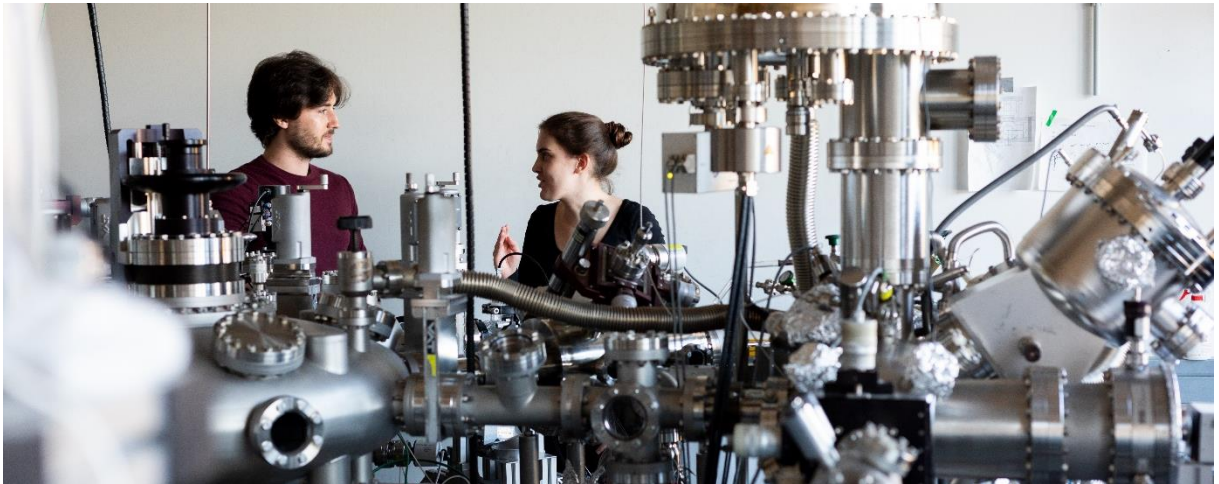

Welcome to Germany, Darmstadt, TU Darmstadt, and the Materials Science Department

Technische Universität Darmstadt is one of the large Technical Universities in Germany. Approximately 20% of the students come from abroad. You are one of more than 4,000 international students at TU Darmstadt. The M.Sc. Materials Science is one of 16 Master's degree courses that are taught in English language. We know that your first time in Germany may be quite exciting. We hope we can support you to settle down and you will feel comfortable in Germany. In this brochure, information for your first steps in Germany is collected.



1 Materials Science Department

The Department of Materials Science at TU Darmstadt exists since 1989. Since 2011, we offer the Master's program "M.Sc. Materials Science" in English language. The program focuses on functional materials such as energy materials, magnetic materials, or electronic materials, their synthesis and characterization. Courses on theoretical materials science include quantum mechanics, non-equilibrium thermodynamics, and continuum mechanics.

1.1 Office for Student Affairs (Studienbüro)

Our Office for Student Affairs helps you with the following concerns: Study organization, all examination-related matters (incl. recognition of credit points, de-/registration for exams, registration of final modules, issuing transcripts of records and final documents, processing of sick notes), and counselling in issues like part-time-studies or studying with a child. If you have any questions please drop by during our office hours or make an appointment via email.

Jane Gottschling

Building L2|01 (Peter-Grünberg-Str. 2, 64287 Darmstadt), Room 79

Email: studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 - 22242

Office Days: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, until 2:30 p.m.

Carina Wolf (on parental leave in the summer semester 2024)
Building L2|01 (Peter-Grünberg-Str. 2, 64287 Darmstadt), Room 79
E-Mail: studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 - 22248

For further counselling, you can contact the following people.

Prof. Dr. Oliver Gutfleisch (chair of exams commission, international programs)
Building L2|07 (Peter-Grünberg-Straße 16, 64287 Darmstadt), Room 111
E-Mail: pk@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 22150
Office Hours: by arrangement

PD. Dr. Boris Kastening (study coordinator Materials Science)
Building L2|01, Room 78
E-Mail: boris.kastening@tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 22244

Dr. Joachim Brötz (double degree programs FAME+, AMIS, AMIR)
Building L2|01, Room 209
E-Mail: joachim.broetz@tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 21030
Office Days: by arrangement

Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld (international students, lab courses, exchange programs)
Building L2|01, Room 209
E-Mail: hannah.sonderfeld@tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 22245
Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, 9 a.m. till 2 p.m.

Ruben Bischler (international students, outreach)
Building L2|01, Room 208
E-Mail: ruben.bischler@tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 22019
Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri – by arrangement

Dr.-Ing. Anne Kikker (international students, outreach)
Building L2|01, Room 208
E-Mail: anne.kikker@tu-darmstadt.de
Phone: +49 6151 16 - 22280
Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, 9 a.m. till 2 p.m.

1.2 TUCaN – The Campus Management System at TU Darmstadt

You can plan your studies using TUCaN (the same platform you used to apply for the M.Sc. materials Science): tucan.tu-darmstadt.de/

After logging in with your TU-ID, TUCaN allows you to register for modules, courses, and exams, and to save your personal schedule.

Supporting information on TUCaN (incl. FAQ & Tutorials) & Academic Organization in general can be found here: https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/studienorganisation_und_tucan/index.en.jsp

1.3 Mentoring system

During your studies one of the professors of the Materials Science department will guide you as your mentor. Please register in TUCaN in the module “Discussion with Mentor”. Here you can choose one of the professors and can arrange for an appointment. You will work out your study plan together with your mentor. This holds especially for the approval of modules as „Elective Courses Materials Science”, as these courses are part of your area of specialization. Please note that the discussion with your mentor is a prerequisite for registering for the modules of the second and higher semesters. Therefore, it is strongly recommended to register as soon as possible but the latest at the end of the first semester and make an appointment with your mentor.

2 First Steps after Arrival

2.1 Enrollment at TU Darmstadt (if not already done)

Registration will be carried out online. Please follow the instructions that you receive with your admission letter.

During this process, payment of the semester contribution to the university and proof of a health insurance is necessary. Please do not make any money transfers prior to receiving the payment information from TU Darmstadt.

International Admission Office

Bldg. S1|01
Karolinenplatz 5
64289 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 21675

Mail: international.admission@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Web: <https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/international/index.en.jsp>

Bus/Tram stations: Alexanderstraße, Schloss or Kongresszentrum

Your student identification card (along with a card stating your enrollment for the current semester) is valid for taking busses, trams, and regional trains (excluding IC/ICE services) within the entire [RMV \(Rhein-Main-Verkehrsverbund\)](#) area free of charge (this is a so-called “semester ticket” and is included in your semester fee). For further information on public transport, see section 5.

2.2 Registration as resident

There are two different offices for registration in Germany. Registration at the registry office for residents (Einwohnermeldeamt) has to be completed by all residents regardless of their nationality. For citizens of countries outside the European Union, a residence permit or visa is required and is issued by the foreigner’s registration office (Ausländer-Behörde).

2.2.1 Registration office for residents

Within **one week after arrival** you have to register at the registry office for residents. Everyone living in Darmstadt has to enroll at the registration office of Darmstadt. Students living in another town will also find an “Einwohnermeldeamt” within their town.

Einwohnermeldeamt (registry office) Darmstadt

Stadthaus Luisencenter

Luisenplatz 5

64283 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0)6151 115

Fax: +49 (0)6151 13 – 473 006

Mail: meldeamt@darmstadt.de

Office Hours*:

Mon: 08:00 a.m. till 03:30 p.m.

Tue: 08:00 a.m. till 06:00 p.m.

Wed, Fri: 07:00 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

Thu: 08:00 a.m. till 07:00 p.m.

Tram station: Luisenplatz

Except for on Wednesdays, you need to have an appointment, which can be booked online! Very unfortunately, the web form is available in German only.

Web: <https://www.darmstadt.de/rathaus/online-dienste/terminvergabe-einwohnermeldeamt>

(Even with an appointment you may have to face long waiting times.)

2.2.2 Register at the foreigner’s registration office

Since the introduction of the “electronic residence permit” (eAT-card, *Elektronischer Aufenthaltstitel*) in Germany, the processing time for applications is increased. Take this into consideration when scheduling your appointment. Unfortunately, the eAT-card costs € 100, which has to be paid by the international guest. Further information is available on the website: <https://digitales-rathaus.darmstadt.de/kategorien/dienstleistungen/elektronischer-aufenthaltstitel>

You will need the following documents:

- Valid passport
- biometrical passport photos
- Student ID and certificate of matriculation
- Lease agreement
- Proof of health insurance coverage
- Proof of sufficient means of subsistence

If you need to extend your visa, please make an appointment with the foreigner’s registration office within your town or living area **before** your visa expires. Your entrance visa has to be changed in a visa for student affairs timely.

It is very important to hold the appointment date and arrive in-time.

Ausländerbehörde (foreigner's registration office)

Stadthaus Luisencenter

Luisenplatz 5
64283 Darmstadt

Phone: + 49 (0)6151 13 – 3323

Mail: auslaenderbehoerde@darmstadt.de

Web: www.darmstadt.de/auslaenderbehoerde

Office Hours*:

Mon: 09:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

Tue: 09:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. and 02:00 p.m. till 04:00 p.m.

Wed - Fri: 09:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

Tram station: Luisenplatz

2.3 Bank account

In Germany most of financial matters are conducted by money transfer or electronic cash (a type of debit-card). Bank-cheques are not a common means of payment in Germany. Cash and money or cards are the most commonly accepted payment methods. Therefore, a bank account is useful and important.

For opening a bank account you need the following documents:

- Passport
- Registration confirmation of the registry office for residents
- Certificate of semester and student ID

Usually, banks offer special conditions for students. Please ask for the terms prior to signing a banking contract and contact a German for translation and advice if necessary.

2.4 Health insurance

For **EU citizens** their European health insurance card is valid in Germany, too.

All others have to join the statutory health insurance.

Exception: students taking German courses, students of the Studienkolleg, PhD students as well as students elder than 30 years or studying for more than 14 semesters must buy private health insurance.

2.5 Private liability insurance

Private liability insurance (Private Haftpflichtversicherung) is recommended. For approximately 60 € per year it offers an effective coverage in events of damage or loss.

3 Counseling and Advice

3.1 TU Darmstadt Student Service

The central Student Services of TU Darmstadt are responsible for issues such as application, admission & enrollment, change of degree programme, re-/de-registration, semester fees, health insurance, leave of absence, students' certificate, certificates for official institutions, change of address. There is a specialized service unit for international and national students, respectively:

3.1.1 International Student Services of TU Darmstadt

The International Student Services (ISS) of TU Darmstadt is the first contact point for students from abroad. They offer advice, assistance and orientation in all matters concerning the stay in Darmstadt, too. This specifically includes visa or other administrative issues. You can contact them via email, phone, simply come to the International Counter at Karo 5 or even try their [Online Counter](#):

International Student Services (ISS)



✉ iss@zv.tu-...

Telephone Hotline for International Students



☎ [+49 6151 16 21675](tel:+4961511621675)

Mon: 10:00 - 13:00 (CET)

Thu: 10:00 - 13:00 (CET)

International Counter



✉ iss@zv.tu-...

📍 Karo 5 Foyer
Karolinenplatz 5
64289 Darmstadt

Opening Times

Tue, Wed, Fri 10 - 12 h (CET)

Web: https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/internationale_studierende_1/index.en.jsp

3.1.2 Student Service for national students

Students with a German university entrance eligibility contact the Student Service of Dezernat II:

Web: https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studieren_von_a_bis_z/artikel_details_de_en_188933.en.jsp

3.2 betterTUgether

betterTUgether is the student health management at TU Darmstadt!

https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/bettertugether/start_bettertugether/index.en.jsp

3.3 Studying with kids

Additional information for students with kids is given by the Studierendenwerk e.g. childcare. Please find further information here:

Web: <http://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/counseling-and-social-affairs/studying-with-children/>

3.4 Legal service for German Aliens Act

Should you have any questions or problems relevant to the German Aliens Act, then you will find counsel at the Department for International Affairs (see section 3.1.1).

Also, the **AStA** office will give you advice through its legal service personnel. Please make an appointment first and bring your student ID with you.

AStA Stadtmitte

Bldg. S1|03, Hochschulstr. 1, 64289 Darmstadt, room 62

Phone: +49 (0) 6151-16 – 28360

+49 (0) 6151-16 – 28362

Mail: international@asta.tu-darmstadt.de
service@asta.tu-darmstadt.de

Web: www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de

Tram/Bus stations: Alexanderstraße or Schloss

The Studierendenwerk also offers support and advice by a lawyer. Please bring your documents with you. You must consider waiting times.

Studierendenwerk Darmstadt – Legal Counselling

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 – 661689

Office Hours*:

Tue: 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Web: <https://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/counseling-and-social-affairs/rechtsberatung-2/>

3.5 Counseling on Social or Financial Problems

The Studierendenwerk offers counseling on all questions of social life as well as financial problems. The counseling is free of charge and confidentiality is guaranteed.

Studierendenwerk Darmstadt

Alexanderstr. 4

Mensa Stadtmitte, 1. Floor, rooms 104, 119, 120

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 29859

+49 (0) 6151 16 – 29860

Mail: sozialberatung@stwda.de

Web: www.studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/counseling-and-social-affairs/social-counselling/

3.6 Psychological Counseling

The Psychotherapeutische Beratungsstelle (PBS) of the Studierendenwerk offers assistance regarding anxieties, depressive moods, family conflicts, loneliness, doubts concerning your study choice and many other topics. They offer single conversations or, if necessary, several sessions. The counseling sessions are either individual sessions or with persons close to you. There are also group sessions provided in German, e.g. for social competence training or support regarding test anxiety. The services are free of charge and confidentiality is guaranteed.

Studierendenwerk Darmstadt, Psychotherapeutische Beratungsstelle (PBS)

Steubenplatz 12

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 29862

Web: www.studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/counseling-and-social-affairs/psychotherapeutic-counselling-center/

3.7 General and Specific Assistance

If you need further information or assistance you can meet experienced students of the TU Darmstadt at the comeTOgether counter. Here, you will get information of job opportunities as well.

comeTOgether office

Alexanderstraße 4

Upper floor of the Otto-Berndt-Hall (left hand side)

Mensa Stadtmitte

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 29782

Mail: ctg@stwda.de

Office Hours*:

Mon – Thu: 11:30 a.m. – 02:30 p.m.

3.8 Tutor International

Tutor International is a project at TU supporting international students culturally, academically and socially. Its aim is to assist international students with their orientation and integration into student life and the German society.

Tutor International

Bldg. S1|03, Hochschulstr. 1, room 53

Phone: +49 (0) 6151-16 – 76964

Mail: info@tutor-international.de

Web: <https://tutor-international.de/>

3.9 Ombudsperson for international students

The Ombudsperson for international students represents their interest vis-à-vis the TU Darmstadt and local authorities.

Prof. Dr. Britta Hufeisen

S1|03 314a

Hochschulstr. 1

64289 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 21134

Mail: britta.hufeisen@tu-darmstadt.de

3.10 Complaints Authority of the TU Darmstadt

If you have any complaints or suggested improvements concerning organization, services or teaching at the TU Darmstadt please contact Mr. Hertlein.

Dipl.-Math. Wolf Hertlein

S1|01 116

Magdalenenstr. 12

64289 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 6151 16 – 28220

Mail: wolf.hertlein@tu-darmstadt.de

Web: https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studieren_von_a_bis_z/bvm/index.en.jsp

4 Daily life

4.1 Eating at TU Darmstadt

At all campus locations you will find a dining hall (Mensa) or bistro. Here, different snacks and meals (vegetarian, chicken, ...) are offered at reasonable prices. Special meals are signed:



(V): vegetarian, i.e. no meat



(Vegan): no animal products



(G): chicken



(S): pork, (R): beef



(F): fish

The canteens and bistros are run by the Studierendenwerk. All information, including locations and menus, are available online:

Web: <https://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/catering-and-canteens/mensen-bistros/mensa-stadtmitte/>

4.2 Housing / accommodation

At TU Darmstadt more than 20,000 students are studying in the University's various departments. All students need accommodation. It is quite difficult to find a nice room or flat. Unfortunately, the Studierendenwerk of the TU Darmstadt does not reserve rooms for students at all. The vacant rooms are very limited. However, you can apply for a room in the dormitories. It is recommended to apply as soon as you have got your admission. You can register in a waiting list:

Web: <http://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/accomodation-service/>

Studierendenwerk Darmstadt, Accommodation Service

Alexanderstr. 4
64283 Darmstadt

Office Hours*:

Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Phone: +49 (0) 61 51 16 - 29373
Mail: wrv@stwda.de

Please note that in some of the dormitories electricity is not included in the rental fee. A map of the dormitories is available here:

Web: <http://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/accomodation-service/wohnanlagen/>

If you prefer to rent an accommodation by yourself or to join a flat-share, the following hints might be helpful.

The "HEAG Wohnbau" offers furnished flat-shares for reasonable prices in Eberstadt-Süd. This is a small town very close to Darmstadt. The tram station is nearby and a ride to Darmstadt takes about 20 minutes. You will find shopping facilities as well as a laundromat and cafés close to your flat. The rental fee is cheap and includes extra charges (electricity, water, heating and internet flat rate). There is a fully furnished and equipped kitchen with tableware and everything you need for cooking. A deposit is required. The deposit will be repaid if you move out and no damage has been done during your occupancy and all other rules of the contract are kept, especially the cancellation period agreed.

HEAG Wohnbau

Bad Nauheimer Straße 1
64289 Darmstadt
Phone: +49 (0) 6151 3600-300
Mail: info@heagwohnbau.de
Web: www.heagwohnbau.de

Public websites with housing offers

Web: www.quoka.de
Web: <https://vrm-immo.de/>
Web: www.immobilienscout24.de
Web: www.bauvereinag.de

Private student residences

Web: <https://bistummainz.de/seelsorge/khg/darmstadt/wohnen/>

Web: www.ketteler-wohnheim.de

Shared flats

(Do not apply for rooms offered by “Burschenschaft”. They are accepting German male students only.)

Web: <https://housinganywhere.com/>

Web: www.wg-gesucht.de

Web: www.studenten-wohnung.de

Web: <https://www.immowelt.de/suche/wg>

Temporary housing

Web: www.airbnb.de

Web: www.homecompany.de

Web: www.ach-da.de

Web: www.couchsurfing.org

Further assistance is offered by **IAESTE** (International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience):

Mail: info@iaeste-darmstadt.de

Web: www.iaeste-darmstadt.de

4.2.1 Rental conditions

In Germany a contract is required or at least recommended to rent an accommodation or to enter a flat-share. Please note that it is extremely important to read the contract carefully and to observe the rules of the contract. Please contact a German for translation and advice.

Especially if you want to move out of your flat a note of cancellation is necessary within the period agreed.

Normally your landlord will expect a deposit of at least 2 months basic rent. The deposit will be repaid if you will move out and no damage has been done during your occupancy and all other rules of the contract are kept, especially the cancellation period agreed. The landlord will usually also require a notice of evacuation at least 3 months prior to moving out of your apartment. Be very careful with fixed-term contracts (Befristeter Mietvertrag) because cancellation usually is impossible before the end of the contract. If the contract does not explicitly state the right for you to cancel then you cannot quit before the end of the contract.

Never ever sign a business rental contract (Gewerberaummietvertrag).

In Germany the rental fees are quite high. Please be warily if you will find a rental offer which looks nearly perfect, cheap, nice place, nice mail contact to the landlord. These are mostly rental scams. Is someone asking you to send them money via Western Union, Moneygram, or Prepaid Visa card? Have the owners moved to another state and can't show you the property? Found a deal that's too

good to turn down? These are possible signs of rental listing scams used to defraud users into wiring money or giving up personal information. Scammers use a variety of tools and methods to post fraudulent listings on many internet listing sites. One method includes manually listing available properties by copying existing listings and posting them with new prices. They also take existing for-sale properties and post it as a rental listing. Lastly, they use listing management tools and syndicate the fraud across many different sites. Once you've contacted a scammer, they usually ask for a few things -- information, urgency, and money through Western Union, Moneygram, or a Prepaid Visa card. Stop there.

4.3 Groceries

In Germany most of the shops are located in the center of the town. Here you will find clothes, housewares, drug stores, delis, bakeries, and a few of small grocery. German supermarkets in general offer good quality food at reasonable prices. On Sundays all shops are closed.

Discount supermarkets are very popular in Germany. They offer less brand products and a smaller variety but the prices are comparatively low and the quality is not really worse than in other supermarkets. Examples are *Penny*, *Aldi*, *Lidl* and *Netto*. Supermarkets like *REWE*, *Edeka* or *tegut* offer both, brand products and no-name or own brand products. *Alnatura* and *Terra Verde* exclusively offer organic products. During the week and also on Saturdays local farmers offer their products on the farmer's market at *Marktplatz*. The prices are reasonable and the food is naturally very fresh.

You will even find small shops specialized for example in Asian or Indian food in and around Darmstadt.

Pharmacies usually operate within normal business hours. However, there is always one pharmacy open during non-standard business hours. The schedule is available online (click the "Notdienste" link on www.apotheken.de to find an open pharmacy outside of normal business hours).

Opening Hours*: mostly 9:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m.

4.4 Special occasions

Occasionally, there are flea markets in Darmstadt. Further information about their locations and dates is available on the website (in German): <https://www.partyamt.de/flohmarkt>

At the AStA you can take food from the refrigerator of the food sharing community for FREE. Surplus food of supermarkets or shops is shared in that refrigerator.

AStA Foodsharing Fairteiler

S1|03 Room 63a
Hochschulstr. 1
64289 Darmstadt

Opening Hours*: Mo – Fr: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Second hand furniture and electronic devices, for cheap prices, are available in “Kaufhaus der Gelegenheiten”:

Kaufhaus der Gelegenheiten

Pallaswiesenstr. 122

64293 Darmstadt

Opening Hours*:

Mon and Sat: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Tue – Fri: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Mail: info@ka-gel.de

Web: <https://www.ka-gel.de/>

5 Public transportation and maps

Your student ID card is valid as a public transportation ticket too. You can use all busses and local trains in the RMV-area free of charge:

Web: www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de/asta/de/angebote/semesterticket

Please note that the use of trains labeled “IC”, “ICE”, and “EC” is not included in your semester ticket.

Time schedules for connections and further information is available at the websites and apps of RMV or DB, or the mobility centers offered by the RMV and DADINA:

RMV-Mobilitätszentrale Darmstadt

Am Hauptbahnhof 20a, 64293 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0)6151 3605151

Web: www.rmv.de

Office Hours*:

Mon – Fri: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sat: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

DADINA

Europaplatz 1, 64293 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0)6151 360510

Web: www.dadina.de

Office Hours*:

Mon – Fri: 08:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mon – Thu: 01:00 p.m. - 03:30 p.m.

Maps for orientation in the city of Darmstadt or at the campus of the TU Darmstadt you can find at the websites:

City of Darmstadt:

Web: www.darmstadt.de/darmstadt-erleben/stadtplan

Campus TU Darmstadt:

Web: www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/orientierung/lageplaene

6 Courses

6.1 German courses

If you would like to learn the German language during your stay, the Language Resource Center (Sprachenzentrum or simply SPZ) offers a variety of courses in different levels.

Web: <https://www.spz.tu-darmstadt.de/index.en.jsp>

The language course takes about 2 hours per week. Intensive courses are offered during the lecture free period. If you are interested please register via TUCaN (follow the links on the SPZ website).

Sprachenzentrum

S1|03 17

Hochschulstraße 1

64289 Darmstadt

Phone: +49 (0) 6151 16 – 21143

Mail: studienbuero@spz.tu-darmstadt.de

Office Hours*: Mon – Fri: 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

6.1.1 Language Tandem

The language center of the TU Darmstadt is offering special cooperation between students: Language Tandems. How it works: You can improve your German by meeting and talking to a German student. In addition, you will teach the German student in your mother tongue. Thus, both partners will have an advantage. This can be done as face-to-face-tandem or as online-tandem. Here, the communication will be via Skype or other media. If you are interested the following link will help you to find a language-partner:

Face-to-face-tandem:

Web: https://www.interkulturelle-kompetenz.tu-darmstadt.de/spz_zikk/tandem

Online-Tandems are open for all interested persons. It is not for students only. Watch out for them online.

6.1.2 Multi-Language Café

A Multilanguage café is open in the ZIKK (center for intercultural competence) in S1|03 room 9. You can meet international and German students there. Please find further information here:

Multi-Language Café

S1|03 9

Hochschulstraße 1

64289 Darmstadt

Opening Hours*:

Thu: 05:15 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Web: https://www.interkulturelle-kompetenz.tu-darmstadt.de/spz_zikk/sprachencafe

7 Activities at TU Darmstadt

7.1 Sports

The TU Darmstadt has a wide variety of different sport courses which are available for all students and employees. Please note that there might be some restriction to the number of participants and for some courses a small fee has to be paid. The detailed program and conditions can be found at the web site:

Web: www.usz.tu-darmstadt.de

“meet and move” is a great sport event of the TU Darmstadt. At one afternoon in spring or summer all students and staff are meeting in the “Hochschulstadion” for different sports activities, cultural program and just to have fun.

7.2 Cultural and Night life

At Schlosskeller, the AStA organizes cultural programs, like concerts, parties, book-readings, and so on.

Schlosskeller

Basement of the Residenzschloss

Marktplatz 15

64283 Darmstadt

Mail: info@schlosskeller-darmstadt.de

Web: www.schlosskeller-darmstadt.de/

We also recommend to check www.partyamt.de for a good collection of all types of events (unfortunately in German, only).

7.3 Movies

In addition to the normal movie theaters the “Filmkreis” of the TU Darmstadt presents two movies a week in the Audimax lecture theater (S1|01-A1) for a small entrance fee.

Web: www.filmkreis.tu-darmstadt.de

7.4 Academic Groups

There exist more than 50 academic groups (Hochschulgruppen) with very different interest. You like to construct racing cars? Are your hobbies vocal or instrumental music? Even horse riding or sailing groups are offered, just to name a few. You can use this opportunity to practice your hobby, become politically active and meet new friends. Just have a look at the website:

Web: www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/organisation_verwaltung/studierendenschaft_hochschulgruppen

7.5 Other activities

There are several activities organized by TUTOR International:

Web: <https://tutor-international.de/>

Every year the TU Darmstadt celebrates a great summer party. Events like this and all other current events and oral presentations at the TU Darmstadt are summarized here:

Web: www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/aktuelles_meldungen/veranstaltungen_6

7.6 Alumni Network

Former students are invited to join the alumni network of the TU Darmstadt. Stay in touch with your fellow students and friends. As a member of the Alumni network you will get information of interesting events at TU Darmstadt or can have a look at the job platform "Stellenwerk", where you can find interesting jobs and trainee offers.

Web: www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/alumni/

Web: www.stellenwerk.de

8 Intercultural exchanges

The WUS (World University Service) is an international community of university members. Studies for international students are the main focus. It offers interesting courses for international students.

World University Service

Deutsches Komitee e.V.

Goebenstraße 35

65195 Wiesbaden

Phone: + 49 (0)611 44 66 48

E-Mail: info@wusgermany.de

Web: <https://www.wusgermany.de/en>

9 Financial situation

9.1 Jobs/part time work

International students are limited to 120 full-days or 240 half-days of employment per year without a special work permit. Additionally, you are allowed to hold a student assistant (*HiWi*) position in your department, in principle without a time restriction. Please note that a tax card or tax payer's ID is necessary to get a contract. You will receive the tax card or tax payer's ID at the tax office (Finanzamt) of your town. You can find jobs offers at the black board of the comeTUgether office and here:

Web: www.stellenwerk.de

For administrative questions on student assistant jobs at our institute, please contact Antje Pappenhagen, who is responsible for the contracts (she does not have information on open job positions):

Antje Pappenhagen

student-assistants@matgeo.tu-darmstadt.de

Phone: +49 6151 16-22241

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9.2 Scholarships

9.2.1 Deutschlandstipendium

Beside DAAD scholarships or associated sponsors, the "Deutschlandstipendium" is a scholarship sponsored by the German government and enterprises. Outstanding students are sponsored. This scholarship always means a donation of € 300 per month, independent of the financial situation of the candidate. One half of the grant is financed by the German Government, the other half is donated by enterprises. The fundraising process and the selection of scholarship holders are organized by the respective university. All students independent of their nationality can apply for the "Deutschlandstipendium".

Web: www.tu-darmstadt.de/deutschlandstipendium/

9.2.2 Graduation Scholarship for international students

International students can apply for the performance based scholarship if they are in the final phase of their studies. Applications are possible twice a year, from 01 – 15 April and from 01 – 15 October.

https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/internationale_studierende_1/studienfinanzierung_und_stipendien_international/studienfinanzierung_stipendien/index.en.jsp

9.2.3 Other

Other sponsors or scholarship options are listed here:

Web: www.mystipendium.de

10 Culture and social life in Darmstadt

All cultural events in Darmstadt are summarized at the following web site (Please use the German version, otherwise the event calendar is not visible)

Web: www.darmstadt.de/veranstaltungskalender

10.1 Theater

As a student at TU Darmstadt, you can visit operas, dramas, concerts, etc. at the Staatstheater Darmstadt for free, if there are still tickets left three days before the event. In general guest shows, special shows and shows without any reduction are excluded from this offer.

Web: www.staatstheater-darmstadt.de

First, you have to create a customer account. Then, you can obtain a student coupon at the advance booking office. You need your identity card and your student ID card. The student coupon is valid for one semester and enables online booking of free tickets, as well as booking via the advance booking office. The procedure is explained here:

Web: www.staatstheater-darmstadt.de/spielplan/ermaessigungen/frei-karten-studenten/

10.2 Centralstation

A wide variety of different cultural events are offered in the “Central station,” a former electric power station:

Centralstation

Im Carree
64283 Darmstadt

Email: info@centralstation-darmstadt.de

Web: www.centralstation-darmstadt.de

10.3 Schlossgarten

During summer season the Schlossgarten is a nice place to relax and chill. Small snacks, coffee and drinks were served. Occasionally, there are special events. The current program can be found at the website:

Web: www.schlossgarten-darmstadt.de

10.4 Famous local attractions in and around Darmstadt

In Darmstadt you will find the famous Mathildenhöhe an ensemble of buildings of the Art Nouveau Style.

Several wonderful gardens are located in Darmstadt most of them with nice historical buildings for example the botanical garden, Orangerie, Prinz-Emil-Garden, Wildpark Kranichstein or Prinz-Georgs-Garden.

The Waldspirale built between 1998 and 2000 represents a building of the famous artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser.

Close to Darmstadt you can visit the UNESCO World Heritage “Messel Pit”. Here fossils of crocodiles, frogs, insects, fish, birds, and plants were found which are unique in the world. In the visitor center an overview of the geological composition and evolutionary history is given. Most of the artifacts can be visited in the Messel town Museum, the Museum of Hessen in Darmstadt and even the Senckenberg Museum in Frankfurt.

Another attraction is the Felsenmeer in Lautertal-Reichenbach which is a part of the Geopark Bergstraße-Odenwald (www.geo-naturpark.net). Here you will find very interesting geological formation on an area of about 3500 km² enclosed by the rivers Rhein in the west, Main in the east and Neckar in the south.

However, have a look to the surrounding areas too. Towns such as Frankfurt, Mainz, Wiesbaden, Heidelberg and Worms are quite close.

10.5 Tram sight seeing

Darmstadt is the birthplace of numerous inventions which have changed our daily life. International operating companies and research institutions have their headquarters here. Some nice sight-seeing tours you can join free of charge using your semester ticket and the tram. For example, tram line 4 is the Science route. The „Science Route 4“ informs you, on its way from Kranichstein to Griesheim, about the particularities of the various institutions and companies, from the particle accelerator to multimedia developments, aviation and space travel.

How it works:

You can download the mp3-files or use the audio guide via your smart Phone:
www.linie4.tomis.mobi/en

or download it for your iPhone on the AppStore.

Tip: You can also listen to the „Science Route 4“ on tram number 5 and 9. From Kranichstein to Luisenplatz (sections 1 to 6) with tram number 5, from Luisenplatz to Griesheim with tram number 9.

10.6 Local Festivities

10.6.1 Schlossgrabenfest

Each year, in early summer, music prevails around the Schloss. The Schlossgrabenfest open air festival offers many newcomer bands an opportunity to present themselves to a broad audience. In addition, nationally and internationally acclaimed bands play at this festival, too. Around the Schloss you can find a variety of international foods.

10.6.2 Heinerfest

The Heinerfest is advertised as the biggest city-center fair in Germany. This definition might be arguable, but the Heinerfest is definitely worth a visit. Stretching from *Luisenplatz* to *Jugendstilbad*, it lines the streets with rides and fair ground booths. Everybody is guaranteed to find some amusement here.

11 Emergency numbers and medical services

In case you do not feel well, contact a general doctor (Hausarzt). Hospitals are for emergency (heart attack, fractures, serious disease) only. You find physicians for different specialties such as internist, dermatologist, and eye specialists. Before you consult such a specialist please go to a general doctor first. You will be forwarded to a specialist if necessary. For further details on finding the right physician, please see section 11.2.

In case of an emergency or accident please dial the **112** (no matter if medical emergency or a fire). If you need a doctor outside of normal business hours and it is not an emergency, please dial the 116 117. They will help to find a doctor, who is on duty.

In general, most doctors in Germany speak English, but the medical office staff may have varying degrees of English ability (from fluent to not able to speak English at all). If you do not speak German, consider having a German friend to make an appointment for you.

Emergency:	112
Police:	110
Emergency poison center:	06131 19240

11.1 Hospitals

Alice-Hospital

Dieburger Str. 31

Phone: 06151 402-0**Klinikum Darmstadt**

Grafenstr. 9

Phone: 06151 107-0**Agaplesion Elisabethenstift**

Landgraf-Georg-Str. 100

Phone: 06151 403-0**Kinderklinken (children's hospital)**

Prinzessin Margaret

Dieburger Str. 31

Phone: 06151 402-3020

11.2 General doctors, specialists, and therapists

The Association of Hessian Physicians provides a search engine for general doctors (*Hausärzte*), specialists (*Fachärzte*), and therapists (*Therapeuten*). You can specify the search regarding the location, special disciplines, foreign languages, accessibility, etc. Unfortunately, the website is in German only. The International Student Service of TU Darmstadt can help you in finding the right physician.

Web: <https://arztsuche Hessen.de/>

Also, the district administration of Darmstadt-Dieburg provides a brochure with doctors sorted by disciplines and foreign languages. You can access it by clicking on the link "Welche Ärztin, welcher Arzt spricht meine Sprache?" on their download webpage:

Web: www.ladadi.de/gesellschaft-soziales/migration-und-inklusion/buero-fuer-migration-und-inklusion/publikationen-und-downloads/

11.3 Pharmacies

Pharmacies (*Apotheken*) usually operate within normal business hours. However, there is always one pharmacy open during non-standard business hours. You can find open pharmacies outside of normal business hours via: <https://www.apotheken.de/apotheken-und-notdienste-suchen/>.

Opening Hours*: mostly 9:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m.

** Opening/Office hours may vary. Please inform yourself via the link provided.*