOPS** AND THE **COMPANY FAIR AIM** HAVE BEEN A HUGE HELP TO ME TO IDENTIFY **OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN THE REGION**. OTHER OFFERS LIKE THE **BUDDY PROGRAM**, THE **EAST-WÜRTTEMBERG AMBASSADOR PASSPORT** OR THE **ENGAGE PROGRAM** HAVE FACILITATED MY INTEGRATION INTO GERMAN SOCIETY AND ENABLED ME TO MEET NEW PEOPLE.

**REBECCA MCGILL,
IRELAND,
EXCHANGE-STUDENT IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM
"INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDIES"**



SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

WE KNOW VERY WELL THAT **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS** CAN FOCUS ON THEIR STUDIES ONLY IF THEY FEEL WELL. WE WILL GET YOU SETTLED IN FAST AND SMOOTHLY.

The International Relations Office (IRO) at Aalen University and the faculty members make every effort to support all international students both academically and emotionally. Throughout the years, a comprehensive service package for foreign

students has been developed to help get them settled in quickly. Whether be it into the university, German academic culture, society or the working environment.

OUR SERVICE PORTFOLIO INCLUDES:

- Supervision by the IRO and a faculty member
- Online German courses Speexx
- On-campus accommodation
- Orientation weeks
- German language courses at different levels
- Buddy and Family Programs
- Advisory and Counseling services
- Courses in intercultural communication
- Trips and excursions
- Company visits
- Cultural events
- Support through student tutors and resident assistants
- Job interview trainings and support by the Welcome Center Ostwürttemberg (for those who decide to go for an internship/co-op after their study semester)



All around service - more time for studying, learning and enjoying your time in Aalen.



Become part of our Buddy Program and make friends from all over the world.

BUDDY PROGRAM & FAMILY PROGRAM

OUR GERMAN STUDENTS ARE A **WELCOMING COMMUNITY**. IN OUR BUDDY PROGRAM, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE THAT FIRST HAND. IF YOU WANT TO DIVE EVEN DEEPER INTO GERMAN CULTURE, CHECK OUT OUR FAMILY PROGRAM.

The **Buddy Program** is designed to help international students adapt to campus life and German culture. International students get matched with a local buddy who can answer basic questions about studying and living in Aalen, and help with social integration and adjusting to the new academic environment. Monthly activities give all new international students the opportunity to meet

other exchange and full time students. Our **Family Program** "Hand in Hand" will bring you together with German families who will help you integrate quickly into German society. This program is also a great opportunity to improve your language skills and share your culture with others!



ACCOMMODATION

COMPARED TO LARGER GERMAN CITIES, LIVING IN AALEN IS AFFORDABLE FOR STUDENTS. DEPENDING ON YOUR PERSONAL TASTES, YOU HAVE THE CHOICE OF LIVING EITHER OFF-CAMPUS IN PRIVATE ACCOMMODATIONS OR IN ONE OF THE **STUDENT RESIDENCE HALLS**.

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

There are plenty of private housing and private student residence halls available in Aalen. The monthly rent ranges from € 350,- for a room without a shower up to € 850,- for high standard rooms. A very popular form of student housing are shared flats. Many students look for an additional flat mate for a vacant room in a shared apartment.

You can browse through private offers on external websites such as wg-gesucht.de or kleinanzeigen.de etc..

Private Student Residence Halls close to the University Include:

aal-inn.de

aal-inn-city.de

aal-inn-suites.de

wohnungsbau-aalen.de/mieten/apartments/

mikroapartments-aalen.de

aa-apartments.de



Where friendships are built: your network for the future.

The AYA Student Residence Halls includes:

- Carl-Schneider Residence Hall: single room in an 11-room unit; shared kitchen/bathroom/showers; monthly rent € 295,-^{*)}
- Anton-Huber Residence Hall: single room in 4 or 6-room unit; shared kitchen/bathroom/showers; monthly rent € 335 - 355,-^{*)}
- Steinertgasse Residence Hall – single Apartment; monthly rent € 415,-^{*)}

^{*)} Prices are valid as of March 2024; they may be subject to change.

Please consider some additional aspects, such as whether the rent includes utilities, or whether the apartment comes furnished or unfurnished. Please be aware that some of the landlords might not speak English well. If you need any assistance when looking for private accommodation, please contact us at incoming@hs-aalen.de.

STUDENT HALLS

Aalen University does not own or operate any residence halls. Many exchange students choose accommodation in student residence halls run by the Aalen Youth Association (AYA). For exchange students, there is a special room application procedure. A deposit and a fee of € 50,- for a private

liability insurance must be transferred in order to reserve a room. You will be informed about further details in time during the application process.

Please be aware that a contract for AYA accommodation can only be signed for one full semester (= 6 months, from March 1st to August 31st or from September 1st to February 28th) and that students obtaining a room in an AYA residence hall have to move out after 6 months so that new exchange students can be served. Thus, should somebody plan from the start to stay more than 6 months or less than 6 months, we recommend that you look for accommodation on the private market from the beginning.

Find your accommodation here



CAMPUS LIFE

STUDYING IS NOT ALL ABOUT FULL LECTURE HALLS. OUR **CAMPUS** IS FILLED WITH LIFE: OUR STUDENTS ARE A **COMMUNITY**.

Our campus is not only a place to study.

When you spend enough time at Aalen University, you will see that our students are a close community. They have formed associations in which each

student can be active and work for a better and more exciting life on campus. The student body, called Verfasste Studierendenschaft (VS), is an association led by a student committee. Their various departments organize and plan activities all over campus. They are responsible for the wide range of offers in the university's sports program including yoga courses, basketball, salsa courses as well as tennis or volleyball. A highlight in the summer is the University's sports festival organized by the VS. They also manage the Q-Buddy system, which allows students to report problems within programs or the University itself anonymously. The VS also hands out international student identity cards, funds field trips and organizes the university's choir. A specialty of the VS is the annual Christmas Market held on campus with festive food and hot drinks. The VS also runs a student bar called ERNAS.

Another big student-lead organization is the UStA. Their slogan "by students – for students" sums up their program effortlessly. The UStA is in charge of organizing one of the biggest fairs on campus: The Aalen Industry Fair takes place each year and offers students of Aalen University the chance to meet regional companies and make connections for



The relaxed atmosphere of our green and perfectly compact campus is conducive to social interactions.

internships, student jobs or writing a thesis in cooperation with a company. The UStA also facilitates a blood drive and runs the university cinema. The program for the cinema varies each semester; from current blockbusters to Hollywood classics – the university-cinema in the main lecture hall will serve every taste. For international students, the UStA offers field trips to interesting and exciting locations all over Europe, like Berlin, Prague or Brussels. For those who prefer nightlife, the UStA organizes parties on campus.

Our university also offers a range of other communities such as the "E-Motion Racing Team" who build their own electric race car from scratch to compete on race tracks all over Europe.

You can also participate and engage in events promoted by the Intercultural Club. The Aalen International Student Network (AAISN) organizes fun get-togethers for local and international students.

The explorhino program has set its goal at showing children that science is fun. With this program, Aalen University wants to incorporate scientific games and experiments into early education to overcome children's hesitations against choosing a scientific career later in life. The experiments and courses offered by the pupil's laboratory make natural science palpable and approachable. If you want to help with this project, the explorhino pupil's laboratory is always looking for volunteers!

Check out our social media channels to get impressions of Campus Life at our university:



@aalen_isn
@hochschuleaalen



@AalenuniversityIRO
@hochschule.aalen



CITY LIFE

AALEN IS A LIVELY CITY AND HAS A LOT TO SHOW. HERE, YOU'LL HAVE EVERYTHING: INNOVATIVE **INDUSTRIES**, A LONG **HISTORY** AND BOOMING **FESTIVALS**.

Enjoy the cozy atmosphere of Aalen pedestrian zone.



Aalen has an urban, almost Mediterranean flair. In the pedestrian area at the heart of the city, you will find many shops, cafés and restaurants. In the spring, you will see people eating outdoors at cafés and restaurants. You can spend an afternoon in the shade outside one of the countless cafés with a coffee or something cold. In the evening, Aalen offers a broad selection of various restaurants. Italian, Japanese, Tapas bars, traditional German cuisine – you name it, Aalen has it. If you like to cook your own meals, Aalen has a farmer's market twice per week. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, the market place and the pedestrian area all the way up to the town hall is turned into a market. Local farmers sell fresh produce, honey and baked goods, among other things.

HISTORY COMING TO LIFE

Aalen is not only an urban center, it was also the center of industrialization in the region. Aalen is home to one of the oldest industrial companies in Germany. Schwäbische Hüttenwerke was founded in 1365 due to the iron ore mining in the region. Still running to the present day, Schwäbische Hüttenwerke GmbH offers pumps and engine components for all types of powertrain concepts. Not far from today's site, the mine "Tiefer Stollen" is situated north of Aalen in a peaceful forest. The mine is now a museum, and offers a unique glance into the history of mining,

showing how working underground developed during the heyday of iron mining.

Aalen is also a city with long Roman history. The romans built their frontier, the limes, not far from Aalen and erected the largest cavalry fort north of the Alps in what would later become the city of Aalen. Today, the area is home to the Limes Museum, which underwent extensive refurbishments in 2018. The site is counted among the UNESCO world heritage sites. However, not only Aalen offers you a glance into Roman history. In neighboring communities, you will find the replica of a roman watchtower or a triumph arc that marked the frontier on a hilltop. After a visit to the Roman sites, you can relax in the bubbling hot springs on a mountain overlooking Aalen. The thermal baths are situated in a spa resort with Roman flair and offer a unique view over Aalen.

Did you know that there is a prehistoric period called the Aalenian Age? If not, the primeval world museum might be for you. The term "Aalenian" is used in scientific dialog all over the world and Aalen – as a so-called type locality – is known in geological circles globally. The primeval world museum offers a glance into the geologic history of the region with a collection of fossils – dinosaurs, squids, crinoid or giant ammonites – spread over two floors. For someone who does not like strolling through museums, the guided walking tours through Aalen at night might be a fun alternative. Accompanied by a night watch in historic garb, you can delve into the history of medieval Aalen and learn more about its development.

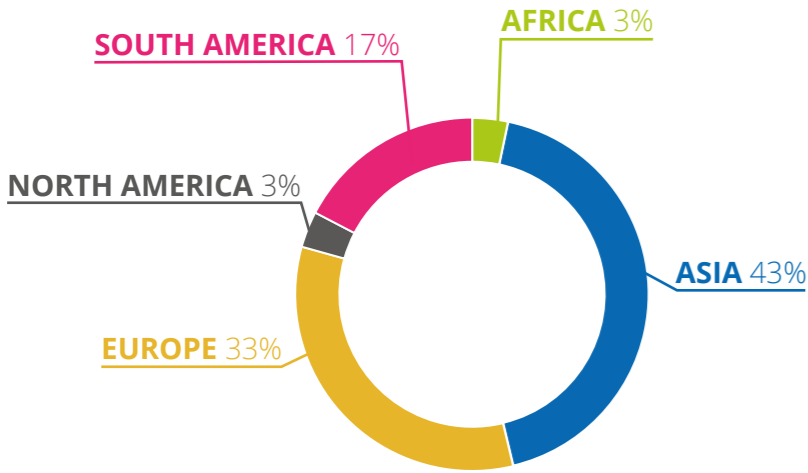
AALEN – FESTIVAL CAPITAL OF THE REGION

Back to the present: Aalen has a variety of festivals to offer, with which you can fill your time. In July, Aalen celebrates its diverse inhabitants and holds the



Since 2022, Aalen hosts Mountain Bike Eliminator World Cup

international festival. Folklore performances as well as culinary specialties shape the face of this street festival. „Reichstädter Tage“, which always take place in September, are the city's most significant celebration featuring performances from various bands and local clubs. Also in September, the Limes Museum hosts the „Roman Days“ festival. Enactment groups from sometimes more than six different countries show interested audiences how Romans lived in everyday life and during military duty. In the fall, Aalen is home to the Aalen Jazzfestival. Many concerts by leading jazz-musicians (e.g. Grogory Porter or Zaz) take place in the city. In December, Aalen has its very own Christmas Market, a magical, festive get-together with good food and warm drinks in the heart of the city situated around one of the largest Christmas pyramids in the region.



CONTINENT OF ORIGIN OF ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (EXCHANGE & DEGREE SEEKING) AT AALEN UNIVERSITY

INTERNATIONAL FACTS OF AALEN UNIVERSITY

8% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

68 NATIONALITIES

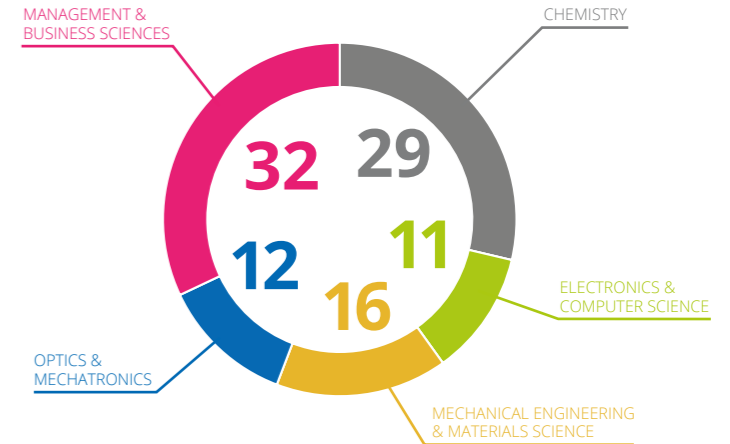
141 PARTNER UNIVERSITIES IN 56 COUNTRIES

THE CITY OF AALEN: MULTICULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL

68,340 INHABITANTS

31% POSSESS A MIGRATION BACKGROUND

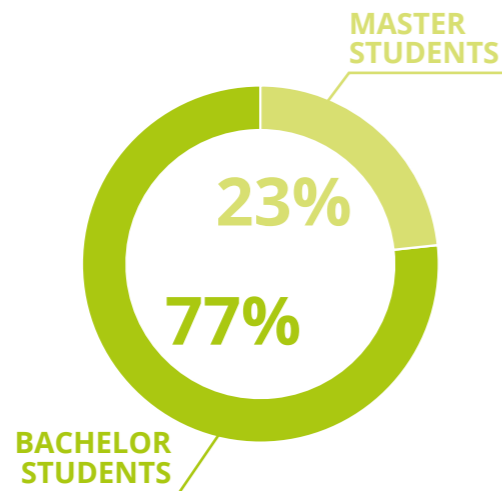
131 NATIONALITIES IN TOTAL



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT AALEN UNIVERSITY STUDY IN THESE SCHOOLS

TOP 5 DESTINATIONS OF AALEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR STUDIES AND INTERNSHIPS ABROAD

USA
MEXICO
SPAIN
NORWAY
FINLAND



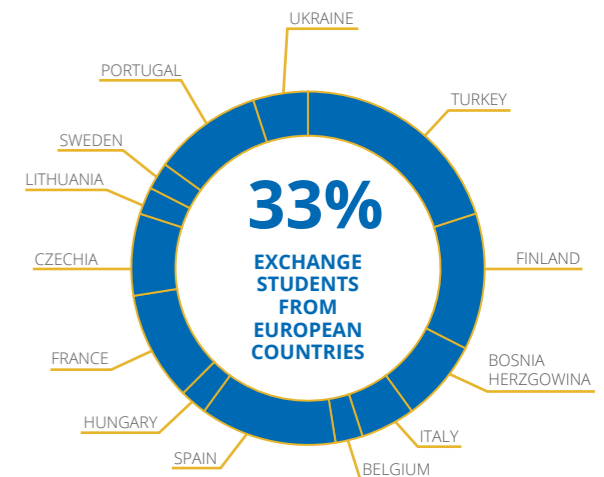
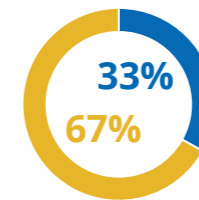
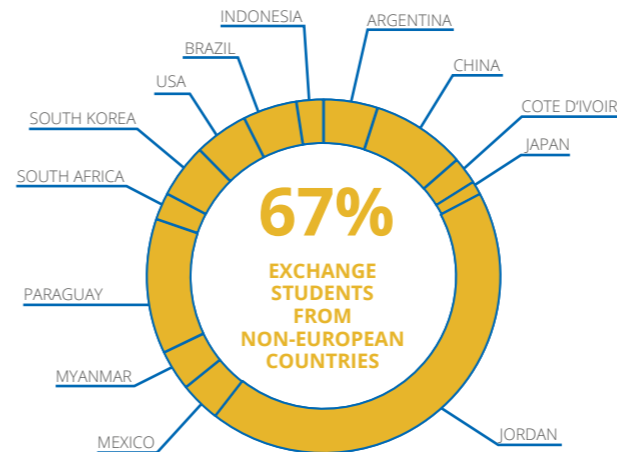
29 BACHELOR PROGRAMS AND 28 MASTER PROGRAMS

AALEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

4,500 STUDENTS

5 SCHOOLS IN ENGINEERING AND BUSINESS

MEMBER OF EUA AND DAAD



*See you soon
in Aalen*

