

Welcome Guide

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Important General Information

International Office & Welcome Services

The International Office is your first stop for all questions about studying in Bayreuth:

*\tilde{\Omega} \text{ Website INO } | \tilde{\Omega} \text{ Instagram Welcome Services} | \tilde{\Omega} \text{ Orientation & Buddy Program}

They also provide a **comprehensive Study Guide** with details on the university, the online systems (cmlife & elearning), orientation, course selection, life on campus, life in Bayreuth, accommodation, visas, and more:

Study Guide for International Students (PDF)

More information is available on the website of the Student Administration Office:

Website Student Administration Office

For further questions, you can visit the Welcome Services Office, where you will also have to pick up your student ID after arriving in Bayreuth:

- Welcome Services Office
 - Opening hours: Mon–Thu 9:30–12:00 & 14:00–15:30
 - Location: <u>ZUV</u>, <u>Room 0.11.1</u> (first door on the right when you enter the building)

City of Bayreuth Welcome Services

The city also provides useful information for international residents:

- Welcome Brochure (PDF)
- Bayreuth Welcome Service Website
- Welcome Service Point (City of Bayreuth)
 - Opening hours: Tue 10:00–14:00, Wed 14:00–17:00
 - Phone: +49 921 251101 / +49 921 555392
 - Location: Richard-Wagner-Str. 21, Public Library, 2nd floor

Registration ("Anmeldung") with the City

As a resident of Bayreuth you must register (within 14 days) your address with the city. Make an appointment with the Einwohnermeldeamt ASAP and make sure to bring your passport, Wohnungsbestätigung (form from you landlord) and rental contract.

Language courses

Non-native speakers of German have to provide evidence of A1 level competencies in German. If you haven't done so during admission, you must do it by the end of your first year in Bayreuth by the very latest. Students can take any acknowledged test, so you may even consider doing it at home before you arrive. Once you're around, the easiest way is to do it through the language center. Students enrolled in the program can register for language courses offered by the university on cmlife. And if you're in Bayreuth early, you can even register for the intensive course that's starting in September.

Getting Ready for Studying ...

Important University Communication Channels

The communication of important information takes place mainly through these channels with instructions provided:

- E-Mail: All official notifications are sent to your UBT address (btxxxxxx@unibayreuth.de). Access via https://mail.myubt.de. (Make sure to check it regularly!)

 Info page of the IT Service Centre
- cmlife Campus Management System: https://www.best.uni-bayreuth.de/en/st/
- e-learning Learning Platform & Course Materials: https://www.its.uni-bayreuth.de/en/e-learning-support
- UBT App Mobile access to schedules & news: https://www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/uni-app
- University Instagram Account follow for updates & news: https://www.instagram.com/uni.bayreuth/?hl=de

Orientation on Campus

At different locations on campus and on the backside of your student ID card you will find a map of the campus plan to help you orient yourself on campus.

Additionally, if you are not sure in which building the rooms of your courses are taking place, you can refer to this list of lecture halls & seminar rooms:

List of rooms

Mensa, Frischraum & Cafeterias

Food and drinks on campus are served in Mensa, Frischraum and Cafeterias. Check today's menus and prices; veggie/vegan options daily.

Mensa overview | Mensa menu (Studentenwerk Oberfranken)

Campus Card / Student ID

Your campus card is issued after enrolment and serves as a student ID. It contains your personal data as well as a chip card with which you can use various university services, e.g. payment in cafeterias, printing, transportation.

More info on the Campus Card

Semesterticket & Transportation

Your student ID also works as a semester ticket for transport within Bayreuth:

More info on the Semester Ticket

For further regional travel, you can purchase a discounted student ticket that is valid for nationwide local public transportation through this website:

Discounted Student D-Ticket

c.t. vs. s.t.

This is a German peculiarity: some classes start c.t. – which means 15min later. That is, 2pm c.t. is 2:15pm while 2pm s.t. is 2:00pm sharp. Check with your teachers what they mean:)

Attendance Policies

Even though most courses at UBT do not take attendance, we strongly encourage you to attend classes regularly. Especially in seminars and smaller courses, attendance rules may apply: if you miss the first session or more than two or three classes, you may be excluded from the course. Beyond formal requirements, showing up is the best way to engage with your professors and peers, avoid misunderstandings, demonstrate your commitment, and get the most out of your studies!

Making a Timetable

At the University of Bayreuth – as at most German universities – you do not receive a fixed timetable. Instead, you choose and organize your own courses. This can feel a bit complicated at first, but here you can find support:

Student Advising (Zentrale Studienberatung) – FAQ on starting your studies

For PhilCS, we provide details and recommendations on our website:

<u>Ø General Information</u> | <u>Ø Incoming Students</u> | <u>Ø Sample Schedules</u>

A short <u>video tutorial</u> to guide you through the process of in cmlife can be found on the PhilCS elearning page. This is also where you find forms to submit the exam board (e.g. if you apply for crediting internships).

Exams: Registration & Re-Takes

There are different forms of examinations and for each course, the lecturer decides on the specifics and announces them to the class. No matter what type the exam, you will usually be asked to sign up for it on cmlife as is briefly mentioned in the cmlife video tutorial.

- More info how to register for exams in cmlife
- @ General help on cmlife

Should you fail you can usually re-take the exam or attend another class in the same module. For re-takes there sometimes is a second exam date during the semester break, sometimes you have to wait for the next time the course in question is offered. Either way, it's advisable to check your study regulations and module handbook as well as registration/withdrawal deadlines in cmlife. If in doubt, double check with your teachers.

Study regulations & module handbook (PhilCS)

University Library / Writing Center

The **University Library** offers courses, workshops, and individual consultations on topics such as literature search, reference management, academic publishing, research data management, and more. You can also use self-study materials and video tutorials (German only) to get familiar with the library.

Library Introductions & Tutorial Courses

The **Writing Center** supports students and PhD candidates with all aspects of academic writing. Services include individual consultations and workshops on academic writing and key competencies (e.g. time management, exam preparation) which are free of charge & available even during semester breaks.

Uni Bayreuth Writing Center

Philosophy & Computer Science (PhilCS)

You can find all official information about the degree on the website; there's even a bot to ask questions.

Make sure to check out the download section for support with course selection and planning:

Module Handbook, Sample Study Plans & Supplementary Information

PhilCS Community

Student Body

If you have any questions about the program, the university, or about living in Bayreuth in general, don't hesitate to email your student body:

pcs-studentbody@uni-bayreuth.de

WhatsApp Group

Connect with fellow students, share questions and updates.

Join here

Mailing List

Important announcements for all students are sent here, along with useful information on jobs, socials, ... so make sure to subscribe!

Subscribe here

E-Learning Course

For important paperwork within your program.

Subscribe here

Instagram

Stay updated on events, news & community activities. Contributions/ideas are always welcome!

PhilCS on Instagram

PhilCS Chatbot

Helpful for quick program-related questions. Please note: it may contain mistakes, so always double-check official sources.

PhilCS Chatbot

Life in Bayreuth

Housing

If you are moving to Bayreuth, you can find some helpful information about student housing here:

Gamechanger Campus

Additionally, you could look for other accommodation options (e.g. flatshares) in sites:

- **WG** gesucht
- Kleinanzeigen

International Student Network (ESN)

The International Student Network (ESN Bayreuth) is a student-run organization that helps international and local students connect. They organize social events, cultural activities, and trips throughout the semester which is a great way to meet new people, discover Bayreuth and explore other parts of Germany.

- ESN Bayreuth Website
- **ESN Bayreuth on Instagram**

Things to do in Bayreuth

General Info & Places of Interest

Discover Bayreuth's main sights, museums, and cultural highlights.

Places of Interest | Places of

Student Life & Volunteering

Get involved in one of the many student clubs and initiatives at UBT.

- Student Clubs & Volunteering on campus | Student & S

Cultural Events & Festivals

- **Music Festivals** Bayreuth is known for its vibrant music scene, ranging from classical to jazz:

 - Festival of the Young Artists | Bayreuth Jazz November | Kraut & Rüben
- **Local Festivals** Bayreuth and the region host many traditional and modern festivals:
 - Bayreuther Volksfest | Bürgerfest Bayreuth | S Kulmbacher Bierwoche |
 - Bayreuth Wine Festival | Sommernachtsfest Eremitage | Unikat Festival
- **Culture** Alternative cultural spaces and clubs for concerts, parties, and student life.
 - Kulturhaus Neuneinhalb | Glashaus

Museums

- Overview: Museums in Bayreuth | O Iwalewahaus Contemporary African Art
- Ø Jean Paul Museum | Ø Franz-Liszt-Museum | Ø Historisches Museum Bayreuth Ø |
- Ø Urwelt-Museum Oberfranken Natural History |
 Ø Neues Schloss Castle Bayreuth |
- Margravial Opera House UNESCO World Heritage | Maisel's Bier-Erlebniswelt |
- Deutsches Freimaurermuseum

Sports

- **University Sports (Hochschulsport)** wide range of courses, from fitness to team sports.
 - **O** UBT Sports Program
- **Local Teams & Clubs** watch professional sports in Bayreuth:

 - BBC Bayreuth (Basketball)
- **Recreational Sports** swim, bike, or hike in and around Bayreuth:
 - Swimming | Sike Tours | Hiking & Walking

Nature & Outdoor

- **Eremitage** historic park with gardens, fountains, and palaces.
 - **Eremitage**
- **Botanical Garden (ÖBG)** A unique ecological-botanical garden on campus.
 - **Botanical Garden**
- **Fichtelgebirge Mountains** Perfect for hiking, biking, or skiing in winter.
 - **Tourism Info**
- **Franconian Switzerland** Scenic region famous for climbing, hiking, and small villages.
 - Tourism Info
- **Hofgarten** The central city park, ideal for relaxing, reading, or picnicking.

Helpful Contacts & Support

Support & counselling services by the university

The University of Bayreuth offers a wide range of support and counselling services for free for students. You can find help with organizational and administrative questions, degree advising, financial and social counselling (including scholarships), key competencies and study skills, academic writing, literature management, IT services, support for international students, studying with a disability, career services, psychological counselling (free of charge), support for students with children, harassment issues, legal counselling, housing, and digital infrastructure.

- **Overview of Support & Counselling Services**
- Quick Links to Key Support Programs (PhilCS)

Contact for questions about the degree program

For degree-specific questions, you can contact the student body, program coordinators & teaching staff:

- PhilCS Faculty & Contacts
- pcs-studentbody@uni-bayreuth.de
- philcs@uni-bayreuth.de