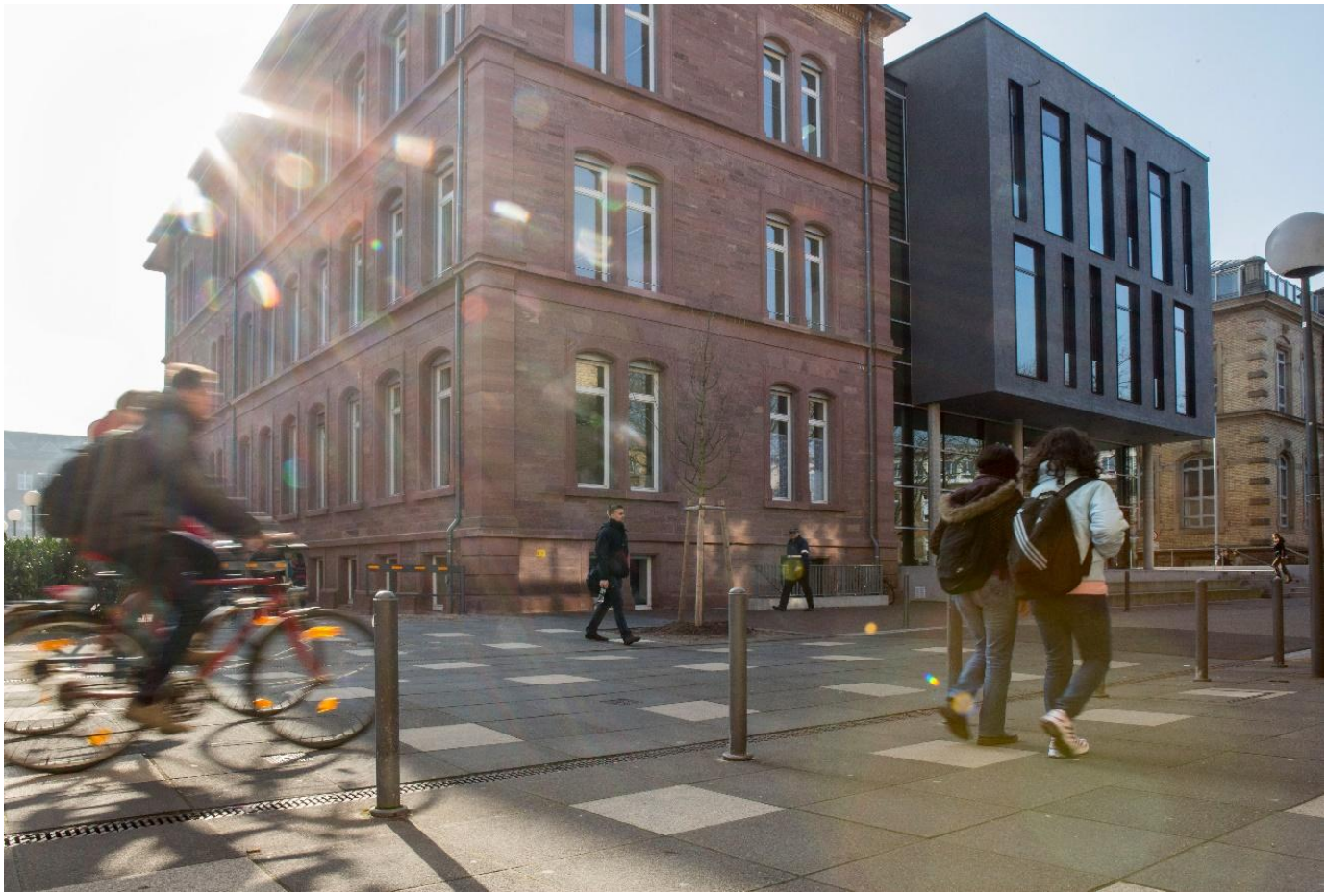
International Affairs
International Students Office
Adenauerring 2, Bldg. 50.20
D-76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
Web: www.kit.edu; www.intl.kit.edu

Institutional Factsheet for KIT – Version 2025/26

1. Institutional Information

1.1. Institutional Details



Name of institution	**KIT – Karlsruhe Institute of Technology**
ERASMUS Code	**D KARLSRU01**
EUC	**29815**
OID	**E10181267**
PIC	**990797674**
Institutional website	**www.kit.edu**
International website	**www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3171.php**
Course catalogue	**campus.studium.kit.edu/english/events/index.php**
Head of institution	**Professor Dr. Jan S. Hesthaven**

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

1.2. Main Contacts for ERASMUS programme

Erasmus+ Mobility Team				
Office	KIT – International Students Office (IStO) Adenauerring 2, Geb. 50.20 D-76131 Karlsruhe Germany Tel.: +49 (0721) 608-**44911** (IStO-Secretary)			
Dr. Julia Johnsen Joint Management of Mobility Programs (Europe) Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator	**Marco Martori** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Outgoing) Tel.: **-44972**	**Mia Tjandisaka** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Incoming) Tel.: **-44927**	**Peter Schommer** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Outgoing; BIP) Tel.: **-43875**	**Verena Geisselmann** Assistant to the Program Erasmus+ (Incoming) Tel.: **-44328**
Inter-Institutional Agreements		erasmus_agreement@intl.kit.edu		
Blended Intensive Programs (BIP)		erasmus-shortterm@intl.kit.edu		
Incoming students (your students to KIT)		erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu		
Outgoing students (KIT to your institution)		erasmus-out@intl.kit.edu		
Departmental Coordinators	For all academic questions concerning (Digital) Learning Agreement, study schedule, ECTS, courses etc., please **contact our departmental coordinators**. A list is available online at: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3742.php.			

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

2. Calendar				
Calendar of the academic year	**1st semester (Winter semester)**	October 1	–	March 31
	2nd semester (Summer semester)	April 1	–	September 30
Nomination period	**March – April 30**	for the 1st semester or for the whole academic year		
	September – October 30	for the 2nd semester		
	Students applying for the 2nd semester **must be** nominated in September-October			
Application deadline	**for the 1st semester or for the whole academic year**	Digital LA		May 15
		other documents		June 1
	for the 2nd semester	Digital LA		November 15
		other documents		December 1
Decision time	All successful applicants will be able to download their KIT admission letter directly from the mobility online portal (**generally by the end of July or January**). Then they will receive an e-mail with further information/steps on enrollment process at KIT.			
Enrollment at KIT	The enrollment process at KIT starts ca. two months before the start of lectures. Students from partner universities are required to pay a "Studierendenwerksbeitrag" (Charge for the Studierendenwerk) of **109.50 € (as of Winter Semester 2025).** This includes reduced student prices at the university restaurant, transportation reductions and accident insurance: https://www.sw-ka.de/en/geld/studierendenwerksbeitrag/ The KIT student card is expected to be available **in early September (for the winter semester) or March (for the summer semester)** and must be collected in person. Students **must remain register at their home university** during their study stay at KIT.			
Pre-semester German courses	In September or in March			
Orientation-Week	One or two weeks after the pre-semester German courses			
Lecture period	https://www.sle.kit.edu/english/imstudium/697.php			
Period of exams	**1st semester**	February	–	March 31
	2nd semester	July	–	September 30
Transcript of records	Students can view the current status of their Transcript of Records (ToR) at any time via their KIT student account. Please note that the completeness of the transcript depends on the grading process, which is ongoing and subject to professors' grade submissions. ToR remain accessible through the KIT student account for up to six months after de-enrollment from KIT. After this period, students have no longer access and the only possible way to get a ToR is to contact SLE (Studierendenservices). Please note that SLE charges a fee for this service. The Transcript of Records is **considered valid without a physical signature.** It includes a verification key to confirm authenticity. **KIT will not send it to the home university! Partner universities can download a copy for verification purposes. Instructions for accessing and verifying the transcript are provided on the last page of the document.**			

Academic year 2025 – 26			
1st semester (Winter semester) 2025 - 26			
Pre-semester German language course	September 15, 2025	–	October 2, 2025
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	October 13, 2025	–	October 19, 2025
Period of courses	October 27, 2025	–	February 21, 2026
2nd semester (Summer semester) 2026 (preliminary dates for O-Phase and German course)			
Pre-semester German language course	March 23, 2026	–	April 10, 2026
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	In April		
Period of courses	April 20, 2026	–	August 1, 2026
Academic year 2026 – 27 (preliminary dates for O-Phase and German course)			
1st semester (Winter semester) 2026 – 27			
Pre-semester German language course	September 14, 2026	–	October 2, 2026
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in October		
Period of courses	October 26, 2026	–	February 20, 2027
2nd semester (Summer semester) 2026			
Pre-semester German language course	in March		
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in April		
Period of courses	April 19, 2027	–	July 31, 2027
Academic year 2027 – 28 (preliminary dates for O-Phase and German course)			
1st semester (Winter semester) 2027– 28			
Pre-semester German language course	In September		
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in October		
Period of courses	October 25, 2027	–	February 19, 2028
2nd semester (Summer semester) 2027			
Pre-semester German language course	in March		
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in April		
Period of courses	April 18, 2028	–	July 29, 2028

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

3. Detailed requirements

3.1. Language skills	**The sending institution**, following agreement with our institution, **is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates to reach the required language skills.** We require ERASMUS exchange students to have **the language certificates at the time of application (by June 1st / December 1st).** **The language certificates must be younger than five years by the application deadline.** Certificates do not necessarily need to be from the Goethe Institute/TOEFL/IELTS. We accept certificates (**not an attendance confirmation**) issued by the home university or issued by a language school. Starting from the academic year 2024/25 the following language requirements apply: The **Department of Chemistry and Biosciences (CHEM-BIO**) requires applicants to have: • a C1 CEFR level of German language certificate, if only courses taught in German will be attended or • a B2 CEFR level of English language certificate, if only courses taught in English will be attended or • both language certificates (a C1 CEFR level of German and a B2 CEFR level of English) if courses in both languages will be attended. The following departments at KIT: • **Department of Architecture (ARCH),** • **Department of Civil Engineering, Geo and Environmental Sciences (BGU),** • **Department of Chemical and Process Engineering (CIW),** • **Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (ETIT),** • **Department of Informatics (INFO),** • **Department of Mechanical Engineering (MACH) and** • **Department of Economics and Management (WIWI)** require applicants to have: • a B1 CEFR level of German language certificate, if only courses taught in German will be attended or • a B2 CEFR level of English language certificate, if only courses taught in English will be attended or • both language certificates (a B1 CEFR level of German and a B2 CEFR level of English) if courses in both languages will be attended. The following departments at KIT: • **Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (GEIST-SOZ),** • **Department of Mathematics (MATH) and** • **Department of Physics (PHY)** require applicants to have: • an A2/B1 CEFR level of German language certificate **(mandatory requirement) and additionally**

	• a B2 CEFR level of English language certificate only if courses taught in English will be attended. Please note that English is not spoken everywhere in Germany/at KIT. Thus, participation in the pre-semester German course offered at KIT is **mandatory** to all applicants, who don't have any/sufficient German language proficiency.
3.2. Additional requirements	**Project / Internship / Final thesis** If students are planning to do a project, internship or a final thesis at KIT, a supervisor/tutor at KIT is necessary and applicants are required to find both topic and supervisor on their own. Please be aware that carrying out a Master thesis will take six months or longer. Please contact the departmental coordinator for further details. **Students and Staff with disabilities** KIT welcomes students and staff with disabilities, but asks them to contact the International Students Office as soon as possible, so that special care can be taken during preparation.

4. Additional Information

4.1. Nomination & application procedure	1. To nominate your students please use our online nomination platform (https://www.service4mobility.com/europe/LoginServlet?identifier=KARLSRU01&sprache=en). Information on how to nominate is available online at https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/14673.php To get a login name and a password, please write an e-mail to us (erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu). An e-mail will be sent to you with your account credentials and the information on how to nominate**.** **The login name and the password can be used for the nomination in the next round/year. So please keep them carefully and don't forward them to your students.** 2. Nominated students will get an e-mail with information on how to apply online. They must submit an online application and upload the following applications documents to the portal: - Hard copies of the **online application form**, also stamped and signed by their home university coordinator - **A digital learning agreement** that must be initiated in the home university system, signed by the home university coordinators, and submitted via the EWP network - **Language certificates (German and/or English, please refer to 3.1)** - Current **Transcript of Records** in German/English language 3. Acceptance at KIT depends on the decision of the respective department coordinator. Acceptance is confirmed when the nominated students are able to download the admission letter from our system, approximately six weeks after the application deadline.

	4. After receiving our admission letter, students must transfer a ”Studierendenwerks-beitrag” of **109.50 Euro** (please refer to 4.8) and upload further documents required for the enrollment at KIT.
4.2. Information on courses	**Exchange students have to take at least 70% of their total ECTS from study programs offered by their host department at KIT, up to 30% of their ECTS may also be chosen from other KIT departments.** Course catalogue: https://campus.studium.kit.edu/english/events/index.php Further information on course selection and Learning Agreements: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3377.php Please note that registration for some seminars or lectures is required. If further information is needed, please contact the **departmental coordinator** directly and enquire about the details.
4.3. Department's website	A list of our departmental coordinators and their webpage is available online at: https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3742.php
4.4. German language courses	We offer beginners and intermediate **pre-semester German language courses (3 weeks, 2 x 1.5 h Monday until Friday, 4 ECTS)** for exchange students usually about 6 -7 weeks before lectures begin. At the moment the tuition fee for this course is 75 €. ECTS points will be awarded for **at least 90% participation and after passing the written exam** at the end of the course. Registration for the course is integrated into the online application. Students will get a separate e-mail with information on placement test after the fee arrives in KIT account. Accepted students must download the information letter to get the account details. **This course is not a substitute for a certificate of German language required for the application.** Erasmus students also have the opportunity to participate in German language courses during the semester. For international students, one course per semester is free of charge. However, online registration at the beginning of each semester is required. Please note that due to high demand, **a spot cannot be guaranteed**. For more information please visit https://www.stk.kit.edu/english/2389.php.
4.5. Housing	Our institution will guide incoming students/staff in finding accommodation, according to the requirements of the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education. However, housing is a difficult subject for all students in Karlsruhe. We are doing our best to secure rooms for our incoming exchange students, but due to the recent rise in Karlsruhe student numbers it is a nearly impossible task. Hence, we cannot guarantee a room upon your arrival, but have to ask the incoming students to take action themselves. We have accumulated tips and tricks about housing in Karlsruhe at https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3173.php

4.6. Health and other insurance	Our institution will provide assistance in obtaining health insurance for incoming and outgoing students/staff, according to the requirements of the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education. For students, health insurance coverage (with an unlimited coverage) during the **entire** stay in Germany is compulsory. We strongly recommend that incoming students and staff are fully insured. Insurance policy should cover medical emergencies as well as one's property. The responsibility for obtaining necessary and comprehensive insurance policy rests with the incoming students and/or staff. Further information is available online at https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/12698.php or contact erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu.
4.7. Visa/residence permit	Our institution will provide assistance, when required, in securing visas for incoming and outgoing students, according to the requirement of the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education. Please do note that the processing time for a study permit can take 8 weeks or longer. The KIT cannot affect this procedure. In general, ERASMUS students from a non-EU member state or a non-EEA member state will require a **student visa** (not a tourist visa) in order to study in Germany: - Non-EU/non-EEA students, who study in one of the EU member states (**not valid for Ireland and Denmark**) and have a residence permit (not a settlement permit) **for the purpose of studies** of this EU member state, please refer to our website at http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/10934.php (Mobility within the EU for the Purpose of Studying – EU Directive 2016/801). Please note that if students want to come through this regulation, **their resident permit must be valid for the whole duration of studies at KIT** (It means, students have to extend the residence permit in due time before the mobility!) - Other Non-EU/non-EEA students: they need to apply for an entry (study) visa to Germany. Please start making the necessary arrangements as soon as possible at a local German consulate/embassy. Further information is available on the webpage of the German Federal Foreign Office at http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/03_Visabestimmungen/Visabestimmungen_node.html. For further information please visit https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/12699.php or contact erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu.

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<td>4.8. Enrollment at KIT</td>
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Required documents for enrollment:
- A copy of passport of identity card
- Filled-out registration form
- Remittance slip/Account statement proving that student paid the “Studierendenwerksbeitrag”
- Proof of health insurance:
• For EU/EEA students: copy of the EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) that must be valid during student’s entire study time in Germany
• For non-EU/non-EEA students: health insurance policy (with an unlimited cover) or a German statutory health insurance certificate
This must be sent to one of the German statutory health insurance providers. After approval, they will send a notification electronically to KIT.

“Studierendenwerksbeitrag” of 109.50 Euro (as of Winter Semester 2025) is not a tuition fee and is not an administrative fee.
More information about “Studierendenwerksbeitrag” is available online at:
https://www.sw-ka.de/en/geld/studierendenwerksbeitrag/
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<td>4.9. Grading system</td>
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<table>
<tr><th>Grade</th><th>German</th><th>English</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.0 – 1.3</td><td>Sehr gut</td><td>Very good</td></tr>
<tr><td>1.7 – 2.3</td><td>Gut</td><td>Good</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.7 – 3.3</td><td>Befriedigend</td><td>Satisfactory</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.7 – 4.0</td><td>Ausreichend</td><td>Sufficient</td></tr>
<tr><td>> 4.0</td><td>Ungenügend/Nicht ausreichend</td><td>Fail</td></tr>
</table>
Exams may also be evaluated as “bestanden“ (passed) or ”nicht bestanden“ (failed) without grade.

Further information on the statistical distribution of grades according to the descriptions in the ECTS users’ guide can be found in the individual module handbooks of each degree course and on request at the KIT registrar’s office.
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<td>4.10. Further information for incoming students</td>
<td>Useful and helpful information for incoming students can be found on our webpages at: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3171.php.</td>
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5. Student life and free time

Living and studying in Karlsruhe	**Attractive City and Surroundings** ✓ Second warmest city in Germany with 1691 hours of sunshine per year, around 900 hectares of green space and more than135 cultural institutions and 102 km of bicycle paths – bring your bike along! ✓ Located in the Heart of Europe ✓ A rich history meets technical inventions, High Tech and Science ✓ Short Distance to the surrounding wonderful countries France, Luxemburg, Belgium, Switzerland **Excellent Service for Incoming Students** ✓ Language courses on all levels ✓ One single contact point for administrative issues in the International Students Office and for academic affairs in the 11 departments. **A vivid network with weekly events to make you feel at home at KIT.** ✓ Weekly “Stammtisch” as a great way to find and stay in touch with new friends ✓ Language Café to meet people from all over the world, have a drink together and chat ✓ Buddy Program where you are matched with a local student from Karlsruhe, who then becomes your “buddy” for the semester ✓ Day and City Trips to the surroundings and to vibrant cities in Germany and the neighboring countries **Meet other students.** 140 days of sunshine in Karlsruhe: there are many beautiful spots two meet other students outside: the Botanical Garden at the castle or in the Stadtgarten. There you’ll find large lawns, beautiful plants and plenty of space to have a nice picnic.

Living and studying in Karlsruhe	**Do sports.** KIT, in addition to the many other sports clubs, provides a wide range of sports activities. KITs gym „walk-in“ offers fitness and endurance training on state-of-the-art equipment. There are also an indoor swimming pool and tennis courts available on campus. Karlsruhe is the ideal base for cycling tours to some of Europe's most scenic regions: the Black Forest, Palatinate Forest, Kraichgau and the French Vosges. **Join a study group.** There are about 90 study groups at KIT, which give you access to social, cultural, technical and political student life. There is a student association for you! AK Erasmus for example supports international exchange students by organizing city trips and other events. **Enjoy culture.** Karlsruhe enjoys vast and diverse leisure, culture and sports options, which offer something for everyone. Facets of cultural offerings are well-known theaters and museums as well as „Das Fest“ one of the largest annual German open-air-festivals. ZKM Museum: number 4 of top world museums “Das Fest” festival