UNIVERSITY OF AUGSBURG

Basic terms at the University of Augsburg



Important information before starting your studies

The International Office of the University of Augsburg has put together a series of presentations for international first-year students with the most important information about studying and living in Augsburg.



This presentation is the third of seven. It covers the **basic terms that you need to be familiar with during your studies.** We recommend that you carefully review all presentations so that you are well prepared to start your studies and can clarify any important questions.

All presentations are available online and can be downloaded via the following link: https://www.uni-augsburg.de/en/portal/internationals/abschluss/study-preparation-course/.

Important terms at the University of Augsburg

- Types of universities
- Enrollment/ de-registration
- Faculty/ chair/ institute
- Lecturers
- Types of courses
- Standard duration of study
- Credit Points/ SWS/ ECTS
- Modules
- Module catalogue
- Examination regulations
- STUDIS - The Online Examination Office
- Digicampus - Course Registration

Types of universities in Germany

Hochschulen

⟶ Umbrella term for educational institutions where one can study

Hochschulen für angewandte Wissenschaften

⟶⟶ = Universities of Applied Sciences
⟶ Focus on practice
⟶ Less variety in study programs

Universitäten

⟶ = Universities
⟶ Focus on theory
⟶ Wide range of study programs
⟶ Possibility of pursuing a doctorate

Types of universities in Augsburg

You are studying at **the University of Augsburg**.

However, there is also a **University of Applied Sciences** in Augsburg, the "Technische Hochschule Augsburg".



THA Technische Hochschule Augsburg

Enrollment/ De-registration

Enrollment

= “Immatrikulation”

- next step after receiving the letter of acceptance
- this is how you become a student
- necessary in order to take exams

De-registration

= “Exmatrikulation”



- University membership ends
- Reasons:
  - one has completed one's studies
  - one no longer wishes to study
  - repeatedly failing exams (compulsory de-registration)

Faculty/ chair/ institute

Faculty (= "Fakultät")

⟶ Teaching and administrative unit of a university

⟶ encompasses related sciences

Institute (= "Institut")

⟶ Organizational unit at a university or faculty

⟶ consists, for example, of chairs that share a common thematic umbrella term

Chair/ department (= "Lehrstuhl)

⟶ Subunit within a faculty/ institute

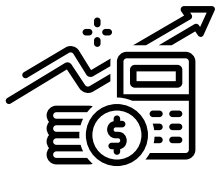
⟶ refers only to a specific academic field



Faculties at the University of Augsburg



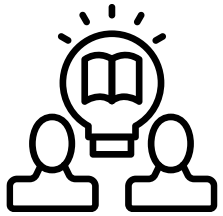
Faculty of Catholic Theology:
Catholic Theology
(290 students)



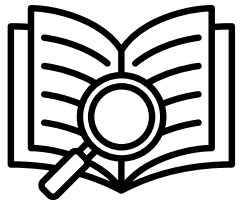
Faculty of Economics:
Business Administration, Economics,
Global Business Management
(2.352 students)



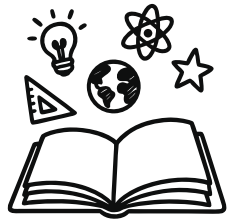
Faculty of Law:
Legal Studies
(2.635 students)



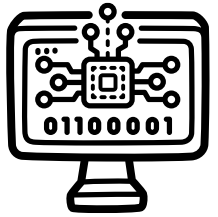
Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences
Education, Music, Art, Social Sciences,
Media, Philosophy
(2.685 students)



Faculty of Philology and History:
Linguistics, literature, cultural studies,
and historical disciplines
(4.586 students)



Faculty of Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Engineering:
Physics, Mathematics, Materials Science,
Industrial Engineering
(2.076 students)



Faculty of Applied Computer Science:
Computer Science, Geography
(2.517 students)

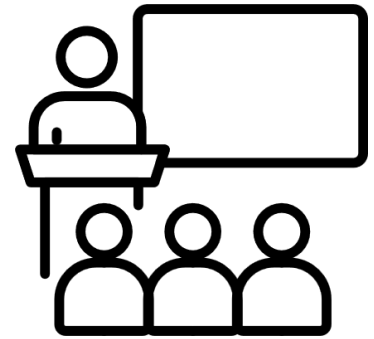


Faculty of Medicine:
Human Medicine, Midwifery
(738 students)

Lecturers

Lecturers (="Dozierende")

⟶ Teachers at universities and other educational institutions



Professors (= "Professor:innen")

⟶ Highest-ranking teachers at German universities

⟶ A professorship is obtained through habilitation.

Research associates (="wissenschaftl. Mitarbeitende")

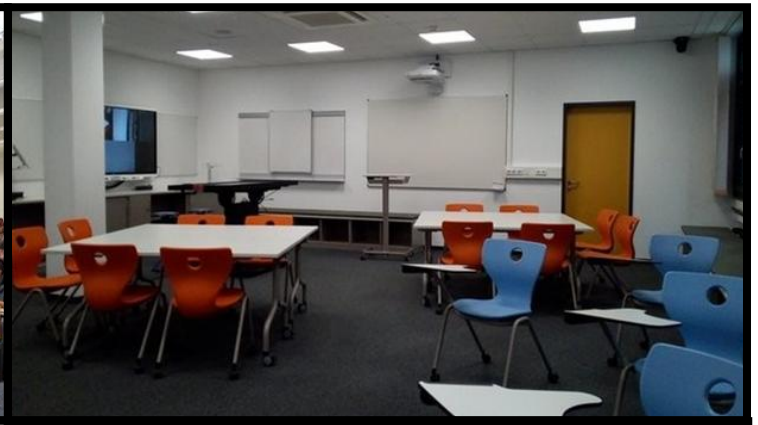
⟶ working on a research project

⟶ Responsibilities: Research, teaching

Types of courses

Lecture (= "Vorlesung")
⟶ Teachers lecture on a topic
⟶ little opportunity for questions or discussion
⟶ usually more listeners than at seminars









Seminar (= "Seminar")
⟶ Knowledge is deepened
⟶ Discussions in small groups
⟶ Presenting skills are developed through giving presentations.

Exercise (= "Übung")
⟶ practical application of scientific methods to specific questions
⟶ usually accompanying a lecture

Tutorial (= "Tutorium")
⟶ a kind of "tutoring" led by students in higher semesters
⟶ usually accompanying a course

Standard duration of study

Standard duration of study (= “Regelstudienzeit“)

= Number of semesters in which students should complete their studies according to the examination regulations.

- varies from subject to subject
- varies from university to university
- completion of studies possible after fewer or more semesters (maximum duration of study!)

Semester

= Half-year of study

- includes the lecture period and the subsequent lecture-free period

- winter semester: 01.10. – 31.03.
- summer semester: 01.04. – 30.09.



ECTS/ Leistungspunkte/ Credit Points/ SWS

Credit Points/ LP (= „**L**eistungs**p**unkte“):

- Points used to measure students' academic performance
- 1 credit point = approximately 30 working hours

SWS (= **S**emester**w**ochen**s**tunden):

- 1 SWS = one hour (à 45 minutes) per week
- A course usually has 2 SWS = 90 minutes per week.

ECTS (= **E**uropean **C**redit **T**ransfer and Accumulation **S**ystem):

- Europe-wide recognition of the degree program
- measures the average workload in hours

Modules

Further information can be found on this website of the University of Augsburg.

- A module is a teaching unit consisting of **several courses on a topic** that is addressed from different perspectives (in the respective courses).
- Completing a module can usually take between one and three semesters, as the corresponding courses do not have to be taken in the same semester.
- Each component (lecture, seminar, or exercise) is graded with a certain number of credit points.

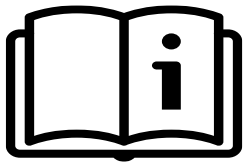
A distinction is made between:

- **Basic modules**, which are usually taken in the 1st and 2nd semesters
- **Advanced modules**, which are usually taken in the 3rd and 4th semesters
- **Specialisation modules**, which are usually taken in the 5th and 6th semesters

A distinction is also made between **compulsory** and **elective modules**.

Module catalogue

Your module catalogue contains important information for your studies!



There you will learn:

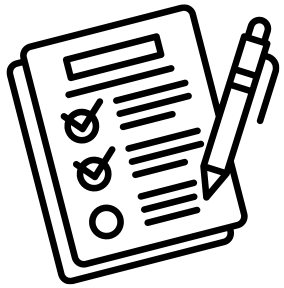
- which modules you must complete during your studies
- which courses are offered in the current semester. You therefore need your current module handbook each semester in order to be able to put together your timetable each semester.
- The module catalogues for all degree programs can be found here: https://mhb.uni-augsburg.de/.

Examination regulations

The examination regulations for the individual degree programs can be found here

The examination regulations (= "Prüfungsordnung" (PO)) for your degree program provide an overview of the general conditions for your examinations:

- Examination content
- Requirements for registering for examinations
- Requirements for passing
- Examination dates
- Examination procedure
- (possible orientation examination)



(⟶ Not every degree program has an orientation exam. The orientation exam determines which exams you must complete by a certain deadline. The specific exams and exact deadlines are specified in the examination regulations for the respective degree program.

Caution: Regular updates to the examination regulations are possible!

Examination regulations

Retaking exams:

- Failed exams must generally be retaken within six months, at the latest on the next possible exam date. For more detailed information on your specific degree program, please refer to your examination regulations.
- Voluntary retaking of a passed module to improve your grade is not permitted.

Non-participation in an examination:

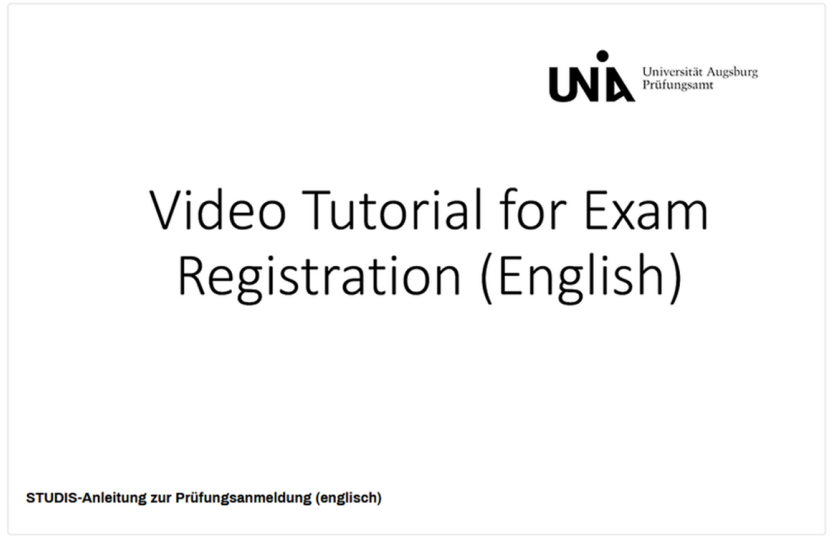
- If you are ill and unable to attend, please obtain a medical certificate stating the period of illness without delay.
- Keep the certificate in a safe place. If you have not passed all the required examinations by the end of a deadline (orientation examination or maximum duration of study), you can apply for an extension of your study period by submitting the relevant evidence.

STUDIS – The Online Examination Office

You can **register for your exams** via the online examination office **STUDIS**.

On this website of the University of Augsburg, you will find detailed instructions that explain the exam registration process step by step in German and English:

https://www.uni-augsburg.de/de/studium/organisation-beratung/pruefungen/was-sind-pruefungen/anleitung-studis/



Digicampus – Course Registration

You can **create your timetable** using the **online platform "Digicampus"**.

Under this link you will find an **introductory video** from the University of Augsburg (approx. 20 min):

If the video in German does not help you, we recommend that you attend the **study preparation course** offered by the international office, where we will help you create your timetable.

Tips for creating a timetable provided by the Central Student Advisory Service:

- Before creating your timetable, you should first attend the central introductory event at the University of Augsburg (if you understand German) and especially **the subject-specific introductory event for your degree program**. You will receive important information there!
- Until then, familiarize yourself with the structure of your studies and put together a **preliminary** timetable.
- It is completely normal if your timetable changes during the first two weeks of your first semester.
- If you have any questions, please contact the academic advisors or the student council for your degree program.
- Consider your own interests.

Open questions?

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If you still have questions after reviewing all the presentations, please feel free to send us an email at: svk@aaa.uni-augsburg.de.