



**WU**  
**Vienna University of Economics and Business**  
**Fact Sheet 2020-2021**

**Erasmus code**  
**Address**

**A WIEN05**

Welthandelsplatz 1, LC building,  
1020 Vienna, Austria  
<https://www.wu.ac.at/io/en>

 /wu.internationaloffice  
 /@wuinternationaloffice

**Contacts at the  
International Office**

**Head of the International Office**

Lukas Hefner, [lukas.hefner@wu.ac.at](mailto:lukas.hefner@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4312

**Undergraduate Exchange and International Short Programs Division**

*Division Head*

Marlene Wahlmüller, [marlene.wahlmueller@wu.ac.at](mailto:marlene.wahlmueller@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 5342

*Coordinator Europe, CEEPUS*

*CEE | Belgium | Finland | Ireland | Scandinavia | The Netherlands | Turkey | United Kingdom*  
Julia Fischill, [julia.fischill@wu.ac.at](mailto:julia.fischill@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4303

*Coordinator Europe*

*France | Germany | Greece | Italy | Portugal | Spain | Switzerland*  
Christa Karner, [christa.karner@wu.ac.at](mailto:christa.karner@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4202

*Coordinator Africa, Asia, Australia, Latin America & New Zealand*

Christiane Dietrich, [christiane.dietrich@wu.ac.at](mailto:christiane.dietrich@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4315

*Coordinator North America*

Kaan Tasli, [kaan.tasli@wu.ac.at](mailto:kaan.tasli@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4962

*International Short Programs and Summer University Programs (ISUs)*

Sarina Gludovatz, [sarina.gludovatz@wu.ac.at](mailto:sarina.gludovatz@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4314

**Graduate Exchange Division**

*Division Head*

Caroline Heinle, [caroline.heinle@wu.ac.at](mailto:caroline.heinle@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 4316

*Program Manager Graduate Exchange Europe, China, Japan, Korea  
Double Degree, PIM Network*

Katrin Korber, [katrin.korber@wu.ac.at](mailto:katrin.korber@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 5553

*Program Manager Graduate Exchange Overseas except China, Japan, Korea  
THEMIS*

Claudia Grafenhofer-Truppe, [claudia.grafenhofer-truppe@wu.ac.at](mailto:claudia.grafenhofer-truppe@wu.ac.at),  
[orientation@wu.ac.at](mailto:orientation@wu.ac.at), T +43 1 31336 5341



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## Academic calendar 2020/21

### Winter semester 2020/21

**Welcome Days**  
(mandatory attendance) Welcome Days for students registered for any pre-semester program(s):  
September 2 - September 3, 2020

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

**Pre-semester programs**  
(optional) **Orientation and Cultural Program:**  
September 7 – September 18, 2020

**Pre-semester German language courses:**  
September 7 - September 18, 2020

**Teaching period** **October 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021**  
Christmas break: December 24, 2020 – January 6, 2021  
*(Several courses end before the Christmas break; students who cannot stay at WU in January should choose their courses accordingly.)*

**Semester break** February 1, 2021 – March 1, 2021

### Summer semester 2021

**Welcome Days**  
(mandatory attendance) Welcome Days for students registered for any pre-semester program(s):  
February 4 - February 5, 2021

Welcome Days for all other students:  
February 24 - February 25, 2021

**Pre-semester programs**  
(optional) **Orientation and Cultural Program:**  
February 8 – February 19, 2021

**Pre-semester German language courses:**  
February 8 – February 19, 2021

**Teaching period** **March 1, 2021 – June 26, 2021**  
Easter break: March 27, 2021 – April 6, 2021  
Pentecost break: May 23, 2021 – May 24, 2021

## Registration and nomination deadlines

**General information** WU only accepts exchange students nominated by their home universities. The home university exchange coordinator is responsible for **nominating students online** and forwarding WU's **Nomination Letters** to the nominated exchange students.

**Online nomination** Partner universities are asked to send an email to WU coordinators, indicating the number of students they wish to nominate, after which the online nomination link will be provided.

**Nomination deadlines** For the winter semester: May 1  
For the summer semester: November 1

**Application deadlines for students**

- Orientation and Cultural Program
- Pre-semester German language courses
- Housing
- Online pre-enrollment for students

For the winter semester: May 15  
For the summer semester: November 15  
Invitations to apply online for the Orientation and Cultural Program and the pre-semester German language course will be sent out after May 1/November 1.

**Language requirements** Depending on the language of instruction (English or German), **undergraduate** exchange students must have a B2 level or above (according to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#), CEFR) in English OR German. **Graduate** exchange students must have a level equivalent to C1 of the CEFR.

WU does not request official language certificates, as we trust our partners to only send students who fulfill the aforementioned criteria. However, if students do not meet the language requirements, we reserve the right to exclude them from courses.

## Course information

**Courses in English** Our English-taught course options for exchange students include more than 250 courses offered each term, covering all core fields of business and economics as well as related areas. Some courses are offered in block format to make scheduling easier.

**Courses in German** Apart from courses offered in English, incoming exchange students can also attend a variety of courses **taught** in German.  
Courses & FAQs for bachelor's and master's students: <https://www.wu.ac.at/io/academics>

**Class format** Although WU has seven different examination types, approx. 90% of courses available to incoming exchange students are continuous assessment ("PI") courses. These courses are highly interactive courses including lectures, case studies, papers, presentations, and group projects. Exams and tests are held during the regular course sessions, and there is no special exam week at the end of the semester.

**Attendance and participation** Attendance is mandatory in all continuous assessment courses ("PI"), which account for 90% of all courses at WU.

**Course registration** WU's online registration system LPIS allows students to register for courses even if they overlap. As attendance is mandatory, it is the students' responsibility to only register for courses they can attend in full.  
Course registration is based on a first-come, first-served principle; therefore, we strongly recommend that students choose two back-up courses in case their registration for their preferred courses is not successful. Course numbers at WU have a purely administrative function and change every semester.

**Course load** Students are expected to take a full workload at WU, which corresponds to 24 to 30 ECTS credits. The maximum course load is 36 ECTS credits excluding language courses.

**Exam dates** **Exam dates** depend on the courses chosen. There is **no specific examination period** for all courses.

## German language courses

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

## Documents

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

## Orientation services for exchange students

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



## Accommodation

### General information

Exchange students have **several options to choose from** when booking housing for their stay. These options include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Residence halls run by OeAD, the main housing provider for students in Austria
- A private flat that can be found for example through the housing platform Housing Anywhere
- Housing obtained through another third-party provider

### Staying in a student residence hall

WU has made pre-reservations in certain OeAD (Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research) residence halls to make sure that housing is guaranteed for our incoming students. Students who would like to make use of this offer need to register through the [OeAD website](#) by May 15 (winter semester) or November 15 (summer semester) at the latest.

Please note that the minimum rental period for a room in an OeAD residency hall is a whole semester (winter semester: October to the end of January; summer semester: March to the end of June). It is possible to extend but not to shorten the rental period.

### Private accommodation

If students prefer to arrange their own accommodations, we recommend using the platform "Housing Anywhere" or any other of the databases listed on our website. If students need proof of accommodation for visa purposes, this proof has to be issued by the landlord.

Further information:

<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/programs/incoming-students/exchange-semester/accommodation/>

### Living costs

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

## Entry and residence regulations

### General information

Before traveling to Austria, students should make sure they are familiar with the regulations concerning visas and residence permits.

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

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

### About Vienna

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

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





## International Summer University<sup>WU</sup>

### General information

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

The program includes networking opportunities and a cultural and social program with fellow students from over 25 countries. Course materials, lunch on lecture days, and the public transportation ticket for Vienna are included in the fees.

### Registration

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

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



## Marketing Spring Program

### General information

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

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

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

### Registration

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

Further details:

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