

Germany

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's *decision to apply* for an EAP program. The document is *not* a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment.

The best sources of detailed program information are the UCEAP webpages for the Germany options <http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/default.aspx> and the Program Guide <http://eap.ucop.edu/guides/Pages/default.aspx> from the prior academic cycle.

If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or this Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information

For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising>

Financial Aid and Scholarships for Study Abroad

- View UCB financial aid details and many scholarship opportunities on our webpage: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/finances>
- Deadlines to apply for scholarships are earlier than you may think, so do your research now!
- Some scholarships that are good for students going to Germany are:
 - DAAD Undergraduate Scholarships - <https://www.daad.org/undergrad> (Beware! There is a January 2017 deadline for both Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 scholarships! I'll need to write a letter to DAAD since you will not have been selected by then, so please e-mail me at scottmc@berkeley.edu as soon as you know you plan to apply for a DAAD UG Scholarship.)
 - Max Kade grants - The UCB German Department hopes to have these available for summer options at Free University (pre-ILP or the summer option only - TBD) so check with the German Dept in Dwinelle Hall.
 - Technical University offers generous scholarships to a few EAP students who study there for the year.
 - Duttonhaver Scholarships for EAP year-long programs - http://eap.ucop.edu/Scholarships/Pages/Duttonhaver_DanWise.aspx
 - Two UCEAP Jasmine Jahanshahi Scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each are available yearly for students on semester or year-long UCEAP immersion programs (not FU-BEST in English.) For full details, see <http://eap.ucop.edu/Scholarships/Pages/JasmineJahanshahi.aspx> .
 - UC Berkeley's Institute of International Studies Merit Scholarships - non-need-based scholarships of up to \$2000 each to support undergraduate research (can be done abroad) in any area of international studies (deadline is in November) - <http://iis.berkeley.edu/content/undergraduate-merit-scholarships>

Excellent Options for Students with Little German

Complete details about all these options are available at <http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/default.aspx>

UCEAP's newest option is the **International Summer School, Technical University of Berlin**. Courses taught in English are designed for students majoring in civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering; information and communication systems; chemistry and process engineering; and energy and resource management with additional subjects planned for 2017. Summer after Sophomore Year OK. Full details, see <http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/internatl-summer-school-tech-univ-berlin.aspx>

Also, the **Engineering for Sustainability program at Munich University of Applied Sciences in summer** offers engineering courses taught in English that focus on automotive, industrial, electrical engineering, and entrepreneurship, as well as a focus on sustainability and green technology, a practice-oriented approach to learning, and close ties to local businesses and firms. Summer after Junior Year is the time to participate, due to course prerequisites. Full details:

http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/engineering_sustainability_munich_u_applied_science.aspx

To see Summer 2016's courses and syllabi which include prerequisites, see:

http://hm.edu/en/course_offerings/mssas/information/academicprogram.en.html

"Berlin European Studies" (BEST) is a semester program that requires no prior German. It is offered by the Free University of Berlin in Fall and Spring. Focusing on Berlin and Europe, courses are taught in English to UCEAP and other North American students with no more than German 3 completed by the time of departure. Consider choosing a homestay in this program. Living with Germans will reinforce the German you learn, and allow you to experience daily German culture in greater depth than if you live in a studio apartment. Please see the webpage for further details. **IMPORTANT CALENDAR ISSUE:** The Spring program will begin and end later than in the past, conflicting with Cal commencement ceremony dates in May. If you want to participate in the commencement ceremonies on campus in Spring, you should not apply for the BEST program in Spring as you will not be allowed to depart early from the program. Consider instead going the Fall before your Spring graduation semester, or go as a Sophomore or Junior. You can also ask your college if it would allow you to participate in the Fall Semester after you've gone through commencement in May.

Good news for Political Science majors: UCB's PoliSci department has recently agreed to pre-approve the following four FU-BEST courses for the next three years, but **ONLY** when they are taught by the instructors listed below:

- "Contemporary Germany in European Perspective" with Dirk Verheyen
- "Integration, Conflict and Security in Europe" with Dirk Verheyen
- "The Human Condition and the Totalitarian Experience" with Thomas Werneke
- "Themes and Issues in Transatlantic Relations" with Rolf-Dieter Schnelle

You will still need to consult with your PS advisers about study abroad, but at least there is more certainty now about these four FU-BEST courses counting toward major requirements, as long as those professors teach those courses.

Other majors: Sorry, but no other department is currently willing to pre-approve FU-BEST courses for major requirements.

In the **International Summer School at Free University in Berlin**, students take two courses: either German language or courses taught in English or a combination of both. No prior German is required. For an article about Berlin in summer, read http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/g/a/2011/07/20/summer_in_Berlin.DTL

Summer vs Semester at Free University in Berlin in English

Unless there is a reason why you can study abroad only in the summer, I would encourage you to study abroad for a semester for five reasons. 1.) The summer program in Berlin lasts only 4 weeks and costs ~\$8000. The semester lasts 16 weeks and costs ~\$16,000. Airfare is included in those budgets. So four times as long, but only twice as expensive. 2.) Financial aid works normally for a semester, so if you receive full financial aid at Cal, you will receive financial aid to cover the entire UCEAP budget, even if it is higher than Cal. Summer is not considered a regular term, so the financial aid that is available does not always cover the full budget. It varies by student. Visit our study abroad financial aid counselors in 160 Stephens Hall. They can tell you what you are likely to receive for a summer or semester based on your current MyFinAid data. 3.) If you study abroad in summer, you can't get a job to earn money. 4.) There are more courses offered in a FU-BEST semester than a FUBiS summer. See the course listings on the UCEAP webpages for details. 5.) The longer you can be in Berlin, the better your German will become, and the more you will learn about the culture. So keep all this in mind as you deliberate about the best timing to study in Berlin. Feel free to discuss this with the Germany adviser.

The **Pre-Intensive Language Program (pre-ILP)** makes it possible for students to apply for the **Berlin immersion program at Free, Humboldt, or Technical University** without having to complete German 4 at Cal --- *just German 2 is enough for the Fall or Year options, and just German 3 is enough for Spring!* The pre-ILP in Berlin will cover enough of second year German to prepare students for the Intensive Language Program (ILP) in August (March for Spring) which precedes the beginning of the academic semester in Berlin. Then students enroll in the regular courses offered by these excellent universities. Students may also enroll in a course taught in English at these universities. They are fewer in number, however, so students must plan to take most of their courses taught in German so they have the full array of courses from which to choose.

To find regular courses that have been taught in English in Germany, go to the main Public Course catalog on the UCEAP website: <http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/Pages/CourseCatalog.htm> and then select "Advanced Search" at the top left of the search screen. Once the Advanced Search is opened there is an option to select Language of Instruction so you can look for courses at each institution that were taught in English and taken by a UCEAP student in the past. Those courses will not necessarily be offered the semester you are there, but this gives you a sense of the variety that is typically offered.

If you will have completed at least German 2 by the end of spring semester (German 3 by the end of fall semester,) I encourage you to give serious consideration to choosing a full immersion option, as it will greatly enhance your German proficiency and cultural knowledge. Though a greater challenge, the rewards are greater as well, especially if you intend to pursue graduate studies or a career related to Germany or the European Union.

The prospect of taking courses taught in German at a regular university may seem impossible now, given that you may have studied German for only a semester or two so far, but with the help of the pre-ILP, ILP, and the UCEAP Study Center in Berlin, your German will improve quickly enough for you to do reasonably well in your courses, if you study hard. And if you can stay for the year, your second semester will be much easier than the first since your German will be much better then and you will have made German friends, including those with whom you share an apartment.

To assist EAP students with the academic differences, the UCEAP Study Center in Berlin teaches the Academic Writing Workshop which walks students through, step by step, the process for writing a research paper in Germany. The workshop is mandatory because it is so important that students are given a tutorial on German standards for writing. It also includes a section on how to give an oral presentation in Germany since many students are evaluated in this manner.

UC students have been succeeding at these immersion options for over 50 years, so you can, too! I spent my Junior Year at Cal with EAP in Germany, so feel free to discuss this with me (Scott McElhinney) during my drop-in hours in 160 Stephens Hall: Mondays 10-12 and Thursdays 2-4. To make an appointment for a different time, please email me at scottmc@berkeley.edu and mention all your available times M-F, 9-5.

To summarize the Fall/Year and Spring immersion options at Free, Humboldt, and Technical Universities:

Fall/Year - includes ILP; German 4 = minimum

Pre-ILP + Fall/Year - includes pre-ILP and ILP; German 2 = minimum

Spring - includes ILP; German 4 = minimum

Pre-ILP + Spring - includes pre-ILP and ILP; German 3 = minimum (because pre-ILP is shorter than pre-ILP for Fall)

Spring Advanced Only - has no ILP, so minimum = German 4 + one upper division course taught in German

Students with more than the minimum required may choose to apply for the Fall, Year, or Spring pre-ILP option if they wish to have more time in Germany to improve their German proficiency before the ILP begins. The extra cost for the pre-ILP is included in the budget used for financial aid packaging.

Taking German Language Classes P/NP

German classes fulfilling the minimum language requirement for the immersion options may be taken P/NP, *but with your application you must provide a written note from your instructor or the German Department stating what your letter grade would have been. It is your responsibility to make arrangements for this without prompting from the Germany adviser or BSA office.*

Competitiveness of the Programs

Except for the Munich Engineering Summer program, which has very few spaces for Cal students, Germany options have usually not been impacted in the past. Most students who meet the minimum eligibility requirements and submit a well-prepared application with an articulate Statement of Purpose have a good chance of being selected, though we cannot make guarantees.

Fall Applicants Urged to Get Pre-Approved for Extension

Fall applicants are urged to submit the College and Departmental Pre-Approval to Extend (DPA) form with their EAP application, even if they think they do not wish to extend. Students are encouraged to get the approval signatures from their department and college on this form, as then they will know that these two campus units have already granted their approval. Without these signatures on the form, students who decide they'd like to extend once in Berlin will have to initiate a Petition to Extend at the study center, then wait many weeks while it is routed to UCEAP and UCB to find out if their department and college approve of the idea. Every Fall, some students do choose to extend, so get pre-approved while you're on campus in order to reduce your stress in Berlin. *Special note to Berlin BEST Fall applicants:* if you do not get the DPA signed, you will have to decide to initiate a Petition to Extend with the study center within the first month of your arrival in Berlin in order to meet the very early deadline used by Free University for Spring registration. If you miss that deadline, you will not be allowed to extend. Far easier to get the signatures on the DPA as part of your EAP application.

Grad Students

Please read the "Graduate Students" link on our website at

<http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/Pages/GraduateStudents.aspx> in order to know what you need to do right away to find out if UCEAP can work for you, i.e., complete and submit to our office the "Graduate Preliminary Inquiry Form" (GPIF.) The GPIF is an academic planning form that graduate students fill out for semester and year programs to confirm with the study center that the UCEAP program offers graduate courses they will be able to use towards their degree.

Selection Interviews

If you need to be interviewed, you will be notified by the Germany adviser after your application has been reviewed.

Important Dates

In case you are selected, please mark your calendar now for the mandatory 3-4 hour Germany orientation. For Summer, Fall or Year, reserve *Saturday, May 6, 2017* (8 AM to 8 PM, time TBA.) For Spring '18 reserve *Saturday, December 2, 2017* (8 AM to 8 PM, time TBA.) Once the exact date and time have been chosen, you'll be notified by the Germany adviser.

Medical Marijuana

Marijuana is not legal in Germany, even if you are approved for medical marijuana use in California. Please consult with your primary care physician for a legal substitute before applying to the program.

Calendar Issue --- Berlin Immersion Fall Semester (*not applicable for BEST Fall which follows the US calendar*):

As the Germany webpage states, Fall Semester in Germany doesn't end until mid-late February and an early departure from Berlin is not permitted. That means that UCB students will miss Spring Semester back at Cal. For this reason, this option is best for graduating seniors who do not need to return to Berkeley. Other students may still apply for this option, but should investigate and consider the ramifications of not being enrolled at Cal for Spring Semester. (For example, you have to withdraw from Cal for Spring and pay a fee to apply for readmission for the following Fall; Financial Aid stops for Spring; banks may require you to begin repayment of loans; etc.) Please keep all of this in mind before you decide to apply just for Fall immersion. Feel free to discuss this option with the Germany adviser before filling out the application. And remember: it is also possible to extend from Fall to Year once you're in Berlin - you should submit an approved Departmental and College Pre-Approval to Extend Form (DPA) with your UCEAP application to make this option easier. See the application checklist for the form and further information.

Calendar Issue - Graduating Seniors Spending their last UC Semester in a Germany Immersion Option (*not applicable for BEST Fall or Spring which follows the US calendar*):

If you are in the College of Letters and Science, please be aware that your degree will be dated with the term *after* your final semester on UCEAP. (If you're in a different college, please check on its policy regarding this matter.) For example, if you study just for Fall Semester '17 in Germany, your UC degree will be awarded in May '18 rather than in December '17 and if you study for the entire year or just Spring in Germany, your degree will be awarded in August rather than in May. This delay is due to the fact that in Germany, their first semester ends in February-March and second semester ends in late July so your grades will not arrive at UCB in time from Germany for you to be put on the degree list in the usual month. This is normally not a problem, but if you plan immediately after UCEAP to attend graduate school or apply for a scholarship or job that requires proof of a Bachelors degree, you should ask if the delay in your degree will create a problem for you in your particular circumstances.

Graduating Seniors Spending their last UC Semester Abroad in any UCEAP Program

Graduating seniors must enroll in a full course load while abroad, even if they do not need the courses or units for graduation. (Requests by DSP students who provide documentation may be considered for a reduced course load.) Only one-third of units taken abroad may be on a P/NP basis (so about one course); the rest must be letter-graded.

UCEAP Alumni/ae and Reciprocal Exchange Students

UCEAP alums and students studying at Cal from our partner universities in Germany are some of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums or reciprocity students, simply send the Germany BSA Adviser an email addressed to the alums or reciprocity students (e.g., "Dear alums, or Dear Reciprocity Students, I have some questions about the program or your university...") and the message will be forwarded to them.

Undocumented Students

Undocumented students who are granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) may be eligible to study abroad with Advance Parole. Students who intend to study abroad with DACA need to be organized and work with the UC campus study abroad adviser and the Undocumented Students Program (USP) Office:

<http://undocu.berkeley.edu/> Liliana Iglesias: liglesias@berkeley.edu

Undocumented students who qualify for DACA should consult with an immigration attorney in USP before enrollment in UCEAP to evaluate any risks of potentially being unable to re-enter the United States upon completion of the Program and any impact that participation in UCEAP might have on any deferred action applications that the student may be pursuing. It will be necessary for the student to work out an appropriate timeline for the Advanced Parole process and possible visa application process for the country of study.

Students must carefully review the UCEAP Program Budget(s) and Payment Schedules in the Money Matters tab of their program's Pre-Departure Checklist and assess the financial risks of a potential withdrawal from the program in the case that Advanced Parole is not approved.

*(The information that follows is pertinent to applicants to the **Berlin Immersion options** only.)*

How to Choose Among the Three Berlin Universities

It is possible to enroll in one course at either of the two Berlin universities other than the one at which you are officially registered, though few UCEAP students do so due to scheduling and commuting challenges.

Technical University is located west of the city center somewhat north of Free University and specializes in Engineering, Architecture, math, and hard sciences, though some social sciences and humanities courses are also available that might fulfill breadth requirements. A few scholarships have been available for the year in the past. For information about courses, including those taught in English see:

http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/technical_univ_berlin.aspx?t=2

Humboldt University is located in the urban center of Berlin; **Free University** is located in the residential southwest quadrant of the city, easily accessible to the city center by excellent public transit. Both are comprehensive universities that offer many subject areas. Please refer to the MyEAP Course Catalog and the host universities' websites to research the disciplines that interest you, starting from the "Courses and Credit" tab on each university's UCEAP webpage at: <http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/germany/Pages/default.aspx> You should choose the university that will offer you the kinds of courses that you need in order to make normal progress toward your degree. Scroll down to the end of this document to find a helpful summary that compares UC Subject Areas at Free and Humboldt Universities. It is pasted below.

Humboldt University requires a letter of recommendation at the time of application. Do not let this dissuade you from choosing Humboldt if that is the university that best meets your needs.

Differences between UC and German Universities

Though UCEAP is a UC program, it is *not* "UC Abroad"! You might encounter two different educational approaches while you study in Berlin, depending on which courses and professors you take. Higher education in the EU is undergoing standardization that makes it seem a bit more like the American higher educational approach than it did in the past. The traditional German educational system - which you may still encounter - is very different and you can't rely on your assumptions and study habits from Cal to prepare you for this academic style. In it, German professors will not "force-feed" you with reading assignments, papers every week, pop quizzes or mid-terms. There is far less structure in this approach than at Cal. Students are treated more like graduate students in that they are expected to take the initiative to read books that interest them and to do independent research on topics they find stimulating. Some UC students feel a certain academic void in Germany if they take mostly the old-style courses because they think they don't have any homework to do. For each course, you'll have to introduce yourself as a UC student to the professor and work out some UC-style papers or exams that can be graded. Even those assignments may leave you feeling under-challenged academically. So...

Independent Research

You might want to give serious consideration to doing independent research on a topic that interests you personally - perhaps a topic similar to one you might choose for a senior honors thesis. Your research, if done well, could actually serve as a good foundation for a senior honors thesis, if you choose to write one. You could use many research methods and resources such as interviews, surveys, archives, museums, art galleries, businesses, government offices and agencies, etc. You don't need to limit yourself to what Berlin has to offer, rich as it is. You could plan research trips to other parts of Germany. Be creative - do something that you could accomplish only in Germany! Make the most of your EAP semester or year! Feel free to discuss your ideas with the Germany adviser. Additionally, you should discuss your ideas with your major adviser and professors in the context of writing an honors thesis. They may be able to offer some research guidelines as well as suggestions about sources of research material in Germany.

Internships

It is also possible to do an internship during your semester or year in Berlin. It can count as one of your courses if you do it for academic credit. The UCEAP Study Center in Berlin can assist you once you arrive. See the Internship tab on each university's UCEAP webpage for details and a list of internships that students have done in the past.

VIEL GLÜCK!

UC Subject Areas at Free University and Humboldt University Berlin

Freie Universität	Humboldt Universität
American Studies	African/ Asian Studies
Art History	Anthropology
Communication	Art History
Comparative Literature	Communication*
Economics/ Business Administration	Comparative Lit**
English	English
German	Geography
History	German
Latin American Studies	History
Philosophy	Philosophy
Political Science/ International Relations	Psychology
Psychology	Sociology
	Urban Studies
	Women's and Gender Studies

Details:

African/ Asian Studies

- HU: rather comprehensive course offerings

American Studies

- FU: broad focus (history, political science, sociology, economics, literature, culture), prestigious John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, also interesting for students of Political Science, History, Sociology, Economics, Literature
- HU: focus on literature and culture

Anthropology (see/ under: Cultural Studies)

- FU: Social and Cultural Anthropology (focus on countries outside of Europe, rather small field of study)
- HU: European Anthropology (includes Jewish Studies courses)

Art History (no Art at FU/ HU!)

- FU: broad field of study; possibility to focus on different regions of the world
- HU: rather broad field of study, with one focus on Berlin & Hermann von Helmholtz Center of Cultural Techniques (somewhat practice-oriented approach)

*** Communication**

- FU: Institute for Media and Communication Studies (includes Journalism)
- HU: BA is combination of Music and Media Studies

**** Comparative Literature**

- FU: Peter Szondi Institute for Comparative Literature (broad field of study)
- HU: no BA, Comp Lit only within German Lit

Economics/ Business Administration

- FU: broad field of study, diverse, comprehensive course offering
- HU: smaller field of study, more math-oriented
- Overall, FU department ranked significantly higher re. student services, research (+ research reputation), library

English

- FU: Literature, Linguistics, Cultural Studies
- HU: Literature, Cultural Studies, special focus on Linguistics

Geography

- FU: field of study appears less encompassing than HU
- HU: Geographical Institute (broad field of study)

German

- FU: German Philology
- HU: Two Departments: a) German Lit b) Language and Linguistics
- Both with broad fields of study and a diverse, comprehensive course offering; both with very high rankings in student support

History

- Both universities with broad fields of study and diverse, comprehensive course offerings

Jewish Studies

- FU: Separate department, but not very extensive course offerings
- HU: Courses offered in the department of European Anthropology

Latin American Studies

- FU: Institute for Latin American Studies

Philosophy

- Both universities with broad fields of study and diverse, comprehensive course offerings

Political Science/ International Relations

- FU: broad field of study and diverse, comprehensive offerings
- HU: not available for BA students

Psychology

- FU: apparently emphasis not merely on natural sciences, but also seen as social science (Education and Psychology grouped together), slightly broader field of study
- HU: focus on natural sciences (in the School of Math and Sciences, together with Geography, Computer Sciences, and Math), not very broad field of study

Sociology

- FU: not available for BA students
- HU: broader field of study

Urban Studies

- HU: for BA students, part of Geography; separate field of study for MA students

Women's and Gender Studies

- HU: Interdisciplinary Institute for Gender Studies