



AGRAR-, ERNÄHRUNGS- UND  
INGENIEURWISSENSCHAFTLICHE  
FAKULTÄT

Study Guide for  
International Students  
at the Faculty of  
Agricultural, Nutritional  
and Engineering Sciences  
at the University of Bonn

Provided by the International Affairs Unit  
Last updated: August 2025

# Section 1

## Before Studying

1. About Bonn
2. Bonn University and Campus Poppeldorf
3. Enrolment
4. Housing
5. Health Insurance
6. Blocked Account and other Bank Accounts
7. Arrival
8. Mobility in and around Bonn
9. City Registration

Founded: 1st century BC  
Population: 329,673(2019)  
Density: 2,300/km<sup>2</sup> (6,100/sq mi)  
Elevation: 60m (200ft.)

# About Bonn



- City located on the banks of the Rhine River in the German federal state of North Rhine- Westphalia (NRW)
- Former provisional capital of West Germany (until German reunification 1990)
- Secondary seat of the President, the Chancellor & the Bundesrat
- Primary seat of six federal government ministries and twenty federal authorities
- Headquarters of many big DAX-listed corporations, i.e. Deutsche Post DHL, Deutsche Telekom, as well as GIZ, DEVAL, Fairtrade and a multitude of NGOs
- Home to the University of Bonn and a total of 20 United Nations institutions including headquarters of:
  - The Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - The Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
  - The UN Volunteers program
- Beethoven's birthplace



# University of Bonn & Campus Poppelsdorf

The University of Bonn (German: Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn) is a public research university and was founded on October 18, 1818 by Friedrich Wilhelm III. The university buildings are spread over the whole city – and most of your lectures and tutorials will take place on “Campus Poppelsdorf”, where the institutes of the Faculty of Agriculture are located.

You will find an overview of the most important buildings on the following maps:

## **i** AFECO & ARTS



As you can see on the map, Nussallee and Katzenburgweg are two parallel roads in Bonn-Poppelsdorf. Economics-related classes are more likely to take part in Nussallee, while the Life Sciences are often taught in the Katzenburgweg.

**!** Here you can find an interactive map with relevant locations: [Campus Tour AEI](#)

# University of Bonn & Campus Poppelsdorf

## **i** Geodesy & Geodetic engineering



**!** Be sure to check out our interactive map as well!

## **💡** Campus Tours

At the beginning of each semester, we offer a *Campus Tour* for international students, during which we show you the whereabouts at the Campus Poppelsdorf and also introduce you to the general administrative structures of our faculty. We strongly encourage your participation!

As a Bonus, you'll also get to know some hidden gems that only few know about...

## **i** Study Buddys

The Study Buddy Program connects international students and German students in Bonn and offers the possibility to get tips, advice and support (e.g. concerning housing, health insurance, etc.) from your Buddy (a student of the University of Bonn). He or she will help you with things to consider and to take care of both before and while studying in Bonn.

**!** To register for the Study Buddy program, click here.

# Enrollment

Once you receive your *admission letter* (in German: Zulassungsbescheid), you are able to enrol to the study course during the enrolment period. The enrolment takes place entirely online.

- ⚠ Each application will be reviewed carefully by the respective study coordinators. Therefore, it can happen that your official admission letter will take some time to emit. Please only contact your respective study coordinator about the issue if the enrolment phase is going to end in the next two weeks.

## **i** Necessary documents for the enrolment

- Letter of admission
- Bachelor diploma
- University entrance diploma (your original school-leaving certificate or other university admissions authorization. In the case of foreign certificates not available in English or French a certified translation is required)
- Proof of health insurance (will be sent digitally by your insurance)

- ⚠ **Please note that requirements are updated regularly and this may not be a comprehensive list. You will find all requirements in the enrolment portal, as soon as you are admitted. As you will submit the documents in a digital copy, please make sure that you bring the originals to Germany with you in case of any remaining issues.**

- 💡 Further information and contact details are provided [here](#).



# Housing

As we unfortunately cannot provide a flat or dorm room for everyone, you have to take care of it yourself. It is best to start looking as soon as possible as there is a shortage of affordable apartments, especially in the winter term. To find your accommodation, there are several options.

## Apply for a room in the dormitories

You can apply for a room in a dormitory or an apartment of the Studierendenwerk (students' union) yourself. The application process is mainly carried out online but there is also the option to pass by in person.

Information about the student union's dorms can be found [here](#).

- To register for the waiting list for an apartment, please use this [link](#). Then follow these instructions.
  1. Select language
  2. Select "Application for Admission" on the far right
  3. Fill in the form, enter the password "Dezernat 6 - 2022" in the field "Hints"
  4. When all fields are completed, please click "send"  
*You are not allowed to select the "Login" field; you have to select "Application for Admission".*

## Getting a room offer through us

You are one of many students of the University of Bonn as well as the University of Applied Sciences applying for housing. As a result, the waiting lists are often filled with thousands of people and only 20% of all applicants actually receive a dormitory room. Due to that issue, the dormitories allocate a small number of rooms to our office for international students. Unfortunately, the number of rooms is very small. The rooms will be allocated **randomly among all international students** at the faculty. Unfortunately, we **cannot make any exceptions** to this rule. Therefore, you cannot rely on getting a room from us, but must please search independently.

## If you receive a room for a month other than your arrival

**We strongly encourage you to take the opportunity as you will have to newly register to the end of the waiting list if you decline an offer.**

# Housing



## Other ways to find a room in Bonn

There are private dormitories that offer rooms or apartments in Bonn as well. Unfortunately, their rent is often much more expensive than in the official dormitory. Therefore in Germany it is very common for students to share flats as a so-called “WG” (Wohngemeinschaft).

The most popular platforms for finding accommodation include:

- “WG-gesucht”: [www.wg-gesucht.de/en/](http://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/)
- “Zimmerfrei-Bonn”: <http://www.zimmerfrei-bonn.de/wohnborse/suche/>
- “Housing Anywhere”: <https://housinganywhere.com/>
- “Immobilienscout24”: <https://www.immobilienscout24.de/>
- Facebook Groups: Try searching “Uni Bonn WG Börse”, “WG & Wohnung in Bonn gesucht”
- Student WhatsApp Group



## Increase your chances for a successful search in Bonn

In Bonn, the housing market is highly competitive. This does not only mean that prices tend to be quite high, it also means that those rooms with affordable rents are gone very quickly and landlords and flatmates can be picky.

Therefore, if you find an interesting announcement for a room, follow these steps:

- Read the announcement completely so that you can reference some details in the message.
- Do not ask if the room is still available. That message will not be answered. Send your application message directly as long as the announcement is online.
- Be nice and detailed: you are not communicating with the landlord (in most cases), but with your potential new flatmates. Those are less concerned with your financial status, but would like to know you. Therefore, write about yourself (where are you from, what are you doing in Bonn, what do you like to do in your freetime & how do you contribute to the group).
- Be quick! Often, an announcement is only online for a few hours due to the high demand. Therefore, install the app and have a message template on hand.
- If your message does not receive an answer, try not to get frustrated. It is unfortunate, but many cannot take the time to reply to all applications they receive.

# Housing

❗ If you have not found any accomodation by the time of your arrival

There are several ways that you can still arrive to Bonn even though you have not found a permanent accomodation:

- Hotel Regina: [info@hotel-regina-sa.de](mailto:info@hotel-regina-sa.de) - **explain your situation and ask whether a discount is available!**
- Jugendherberge Bonn: <https://www.jugendherberge.de/en/>
- Max Hostel: <https://max-hostel.de/zimmer/>

📘 Furniture, kitchen appliances & more

While it is common in Bonn that rooms are rented out fully furnished, this does not automatically mean that they come with all necessary items for daily life. You will most likely have to buy kitchen items and some furniture yourself. Below you can find a list of available resources that can help you to stay in your budget:

- Kleinanzeigen: The German counterpart to Craigslist or facebook marketplace. Here, private sellers sell just about everything you can think of and usually at a good price. If you register, you can both buy and sell items without a fee. For larger items, be sure to set the location to Bonn & surroundings. The app operates and people usually communicate in German. We recommend using a reliable translator such as DeepL to avoid misunderstandings. For smaller items, shipments are also common. The buyer covers the shipment costs and pays upfront. Those transactions are on a trust basis, so *beware of scammers*. If an offer seems too good to be true, or somebody acts very pushy about the payment, do not take it. At physical pickup, items are paid in cash. Shipments are commonly paid via PayPal or bank transfer. *Never give your full bank details (security details etc.) to people and never pay via an external site (a link you get via e-mail or chat), but always use the official PayPal website and the username.*
- Action Bonn: The Action store in Bonn-Tannenbusch sells about everything at a comparably cheap price. This makes it great for quick buys and items of everyday use. Nevertheless, although items must comply with strict EU-guidelines for safe use, their quality often resembles their price.
- Student groups: Not only are these great second-hand market places, you can also ask others where to find things. Beware that you can be banned for spamming.

# Housing

## Tenant's contracts

In the most cases, you and your landlord (either private or a company) will sign a renting contract. *If your landlord refuses to do so, this is a bad sign and you should reach out to the contacts provided below.* Renting contracts are important to establish the exact rent and the responsibilities of renters and landlords. In the first three years after signing the contract, you can cancel it at a three months note. In some cases, you can also leave the contract earlier, but usually only if your landlord agrees to this. *If you need to leave on short notice due to an unforeseen event (e.g. you got a job in a different city after graduating) and your landlord does not agree, please reach out to the contacts provided below.* Your landlord can also ask you to move out, although usually not immediately without a valid reason (that you have breached the contract in a significant way, for example). He must also do this in a written form (letter) and give a three months notice (unless with severe contract violations).

To avoid any problem, please make sure to read and understand your renting contract.

## If you feel like something is wrong

Make sure to know your rights as a tenant - this is easier said than done. The German law is tricky for both tenants and landlords, and many do not know -and sometimes do not want to know- what is legally allowed. This means that your landlord is not necessarily allowed to forbid certain things, even if they write it in the contract, and you are not necessarily required to do everything they ask. If your landlord requires a bank deposit before you sign the contract or if they suddenly ask you to move out, it is best to get legal advice first before taking another move. Unfortunately, to say that lawyers are not cheap would be an understatement and often completely out of reach for student budgets. Fortunately, the student union AstA offeres free legal council for university students. In Bonn, there is also the tenant's union, in which you can become a member for about 7€ monthly and get a *free lawyer who takes on your case* if problems with your landlord occur - money well spent when considering the risks of the housing market. (Attention, you must be a member prior to entering legal issues, so consider becoming a member as soon as you get a housing offer.)

## Health Insurance

- In Germany, having a health insurance is mandatory.
- International students must arrive with a health insurance that covers their first three months in Germany. After that, you can either choose a private or public insurance.
- Students can choose once whether they would like to obtain public or private insurance in the beginning of their studies and again when they turn 30 years old.
- For students from EU- and EEA countries, it may be possible to carry over your home country's health insurance.
- Fees for students older than 30 or those that pass the 14<sup>th</sup> semester at university increase in the public health insurance.

# Health Insurance

## **i** Students of EU-countries and EEA-countries

It may be possible to carry over your home country's health insurance if Germany has a social security treaty with your country. Please contact your current health insurance company in your home country in order to make sure that your health insurance will be accepted in Germany. If you already have European health insurance, it should be accepted in Germany as well. If this is the case, a German public health insurance company will confirm the insurance from your home country (exemption letter from the statutory health insurance). You can apply for exemption from compulsory insurance by mail or - for many statutory health insurance funds - in person at the office. You must submit the application within 3 months after the start of the insurance obligation. The exemption from compulsory insurance then starts on the 1st day of the next calendar month. This confirmation is necessary in order to enroll at the University of Bonn.

## **i** Students of non-EU countries

You must obtain a valid health insurance policy through a German health insurance company as soon as your incoming insurance runs out. As long as you are not 30 years old, and did not pass your 14th semester at university, you can decide between public health insurance or private health insurance. You can find general information on health insurance for example on the following websites:  
<https://www.internationale-studierende.de/en/on-arrival/health-insurance>  
[https://www.krankenkassenzentrale.de/wiki/incoming-en-health insurance for internationalstudents](https://www.krankenkassenzentrale.de/wiki/incoming-en-health-insurance-for-internationalstudents)

*Please note that it is not possible to change from a private health insurance to a public one during your studies!*

# Health Insurance



## The difference between a public or private health insurance

The public health insurances (in German often abbreviated as GVK) is a solidarity-based system. That means that your monthly contributions do not depend on your previous health conditions and a broad range of medical treatments are covered. Nevertheless, their contributions can be (much) more expensive than for private insurances, especially for students older than 30. Private insurances can cost a fraction of public ones. Some blocked account providers offer packages that include long-term private insurances from the start. Nevertheless, the cheaper options usually only cover the bare legal minimum. This includes visits to the GP and basic, acute treatments at specialized doctors. However, it often doesn't cover more expensive, curative treatments or preventive check-ups – although these can be crucial, e.g. to treat recurring caries infections or for the early detection of cancer. When necessary, you will have to pay for them yourself, which could become very expensive. Therefore, make sure to carefully read your insurance policy and to choose the option that considers not only your budget, but also any preexisting conditions or risks you might have.



## If you plan on taking up a student job in Germany

Since the public health insurance is based on solidarity and, in some way your contributions to the economy, your employer is required to cover your health insurance if you work in a job in which you earn more than 520€ per month. This means, that as long as you legally work such a job and count with a public health insurance at the time of employment, you will not have to pay anything to the public health insurance yourself. Depending on when you start working, this could mean that even with initially higher contributions, a public health insurance could be cheaper in the long run. You cannot, however, change from a private to a public insurance once you find a job. You must take the decision when your incoming insurance expires. Special conditions apply when you turn 30 years old during your studies (see below).

# Health Insurance

## If you have a spouse or children which are in Germany with you

The public insurance offers family tariffs, in which spouses and children can obtain health insurance without additional cost. Private insurances require separate tariffs for each person. Therefore, public health insurances most often pay off for families. Please note that if you plan your arrival separately (more than three months apart), the spouse that arrives first cannot choose a private insurance and thereafter change to a public one, as soon as the other/ their children arrive. In this case, you should carefully calculate, if private or public insurances work better for you.

## If you are older than 30 years old or will turn 30 during your studies

Students older than 30 years, or who having already reached their 14th semester do not longer benefit from student tariffs of public health insurances. This usually means a sharp increase in monthly contributions. If you turn 30 during your studies in Germany, your insurance will inform you that your current tariff is running out and come forward with a new offer based on their fee structure. You will then have the possibility to decide once again, if you would like to stay in the public insurance system or choose to obtain a private one. Please note that the special case for working students remains untouched; your employer will still cover the fee for you if you earn more than 520€ per month. Also, family tariffs still apply. For further information on these cases, refer above.



## Public insurance headquarters in Bonn

- TK (Techniker Krankenkasse) — Lukas Baumann, Hochschulberater, Clemens-August-Straße 2, 53115 Bonn, Phone: 040-460 610 9152, Cell: +49 151 14534938, [lukas.baumann@tk.de](mailto:lukas.baumann@tk.de), Service Hotline: 0800 285 85 85, [WebsiteTK](#)
- AOK — Michael Huth, AOK Studierendenservice, Heisterbacherhofstraße 2, 53111 Bonn, Phone: +49 228 511-1151, [michael.huth@rh.aok.de](mailto:michael.huth@rh.aok.de), [WebsiteAOK](#)
- Barmer GEK — Alexander Gießbach, Giergasse 2, 53113 Bonn, Cell: +49 160 90456779 [alexander.giessbach@barmer.de](mailto:alexander.giessbach@barmer.de), Service Hotline: 0800 333 0060 or from abroad +49 202 568 333 0060 (English speaking service), [Barmer GEKWebsite](#)

# Other Insurances

## Liability Insurance

If you do not have one, wrap yourself in bubble foil and stop moving immediately! Simply put, a liability insurance steps in in all cases in which you unwillingly damage another's property. This can be your friend's brand new phone that slipped your hand and cracked, your uncle's bicycle that you had an accident with, or the car that you damaged during said accidents. A liability insurance covers the cost for reparation of said property or estimates the damage done and pays a reparation/replacement fee to its owner. It also acts as a passive legal insurance in such cases, protecting you from angry "I'll sue you" -claims.

## Legal insurance

As the name implies, the insurance protects you during legal issues with anybody, including institutions, such as your employer or even the University. Unfortunately, these insurances can become quite expensive, which is why you might prefer joining the tenant's union mentioned above and a worker's union once you start working a job as they often secure you for the riskiest areas of life. Also, some insurances offer "starter packages" that include legal advice and contract checks, but do not cover trials. Nevertheless, these can get you quite far.

## If you have a drivers' license

If you accredit your driver's license to drive in Germany, please make sure that the car holder's insurance covers young drivers!

# Blocked Account & Other Bank Accounts

## Blocked Account

As you probably already know, non-EU citizens need a so-called “blocked account” to obtain a Visa for Germany. You will find the exact requirements (amount etc.) on the website of your home country’s embassy. General information is also provided by the German Foreign Ministry [here](#).

Blocked Accounts are offered by several private financial institutions. Currently, we are not aware of any German banks offering this kind of service for visa application. Unfortunately, we cannot recommend any specific institution here, as their conditions change frequently.



## Bank Accounts in Germany

When you arrive to Germany, you should soon open a Bank account to manage everyday life expenses. Some providers of blocked accounts also offer a German account, but this is not mandatory.

In general, there are two types of Banks available in Germany:

- Physical Banks: These Banks count with a physical office and appointments can be scheduled in presence. Almost all of them charge monthly fees on a Bank account, but most also offer adjusted pricing for students (up to a certain age). The most common physical banks in Bonn include:
  - Volksbank
  - Deutsche Bank
  - Sparda Bank
  - Sparkasse

 One major advantage of physical banks is that opening a bank account is possible with your city registration confirmation, while online banks almost always require a German residency permit, which you will only be able to obtain when your Visa ends.

- Online Banks: These banks do not have physical offices in Germany. The bank account can be opened entirely online. They are often much cheaper than physical banks (if not free). The most common online banks include:
  - N26
  - Revolut
  - Klarna

⚠ Be aware that for your visa extension/German residency permit, only Banks are accepted that offer a German IBAN. Some online Banks, e.g. Revolut, provide IBANs from other European countries (which work just as well in everyday life). These can be an appropriate solution during the first months after your arrival, but you will have to change them before applying for your residency permit.

### **i** Cash, Cards and other payment services in Germany.

For a long time, Germany was the country of “physical money” and many Germans still value their “cash in the pocket” as their preferred means of payment.

Although this is slowly changing, there are still some places that do not accept payment by card at all, or only from a certain amount onwards. Common places that may refuse payment by card include Cafés, Restaurants and Kiosks. This is especially the case in smaller cities and rural areas.

⚠ Be careful to only use the ATMs from your bank to retrieve cash, which you can recognize by the logo of the corresponding bank. Otherwise, you may have to pay (sometimes high) fees.)

In most places, however, you will be able to pay by card. In Germany, debit cards (Girokarten) are used much more frequently than credit cards. These come with an associated bank account and do not charge fees to either seller or vendor. They cannot, however, be used for online payments.

Credit cards are mostly used in Germany to process online payments. Not all banks offer credit cards to their customers, so it is common to obtain a card from another provider. There are many offers and they are often not straightforward, so be aware of hidden costs. Nevertheless, newer online banks often offer credit cards on demand during the creation of a bank account at low fees.

The most popular alternative payment provider in Germany is PayPal, which is offered almost in each online store. Google Wallet and Apple Pay are also increasingly common as an alternative to physical cards.

# Mobility in and around Bonn

## **i** Plan your trips

Different providers offer different websites and apps to help you get around. The main ones are:

- [WebsiteDB](#)
- [WebsiteSWB](#)
- [WebsiteVRS](#)
- [WebsiteFlixbus](#)

**💡 Please note that Google Maps does also work reasonably well in Germany, but connection times are often more accurate and updated real-time on the Websites above. All of those also have their own mobile apps, check them out!**



## **💡** What is the Deutschlandticket?!

In 2020, Germany has introduced a nationwide local transport ticket, called **Deutschlandticket**. For students, it is included in their semester fee (QR code in the Uni Bonn App). You can use the ticket for regional trains (RE&RB) and busses, as well as subways. Long-distance trains (E, IC, EC, and ICE) as well as private, long distance buses or trains (Flixbus, Blablabus & Flixtrain) are **not** included.

# Mobility in and around Bonn

## **i** Biking in Bonn

Bonn is a very bike-friendly city and also not too large, which makes it easy to get around on two wheels. Nevertheless, if you are not (yet) very experienced in riding a bicycle, you should plan for some practice before joining the traffic. Bicycles on public streets are treated as vehicles and must comply with the same regulations as do cars and motorcycles. This includes waiting at red lights and pedestrian walks, signaling your turns and choosing the appropriate lane.

**💡 Using your phone while biking can cause you to be stopped by the police and results in a fine that you can pay directly or that will be invoiced to your home address. Listening to music while biking is generally allowed, as long as it does not impact your ability to participate in traffic (the volume may not be too loud).**

## **i** Where to find a bike?

You can buy bikes on all of the commonly used buy-and-sell platforms such as [Kleinanzeigen](#). Also, flea markets are a great option. Once a year, the AStA organizes a special flea market for bikes. More information can be found [here](#). For temporary use, you can also use the [NextBike App](#). For a small fee, you can unlock bikes at public spaces and move around the city.



# City Registration

As soon as you settle at your permanent accommodation in Bonn (meaning no hostel, AirBNB or other short-time rentals) you should register at the city office. This is mandatory in Germany (for Germans, too). Ideally, the registration should be done immediately, but latest two weeks after moving in. You must register personally.

## Registration is required by law!

If you are unable to get an appointment in the first two weeks after arrival, don't worry too much. The people employed by the city are aware of that many appointments are booked out for weeks in advance. Nevertheless, you should opt for the soonest available appointment.

## How to book an appointment

Appointments should be booked online [here](#). New appointments are released each morning between 7 and 8am. If you check during this time, you will often be able to get an early appointment for your matter! Unfortunately, the website is only available in German. For urgent cases, or if you have problems with the website, you can book them in person as well:

*Stadthaus Bonn*

*Berliner Platz 2*

*53111 Bonn*

 **The International Affairs Unit also offers group appointments for the city registration. You will receive an E-Mail with further details at the beginning of the semester and if you are in Bonn during the offered time, it is your most convenient option to register yourself.**

## Please arrive on time!

You'll have to check in for your appointment 15-5 minutes prior to its time at the mobile CheckIn points. If you miss the appointment time, you will not be attended.

### **i** What to bring to your appointment

- Passport
- Registration form (available [here](#))
- Template for landlords's confirmation (available [here](#))
  - This is a written confirmation from your landlord or landlady stating that you are living at his/her property. The landlord or the landlady is usually obligated to cooperate! When you move in or out of one of the student dormitories from the Studierendenwerk Bonn, the property manager will fill in this form.

### **i** What you will receive

- Confirmation of registration (“Anmeldebestätigung”)
- Personal tax identification number (sent to you by post within 1-4 weeks after your registration)
- Vouchers for free or reduced entrance fees to some attractions in Bonn

**!** **To open a bank account, you will have to prove your residency in Bonn. Therefore you will need to present your confirmation of registration at the bank. To be well off until you receive this appointment, it may make sense to bring some cash with you or to apply for a credit card from your home bank until you get settled in Bonn.**



# City Appointment Step-by-Step

1. Open this [Link](#)
2. Select “Meldewesen”
3. Scroll to “Anmeldung” and select “1” from the drop-down menu. Click “weiter”.
4. Choose your preferred location and confirm by clicking on “weiter”.
5. First click on the date, then on the time that you’d like to choose for your appointment.
6. Enter your personal details and click on “Termin buchen”.
7. You will receive a confirmation E-Mail with a link. **Confirm by clicking on the link in course of 2 hours to book the appointment!**

 In case of persisting errors, contact the Service Hotline at 0228 776677.



## Section 2

### While Studying

1. IT-Services
2. Courses and Exams
3. Library
4. Learning German
5. Studierendenwerk
6. AstA - Student's Union
7. Fachschaften - Study Councils
8. University Sports

# IT Services

## **i** Uni ID

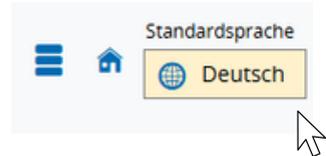
After enrollment, you can install and log into the Uni Bonn App. When you've logged in successfully, you will be able to digitally display your student ID and also your semester ticket.

## **i** BASIS

On BASIS, you can

- register for modules
- register for exams
- inform yourself about lecture time and dates
- manage your personal data
- see your grades and download your transcript of records

To set the language to english, use the globe symbol on the upper left of the page.



## **i** E-CAMPUS

On E-Campus, most lecture materials are provided by lecturers for their students, also, internal module tasks (e.g. upload of reports, registrations for excursions) can be completed. In some cases, the professor will provide a password to access the course (either by email or during the first lecture). To change the page's language, click on your profile button (upper right) → Einstellungen → Sprache. Select English from the dropdown menu.

eCampus | Lernplattform der Universität Bonn

**Einstellungen**

Algemeine Einstellungen | Mail-Einstellungen

**Allgemeine Einstellungen**

Sprache: Deutsch

Standard-Skin/-Style: ecampus-skin

Hilfe-Tooltips:  Hilfe-Tooltips zu Menüs und Reitern anzeigen.

Treffler/Seite: 10

Zuletzt besucht: Einträge speichern

Session-Reminder:

ILIAS-Zeitzone: GMT+1:00: Amsterdam, Berlin, Bern, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna

Datumsformat für die Eingabe: 31.10.2025

Zeitformat: 13:00

Speichern

# IT Services

## **i** E-Mail

After enrollment, you will receive a student e-mail from the University of Bonn. The mailbox of said e-mail can be accessed [here](#).

- !** After you receive your official student e-mail, you will no longer be contacted via your private mail account. Therefore make sure to check your account frequently! Alternatively, You can introduce an automatic forwarding option to your personal e-mail account. You can do this with GOsa [here](#).

## **i** Internet and Wi-Fi on campus

The University of Bonn provides students with internet access in their facilities. The Wi-Fi network is called *eduroam*. Its first installation is a bit tedious, but is only required once. Detailed instructions are provided by the University and Data Center [here](#).

## **i** If you experience any issues

The University and Data Center is available to help you with any kind of IT-Issues. This is how you can reach them:

- In person: Wegelerstraße 6, Plaza on the ground floor (room 0.008a)
- Via phone: 0228 / 73-2751
- Via their [support form](#).



# Courses and Exams

## Course Information

Information about each course can be found in its Module Handbook. Here, all available Modules, an overview on their content and the form of examination are given.

- [Module Handbook for ARTS](#)
- [Module Handbook for AFECO](#)
- [Module Handbook for Geodetic Engineering](#)
- [Module Handbook for Mobile Robotics](#)

## Exam Information

The regulations for each exam are detailed in the Examination Regulation for each course, the faculty and the university. It is wise to have a look on them especially when it comes to writing your thesis to be well-informed about all your requirements.

- [Examination regulation for ARTS](#)
- [Examination regulation for AFECO](#)
- [Examination regulation for Geodetic Engineering](#)
- Examination regulation for Mobile Robotics\*

Here you can find the Examination Regulation for the AEI Faculty. Unfortunately, it is only available in German.

*\*available soon*

-  Be aware that the **Module Handbook** and **Examination Regulation** of your course are the only legal documents emitted by the university regarding your course requirements. That means that you should always double-check information from other students or your course's frontpage with these documents.

# Courses and Exams

## **i** Registering for Courses

Each semester, you can register for courses in BASIS. For most courses, a registration is not mandatory. Nevertheless, some courses only have a limited number of places. For those courses, it is crucial to register, as you will not be able to partake otherwise.

## **!** Registering for Access to Examinations

In your first semester, you are required to register for **general access to examinations**. To do so, please fill and send this form with all its relevant attachments to [aei-pruefamf@ticket.uni-bonn.de](mailto:aei-pruefamf@ticket.uni-bonn.de).

## **i** Registering for Exams

Exam registration is also possible in BASIS. This, however, is only possible during a certain week in the semester (known as “registration phase”). This phase will be announced via E-Mail in the first half of the semester. Please make sure to register for all Exams that you are planning to take, as late registration is only possible in very rare cases!

If you change your mind about taking an exam, you can **deregister** up to one week prior to its date. If you deregister later, the exam will be registered as failed!

**!** **For each exam, you have three attempts. This means that if you fail it once, you can take it up to two more times in other examination phases. Failing three times, however, is a serious issue, as you will be deregistered from your course and may not study this or very similar subject again at any public German university.**

**💡** If you feel sick and cannot take the exam, you are required to visit a doctor immediately and to hand in a doctoral attestation of inability to take on the examination to the examination service. Otherwise, the exam will be registered as failed. More information on this issue can be found here. Your general practitioner can use this template to make sure that it fulfils the University’s requirements.



# Library.

## University Bonn's Libraries

The University of Bonn counts with different libraries for different sciences. The most prominent of them are:

- Main Library (Hauptbibliothek): Adenauerallee 39-41, 53113 Bonn
- Library of Philology: Rabinstraße 8, 53111 Bonn
- MINT-Library (Zweigstelle MNL): Friedrich-Hirzebruch-Allee 4, 53115 Bonn

The MINT-Library is located on the Campus in Bonn-Poppelsdorf, close to the Faculty's lecture hall and counts with material for the natural sciences, informatics and technology. All libraries have reading and study/group work rooms that can be freely used or reserved online.

## Obtaining a library pass

You will need a library pass to enter any of the University's libraries. You can order your student pass online and it will appear on your Uni Bonn App. More information is provided on the library's website.

## The library catalogue

You can search for available material online, using the library's search engine Bonnus. The engine allows searching for scientific publications by keyword and shows where to retrieve physical copies. It also provides links to online publications that you can access with your university license.

 Scientific publications are often hidden behind a paywall. Nevertheless, your university license allows you to access most popular journals. The easiest way to access is by searching the desired article in Bonnu, but you can also try to register on the journal's website by institutional log-in. Your credentials are the same as for your university e-mail account.

# Learning German

## ! Why learning German is essential

Although your study course is in English, you have moved to a country where this is not the prominent language. While it is certainly possible to survive with the most basic skills while you are surrounded by an international context this will come with a backlash as soon as you start searching for work.

Even most student jobs require some degree of German speaking skills. Also, don't be fooled! It is very much impossible to achieve German fluency in 6 Months or a single year, so don't think that you can "learn German once I am done with my studies so I can find a job".

## i How to start learning German?

There are many different resources to get a head start into the language. Maybe you have already heard from the Goethe Institute. These institutes offer high-quality German language courses, but also have a considerable online presence with free materials to start learning or to improve your German. Similarly, the Deutsche Welle (DW), originally a radio program with focus on news from abroad, offers a variety of materials. This includes an app available in the PlayStore for Android and AppStore for iOS.

## i University offers for learning German

The University of Bonn also supports international students with their German language skills.

- **Language Courses:** In Winter Semester, the Faculty of Agricultural, Nutritional and Engineering sciences (AEI) offers a beginner course specifically for AEI students. If you start studying in winter semester, you will already have received an e-mail regarding this matter. In summer semester, or if you haven't got a place in the AEI-internal course, there are university-wide offers hosted by the Language Center (SLZ) of Bonn University.
- **Interactive learning software "Rosetta Stone":** This online-based language course is free for University Bonn's students. It is much more comprehensive than usual apps such as Duolingo and improved continuously.

# Learning German

## Register on time!

German courses are of high demand. Therefore, you should act quickly and frequently check the [SLZ website](#) for registration periods. Please make sure that you register as soon as the registration starts, especially for beginner courses. If registration opens at 10am, courses are likely to be booked out at 10:15 already.

## Level Tests

If you already achieved some level of German - Congrats!

You can directly start with a course for a level that corresponds with you. To find out, which level is adequate for your knowledge, you will have to take a placement test. You can find the test on the [website of the Language Center of Bonn University](#). Every language course concludes with a placement test of the language level it aims to achieve. If you pass this test, you will not need to take the placement test again.

## The hard part

Learning German is not easy. You might feel like you are struggling more than “normal” or think you are simply “untalented” in learning German. **This is normal!** German is one of the hardest language and its learning curve is very steep. You may experience that with an A2 German level, which took you a year to achieve, you are pretty much still helpless in your everyday life. This is due to that the German language needs a very high amount of grammatical “groundwork” to construct a sentence that is comparatively easy to phrase in English. We can only encourage you to keep going nevertheless! Once you hit the “Bs”, aka B1 and, even better, B2, you will notice a big change in your ability of self-expression. With B2 in particular (meaning you took the B2 certificate successfully), your opportunities on the work market will skyrocket.

# Studierendenwerk

-  The Studierendenwerk in Bonn is an independent public institution that offers a variety of services for students. Among other things, they run the student dorms and Mensa (cafeterias). They also exist to provide equal opportunities for everyone studying at Bonn University.

## Info Point

At their info point in Lennéstraße 3, 53111 Bonn, the Studierendenwerk provides general advice on:

- finding a room
- needing a Mensa card or blocking it
- finding and filling the correct forms for different purposes
- if you have lost something on University grounds
- if you don't know who to turn to
- if you have questions about studying in Germany

## The Mensa

Three different Mensas (cafeterias) offer food at very low prices for students in Bonn. The biggest and most frequented Mensa is located in Poppelsdorf, right next to the Life-Sciences buildings. To pay for your food, you can either use your debit card and show your study ID to the cashier to receive the discount, or you can opt for a Mensa card. The mensa card can be obtained at the café desk in the Mensa in Poppelsdorf. You can deposit money on your Mensa cards via two automats. If you pay with the Mensa card, you do not need to show your study ID and can use fast lanes to pay for your food.

-  The weekly menu of dishes available at the Mensas appears in the Uni Bonn App.

# AStA

**i** AStA is the German equivalent to a Student's Union, which represents students' interests before the University. Its members are elected by the student parliament, which in turn is elected by all students (yes, you, too!) regularly. They also offer a variety of services, such as:

- Bike workshop
- Facilitation of Loans
- Assistance during financial emergencies
- Special consultation for international students
- Financial Aid for young parents
- Legal advice

...among others. To access a specific service and to gain an overview, please refer to the contact details on their website.

## AStA Store

The AStA also hosts a store close to the Mensa in Poppelsdorf. Here you can buy office supplies at reasonable prices.



# Fachschaften - Study Councils

**i** A Fachschaft represents some thematically grouped study courses and is a honorary post occupied by students. In the AEI Faculty there are currently three active Fachschaften, also called student councils:

- Fachschaft Agrar for all study courses related to the agricultural sciences (including **ARTS**)
- Fachschaft ELW for all studies related to food and nutritional sciences (including **AFECO**)
- Fachschaft Geodäsie for study courses related to geodesy, (including **Geodetic Engineering** and **Mobile Robotics**)

**💡** Your Fachschaft organizes events and offers council with study-related issues. Due to them covering not only English- but also German-speaking study courses, their events are an excellent opportunity to network and to find German friends as well. The annual party hosted by the Fachschaft Agrar, the *Bauernschwopf*, is also known to be one of the wildest University Parties in Bonn! Oftentimes, all Fachschaften also organize thematic excursions to businesses and institutions in and around Bonn. Are you interested to join an excursion, yet unsure about language requirements? Feel free to reach out to us so we can facilitate a solution!



# University Sports

**i** The Bonn University offers many Sport courses available exclusively to students at a very low cost. You can find a comprehensive list of all offered courses as well as their location and pricing on the [University Sport Website](#).

## Inclusivity

Sports should be accessible for everyone. To ensure this, University Bonn offers inclusive courses with specially skilled trainers. Please refer to the course list mentioned above for more details. A Sport-Buddy program pairs able-bodied and disabled students that want to pursue the same sport to facilitate access and success. Check out the Sport-Buddy program [here](#). For more details on inclusivity offers and contact details, click [here](#).

## **i** Sports Semester Card

Each semester (or semester break), you are required to purchase the semester pass or “semester card” to partake in all basic University sport offerings for free. Courses beyond the basic offer require an additional (often low) fee. The semester card is a one-time purchase and not expensive for students. Find the link to purchase the semester pass on this (unfortunately German) [website](#).



Section 3  
Additional Information

1. Sim Cards
2. Groceries

# Sim Cards

**i** A German Sim-Card is a must to stay connected to the Internet and to access the German telephone network. While not-so-long-ago, calls and SMS used to be very expensive, they are nowadays included in most flatrates or contracts.

**i** Where to buy a Sim-Card

In Germany, a variety of Sim-Card providers exist. Generally, you can decide between **Prepaid-** and **Contract-bound** Sim-Cards.

Prepaid cards can be found in many dm-stores, but also most supermarkets. Very popular among Germans are AldiTalk, Lidl or Netto Sim-Cards. Please be aware, that for all Sim-Cards, an identity check for activation is *mandatory*. Please do not buy Sim-Cards from private persons as they are then not registered on your name and you don't know what these people have been using their phone numbers for. Sim-Cards that come with a contract are often useful if you use large amounts of mobile data (for example, if you do not have WiFi at home, although this is very rare). Be aware that once you sign a contract, you must comply with the terms of service. Oftentimes, this includes a minimum term of several months of usage, sometimes with increasing prices and very specific cancellation policies. **Always make sure to read your contract carefully. If you do not understand it, bring a translator or take a printout home with you to translate before you sign. Make sure to carefully read the fine print, especially if the contract advertises a “free” phone or other benefits.**

**💡** Some providers, such as Lyca, advertise cheap international calls. This may be helpful, if your family is affected by insufficient network coverage or internet outages / restrictions. As always, check the exact conditions and if your country is included.



# Groceries

**i** The majority of Germans frequent supermarkets for their groceries. These can be classified into

- Classic Supermarkets, such as Edeka, Rewe and Kaufland, offer a large variety of brands for each product. They also have their own production lines that are often somewhat cheaper than brand products (Gut&Günstig, ja!,K-) , but their extent is limited.
- Discounters, such as Netto, Penny and Aldi have own product lines which make up the majority of their portfolio. This and their more limited offer and lower staffing of stores makes them the cheaper alternatives to supermarkets.
- Biomärkte, such as Alnatura and denn's offer exclusively organic products. Their portfolio also includes lesser known foods and many vegan alternatives that are not in stock in normal supermarkets.

**i** Where to find international cooking ingredients?

While often not in stock in most supermarkets (notable exceptions are some Edekas and Kaufland in Bonn-Tannenbusch), more international foods can be found in international stores. Some of them include:

- Products from eastern European countries & Russia: Mix Market Stores, eg. in Schneidemühler Straße 1, Bonn-Tannenbusch.
- Products from Turkey and the arab world: "turkish supermarkets", e.g. Oba-Market in Bonn-Tannenbusch or Bonn Oriental in Bonn-Center and many more.
- Products from east Asia (South Korea, China (?), Vietnam and Japan): mostly referred to as "korean supermarkets" or "Asia-Shops", e.g. GoAsia in Kaiserpassage 2a, Bonn-Center and Tains in Oxfordstraße 12-16 and many more.
- Products from India and Africa: Commonly referred to as "afro-shops", many are located in the Weststadt around Kölnstraße. Some are also located in the city center such as Afro-Asia Market in Münsterstraße.



The AEI international  
affairs unit wishes you a  
warm Welcome to the  
University of Bonn!



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Antje Svihlik



Serena



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Further questions?  
Please check out our **Website** as well!