EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

Exchange term (bachelor or master level)
The Faculty’s course offer for incoming students comprises a comprehensive range of bachelor and master courses taught in English as well as a number of bachelor courses taught in German.

Early leaver option
Students can be nominated for an early leaver exchange by their home coordinator only if the academic calendar at their home university conflicts with the dates at the WiSo Faculty. Students finish their term abroad in December, which means they will have a tighter workload, additional assignments and shorter deadlines.

CEMS term (master level)
The WiSo Faculty offers high-quality CEMS MIM courses, a diverse range of business projects and skill seminars, and a highly-rated block seminar for CEMS students. All courses are taught in English.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Class format: Lectures and seminars
Grading: Based on written exams, written papers, project work, oral exams, active participation in class, or a combination of the above
Exams: Either on the last day of classes or during the two to three weeks after the end of classes
Course load: 4–5 courses per term (30 ECTS)
Language requirements: CEFR level B2 in English or German

PROCEDURES

Students are nominated by the international office of their home institution.
Nominations must be submitted via the WiSo Exchange Platform (WEX). Coordinators are informed by email.
The ZIB WiSo Incomings Team contacts the nominated student(s) directly and guides them through the application process.

TERM DATES

FALL TERM 2023/24
9 October 2023* – 2 February 2024
Exam period until 28 February 2024**
Early leavers: 9 October – 16 December 2023 (including exam period)
CEMS term & lecture period: 1 September – 15 December 2023 (optional late electives: December 2023 – mid-February 2024)
Pre-semester German language course (optional): September 2023
Exchange nomination deadline: 1 May 2023
Application deadline: June 2023

SPRING TERM 2024
1 April* – 12 July 2024
Exam period until 31 July 2024**
CEMS term: End of March – 31 July 2024**
Pre-semester German language course (optional): March 2024
Exchange nomination deadline: 1 Nov 2023
Application deadline: December 2023

*Orientation days take place prior to the official start of lectures.
**For some English taught courses, an earlier departure may be possible.
**MBA SHORT PROGRAMMES**

**Doing Business in Germany – The Future of Mobility in the Energy Landscape**

Programme dates: 8 – 19 May 2023  
Nomination period: 1 Dec 2022 – 15 January 2023  

Students can choose one of two tracks:  
Track 1: **Automotive** or  
Track 2: **Sustainable Transportation**

Updating our popular format to include the latest developments in the energy, mobility and automotive sectors, this intensive 12-day short programme for international (E)MBA students from selected partners is an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the specificities of German business practices.

**CISU-MBA – Cologne International Summer University**

Programme dates: 31 July – 10 Aug 2023  
Nomination period: 15 February – 31 March 2023  

Two-week summer programme for international (E)MBA students from the WiSo Faculty’s partner universities with a focus on **Leadership and Diversity**. Next to the academic programme, cultural and social events offer a great opportunity to get to know each other and discover Cologne as well as its surroundings.

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**ESTIMATED MONTHLY LIVING COSTS**

- **Accommodation**: €300–700  
- **Class materials**: €30  
- **Food**: €200  
- **Leisure activities**: €100–250  
- **Health insurance**: €100  
- **Social contribution**: €320 per term**  
- **Social contribution**: €320 per term**

**UNIVERSITY FACILITIES**

The University offers a large variety of sports activities. All facilities, including an on-campus student gym, and courses are either free of charge or can be used for a very low fee. Students have access to numerous dining halls and cafés with a good price/quality ratio.

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**NETWORKING**

The PIM and CEMS Student and Alumni Club Cologne organises parties, sport events, workshops in cooperation with companies, excursions, and regular meetings  

**Corporate contacts**: Benefit from the University’s career services, regular workshops in soft skills, guest speeches from industry professionals, and courses offered by company executives.

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**LANGUAGE COURSES**

Students have access to one free pre-semester (March/September) or weekly semester-long intensive German language course.

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**STUDENT SUPPORT**

The ZIB WiSo Incomings Team is the students’ main point of contact for their exchange experience. It works with each student to try to connect them with the services and support they need:  

- **Enrolment support** starting in November/May  
- **Course registration support**: students are guided through the online registration process shortly before the semester starts  
- Information and support in **finding accommodation** in Cologne  
- **Support with topics related to disabilities** (physical and otherwise) as well as conditions that could affect their academic success  
- **Orientation days** in the week before classes, including academic information sessions, guided campus tours and social events  
- **Buddy Programme**: Student ‘buddies’ from Cologne help international students during their stay at the WiSo Faculty and in Cologne.

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*If home insurance is not recognised.  
**This applies to all students, regardless of university or scholarship status. It gives students access to course registration, and serves as student ID as well as semester transportation ticket for all local transportation in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. It also enables access to the student sport facilities and dining halls.*
THE COLOGNE WISO FACULTY

The WiSo Faculty, Germany’s largest and most reputable faculty of its kind, offers students a vast scope of study fields and specialisations. In line with its mission ‘Today’s ideas. Tomorrow’s impact.’, it successfully links excellent research with contacts to the corporate and business world.

The central location of the campus and the Faculty’s focus on internationalisation, counting over 450 incoming exchange students per year, contribute to the Faculty’s reputation as an ideal place for an exchange term. The Faculty is EQUIS accredited.

The WiSo Faculty offers 7 bachelor programmes (3 years) and 15 master programmes (2 years) including several international and double degree programmes. Click below for more info.

Bachelor’s degree programmes
Master’s degree programmes
International Management/CEMS MIM
Double Master’s Programmes

THE CITY OF COLOGNE

With a diverse population of around 1 million, Cologne is a multicultural and dynamic city. It is home to the fourth-largest trade fair in the world, and over 10,000 IT and telecommunication businesses have strengthened its position as Germany’s ‘media city’. Cologne is famous for its Gothic cathedral, along with a multitude of other historic sites and plenty of green areas. Home to some 100,000 students, the city offers a vibrant night life and a great variety of museums, theatres and art exhibitions.

TOP RANKED FACULTY

Graduates favoured by HR managers:

Top 3 for Business Administration
Top 3 for Information Systems
Top 5 for Economics

Wirtschaftswoche rankings 2022, survey among HR managers of Germany’s major companies

CONTACT

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STUDY PROGRAMMES & SHORT PROGRAMMES

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