

Frequently Asked Questions

(as of March 10th, 2017; preliminary)



P.S. Germany 2017

STUDY TOUR

@ HfWU

➤ When and where will the study tour take place?

- June 24th, 2017 – July 8th, 2017 in Nuertingen, Germany (leave on July 23rd if departure from the Americas)
- Nuertingen: within the Metropolitan area of Stuttgart, the capital of the Federal State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, one of the strongest economic regions in Europe.

➤ What is the content of the course?

- P.S. Germany“ stands for „Project Studies in Germany“ and it’s a two-weeks program.

It offers the students:

- an insight into the German educational system and social life
- an interesting and valuable mix of English lectures, complemented by visits of social institutions in Nuertingen and its surroundings
- studying & working in a global atmosphere
- some sightseeing highlights in southern Germany
- the development of lifelong friendships and of a worldwide network
- a free weekend for individual travel plans within Europe

Lectures

- Introduction to the different child care concepts and institutions
- Family Structures in Germany: facts, figures & recent developments
- (Early) Childhood Pedagogics in Germany from KiTa to Kindergarten, the different Kindergarten-pedagogics in Germany - reflections on the visits, the "Open Concept“, inclusion and integration
- Transition from elementary to secondary school in Germany
- Final presentation of each student on P.S. Germany experiences, learning and professional development outcomes

Institution visits

- Visit to the social institution “Freies Kinderhaus” and the “Waldkindergarten”, explanatory theory & behind-the-scenes tour & practical work on projects. The institution provides different child care offers like infant care, Waldkindergarten, after-school care, youth work including a youth workshop with a broad variety of offers and several more activities in different areas e.g. refugee work.
- Visit to the social institution “Behinderten-Förderung Linsenhofen e.V.” (= Advancement of People with Disabilities), explanatory theory & behind-the-scenes tour & common lunch at the institution.
- Visit of an elementary school: behind the scenes tour, sitting in classes, witness morning school break, questions & discussions
- Visit of a local youth club: explanatory theory, socializing / talking with the adolescents
- Visit of a kindergarten/day care center (Kita am See) who got several awards for their work. explanatory theory, exploring the house & interacting with the children

Sight Seeing – exploring Germany’s South!

- Guided City Tour & Welcome Evening in Nuertingen
- Guided City Tour & punting trip in Tuebingen
- Ludwigsburg, the Residential Palace & the Fairy Tale Garden
- Neuschwanstein “Cinderella Castle” & Fuessen

The program is targeted to:

- Open minded & enthusiastic students from the field of social sciences with focus on: child and adolescent development, (early) childhood, elementary & special education,
- Students who want to...
 - ⇒ work with children from early childhood through elementary school
 - ⇒ learn more about the work with people with special needs, about integration and inclusion
 - ⇒ complete their international experience
 - ⇒ enjoy two special weeks in southern Germany!



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➤ Who are the instructors?

- Lecturers from HfWU

➤ What are the academic requirements?

- No academic pre-requisites are required.
- You should prove good English language skills.

➤ What are the costs?

- Program fee: 2,200 € (equaling approx. US\$ 2,420 as of now)
- Program fee for students from HfWU's partner universities with a special agreement on tuition for study tours: 1,100 € (equaling approx. US\$ 1,210 as of now)
- Additional expenses for airfare, private activities and meals
- All payments will be made in Euros. The amounts in US-Dollars are only for orientation; exchange rate of 1.00 € = US\$ 1.10.

➤ What is included in the project fee?

- Pick up service from the airport on July 24th at a predetermined time
- Lectures and assessment
- Institution visits and site visits
- All transportation related to the program
- Accommodation for 2 weeks: double room in 3* hotel, daily breakfast, free WIFI
- Four meals, welcome dinner and farewell dinner

➤ What is not included?

- Private meals, souvenirs, excursions, night life etc.
- Travel expenses to and from Nuertingen except the pick up service stated above
- Tuition at home institution if applicable
- Health and travel insurance
- Banking fees

➤ What are the deadlines?

- Deadline for registration **April 15th, 2017**.
- Deadline for first down payment of **1,460 €**: Due after registration. An invoice will be sent right away. All payments should be made in Euros.
- Deadline for final payment of 740 € is **April 30th, 2017**.
- Cancellation deadline is **April 30th, 2017**.

➤ Will I get credits?

- During the tour you will have lectures and visit social institutions followed by a presentation by the end of the program.
- You will get a certificate for your participation
- Because regulations and policies are different for every institution, please check with your home institution for credit availability and procedures. Articulation is subject to your home institution.

Recommendation for articulation (articulation is subject to the home institution)		
Total contact hours	Workload	ECTS
36	39	2,6



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➤ What do I have to do to participate in this project?

- Students register for the tour through their International Office and hand in the following documents: a short letter of motivation (why should we select you for this project) and add a grade report.
- We kindly ask the International Offices to pre-select their candidates and to nominate them via e-mail to: diana.lewinsky@hfwu.de
 - ⇒ **Advanced English language skills are required (B2 level)**
- HfWU will evaluate all nominations and communicate the final list of participants to your International Office.

➤ Cancellation policies

- **Students must withdraw in writing.**
- Cancellation deadline: **April 30th, 2017.**
- Cancellations **after** April 30th, 2017: No reimbursement except
 - ⇒ A medically verified injury or illness prevents students from travel: HfWU will reimburse all monies. A certificate of inability to participate in the tour from a licensed physician is necessary to make the refund!
- Once the tour has started, students withdrawing receive no refund unless HfWU suspends the tour.

➤ Where can I find more detailed information?

- www.hfwu.de/ngu/ps-germany/

