

Exchange Program | Mainz, Germany

Program Summary

The Mainz, Germany year-long Exchange is a collaboration between UofL, Johannes Gutenberg University (also known as Mainz University) in Germany, Sister Cities of Louisville, Inc., and the Mainz-Louisville Friendship Circle.

Exchange Details

- Applicants may take any courses at the Johannes Gutenberg University for which he or she qualifies, subject to course prerequisites. General information on the Johannes Gutenberg University and course listings are available at the International Center and at the [Mainz University website](#).
- Applications are invited from UofL students with an interest in German culture and language. Applications may come from any academic discipline; however, the vast majority of courses at Johannes Gutenberg University are conducted in German. The exchange student will spend two semesters studying in Mainz and is expected to return to the University of Louisville to resume his/her studies.
- Johannes Gutenberg University Academic Year: mid-October to the end of July (students must arrive within the first week of October for preparatory activities prior to the start of classes).
- Exchange students will spend two semesters studying in Mainz and are expected to return to the University of Louisville to resume their studies.
- The exchange period is for ten months (October through July). Exchange students must arrive at Johannes Gutenberg University by Oct. 1. An initial 2-week orientation course for exchange students is included in the program schedule. Regular classes follow afterwards.

Language Immersion Scholarship:

- The designated Mainz exchange students may be eligible for a scholarship for the Johannes Gutenberg University International Vacation (Language immersion) course.
- This includes one month of intensive German language training in Mainz (month of September), followed by a 2-week homestay.
- Whether choosing this additional program or not, students should in any case plan to arrive at Johannes Gutenberg University by early October to participate in the required preparatory activities for their year-long exchange program

Application deadline: First Monday in February

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must have completed thirty semester hours (30) of college courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the time of the award. They must also have completed courses in German through the intermediate level (German 300) with a grade point average of at least 3.2, or have commensurate competence.

The scholarship recipient must be cleared by *Student Life* and receive clearance from a medical provider or Campus Health prior to being fully accepted for the exchange.

While abroad, you will be required to submit one photograph per month minimum for a total of 10 pictures. These pictures should include you and/or famous landmarks in Germany.

Upon your return to the United States, you will be required to:

- Attend the fall Study Abroad Fair to promote the Mainz exchange.
- Visit German language classrooms in October
- Mentor the current recipient during the spring semester
- Participate in a minimum of two Sister City events or provide 20 hours of service to Sister Cities of Louisville

To apply, submit the following materials to the Office of Study Abroad & International Travel by first Monday in February:

- The application form
- Complete transcripts beyond the secondary level
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty, and in addition one letter from a German faculty member who can attest to your language ability.
- A 750 word statement of purpose that outlines the proposed course of study, the applicant's qualifications, as well as educational objectives to be achieved by studying in Germany. In addressing his or her qualifications, the applicant should include a discussion of career goals, work experience, special skills or licenses, foreign language proficiency and foreign and domestic travel experience.
- Current resume

The period of study in Germany should contribute to the field of study or career that the applicant intends to pursue upon his or her return. Applicants should demonstrate the ability to conduct themselves in both interpersonal and academic situations to the credit of the University of Louisville, Sister Cities of Louisville, Inc. and the United States.

Selection Process

By the second Monday in February, applicants will be contacted for interview dates and times. At the interview, students will be asked questions about the exchange and their knowledge of German language and culture. Be prepared to discuss how this particular program fits into your academic and long term life goals. Usually within ten days of the last interview students will receive notification of award status.

Applications may be picked up and returned to:

International Center
Office of Study Abroad and International Travel (front desk)
101 Brodschi Hall
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

Applications are also available at the fall Study Abroad Fair (the first Wednesday of September).

Financial Matters for Start of Program

In order to get the student visa after arriving in Germany, students must demonstrate that they have sufficient funds for the academic year in Mainz --usually a statement from the bank will suffice. The estimated amount on the Johannes Gutenberg University website is: 7,200 Euros.