



Dear international students,

The lecture period has come to an end and the semester break has begun – a great time to recharge your batteries and explore the wide range of opportunities the university and the city of Heidelberg have to offer. With this newsletter, we would like to guide you along the way and provide you with useful information on university services, exciting events and topics especially relevant for international students. Have fun reading!

### Who were Ruprecht and Karl?

The fact that Heidelberg University is also known as *Ruprecht-Karls-Universität* is something you come across all the time during your studies. But do you know who Ruprecht and Karl actually were? They are two influential historical figures: Ruprecht I, who founded the university in 1386, and Grand Duke Karl Friedrich von Baden, who modernized it in the 18th century. Both were so influential that you can still encounter them in Heidelberg today – for example as impressive statues at the castle or in its gardens. Together they represent the combination of tradition and progress that still characterizes the university today.



## Upcoming events for international students at Heidelberg University

### Want to support new international students in Heidelberg? Join the Buddy Programme!

You probably still remember when you first started studying in Heidelberg: a new city, unfamiliar routines, lots of questions. For international students, language barriers and cultural differences often make this transition even more challenging. This is where the university's Buddy Programme comes in: It connects new international students with experienced fellow students from higher semesters. As a buddy, you help newcomers find their way around the city and offer support with everyday student life. Shared leisure activities such as excursions or cinema visits are also part of the programme – an enriching experience for both sides! Would you like to give something back and make international contacts at the same time? Then you will find more information [here](#). Or you can directly register [here](#).

### Working in the summer break

Many students use the lecture-free period in summer to earn some money or gain interesting practical experience through a student job. It is, however, important to note that certain labour and residence regulations also apply during the semester break. For example, international students (without EU/EEA citizenship) are allowed to work a maximum of 140 full or 280 half working days per year. If you wish to work more, approval from the immigration office and, if necessary, a work permit from the Federal Employment Agency are required. You can find further information on the topic [here](#).

If you are looking for a summer job, you might find suitable offers in the job portal of the *Studierendenwerk Heidelberg*: It provides a clear overview of current job listings from companies, organizations and individuals in the region! Click [here](#) to go directly to the job portal of the *Studierendenwerk Heidelberg*.

### Free German courses

If you want to communicate confidently in everyday life outside academia and maybe even want to take on a student job, good German language skills are a clear advantage. This may be a big obstacle for international students in English degree programmes, who speak little or no German. This is why the Heidelberg University offers free, study-accompanying German courses at various proficiency levels. The next courses start at the end of September and in mid-October. The focus is primarily on everyday communication – ideal for helping you get along better in your studies and daily life. Information on courses, dates and registration can be found [here](#).

### Personal advice on careers & career entry

Are you looking to explore career options, better understand your strengths or optimize your application documents? The career coaches and career advisors at Heidelberg University can help you find your individual path – whether through practical application tips, feedback on your CV or a joint reflection on your goals.

Whether you're just starting to think about your professional future or are already pursuing specific plans, you can receive personal support in a confidential one-to-one meeting. The counseling is free of charge but requires an appointment by e-mail. You can find all information on how to register [here](#).

## Do you already know...

### ... the variety of courses offered by the University Sports Program (*Hochschulsport*)?

Whether it's kayaking, beach volleyball, strength training or climbing – Heidelberg University's sports programme (*Hochschulsport*) is once again offering a variety of courses for every taste and fitness level during the semester break. Many courses are designed for both beginners and advanced participants and take place indoors, outdoors, in the water or on a mat. The motto is: Join in, work out, meet new people. The vacation programme runs until 10 October. After that, new courses for the winter semester will be released. The most popular courses tend to fill up quickly. If you want to take part, it's worth securing your spot early! More information, booking options and the latest course availabilities can be found [here](#).

### ... Sommerkino Open Air in Mannheim?

Every Saturday until mid-August, the Cinema Quadrat in Mannheim invites you to enjoy summer movie evenings outdoors – the perfect opportunity to forget the stress of the exam season and to enjoy a relaxing evening. At some screenings, live acts set the right atmosphere before the film starts. If the weather doesn't play along, the screenings take place in the movie theater. More information about the programme can be found [here](#).

## And don't forget!

During the semester break, many university facilities have adjusted opening hours. You can usually find up-to-date information on the respective websites, the social media channels of the *Studierendenwerk* or directly on printed notices displayed on-site. A quick look is worth it – so you don't end up with a growling stomach in front of a closed cafeteria door.

We wish you good luck with your assignments and exams and a relaxing semester break afterwards! Whether it's along the Neckar, on the *Philosophenweg* or in one of the many cafés in the old town – Heidelberg's summer is the perfect balance to university stress. Have a great summer!

Your International Relations Team

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