



**WELCOME TO  
JOHANNES  
GUTENBERG UNIVERSITY  
MAINZ!**

JGU|U





## **1 | The City of Mainz**

## **2 | Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz**

## **3 | Living in Mainz**

- Living and Feeling at Home in Mainz
- How much does it cost to study in Mainz?
- Mobile in Mainz? Of course!

## **4 | Life on Campus**

- Student Services, TOM and Foreigners become Friends
- AEGEE
- University Sports
- Leisure and Cultural Activities

## **5 | Studying at JGU**

- Range of Courses
- Services and Activities for New Students
- Important Information

## **6 | Research at JGU**

## **7 | Service and Advising**

## **8 | Imprint**



1

# THE CITY OF MAINZ



**... THE „LITTLE BIG CITY“ BY THE RIVER RHINE.** The city of Mainz is home to around 200,000 residents and located at the heart of the Frankfurt Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region. Frankfurt Airport and the cities of Wiesbaden, Darmstadt and Frankfurt are all located in close proximity to Mainz and can be easily reached by bus and train.

### **... THE CITY OF WINE.**

Wine growing has been a tradition in Mainz and the surrounding Rhine-Hesse region for many years. The region is characterised by its vineyards, and wine taverns form an

integral part of the old city centre. Since 2008, Mainz and Rheinhessen are part of the network “Great Wine Capitals”

### **... THE CITY OF JESTERS.**

Fastnacht is the highlight of the German Carnival celebrations. Even schools and the university are closed for the day as the entire city of Mainz comes together to dance in the streets during the Rosenmontag parade.

### **... A CITY OF FESTIVALS AND MARKETS.**

The people of Mainz always find a reason to celebrate or to socialise in a friendly and

relaxed atmosphere, be it breakfast at the farmers’ market, the annual Johannisnacht celebrations, the wine festival or one of the city’s many open-air concerts and festivals held in the summer.

### **... THE CITY OF MEDIA.**

The city in which Johannes Gutenberg once invented letterpress printing with movable type printing and the printing press, is now home to establishments such as the headquarters of the German television broadcaster ZDF.





### **... A CITY BY THE RIVER.**

The river Rhine is like a small sea for Mainz and is the ideal location for barbecues on the river banks or bathing on the small hidden city beach. It is also synonymous with Mainz as a dynamic city full of movement.

### **... THE CATHEDRAL CITY.**

The 1000-year-old cathedral building is the landmark of our city and can be seen from far away. Mainz is the only city outside of Rome to be home to a „Holy See“, the sancta sedes Moguntia.



### **... THE CITY OF FOOTBALL.**

The football club 1. FSV Mainz 05 has now been playing in the German premier league, the 1. Bundesliga, for several years. A visit to the club's stadium is an absolute must, not only when Bayern Munich is the opponent.

### **... THE UNIVERSITY CITY.**

Mainz is characterised by the multitude of students who live in the city. Alongside Johannes Gutenberg University, it is also home to Mainz University of Applied Sciences, the Catholic University of Applied Sciences of Mainz and the Peter Cornelius Conservatory.







2

**JOHANNES  
GUTENBERG UNIVERSITY  
MAINZ**



The University of Mainz was founded in the year 1477. In 1946, it was named after the most famous son of the city of Mainz: Johannes Gutenberg, who invented letterpress printing with movable type printing and the printing press.

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU) today is one of the largest universities in Germany and is home to around 35,000 students. It is the only German university of its size to unite nearly all of its departments on one campus, which is located in close proximity to Mainz city centre.

This campus provides students with a place to study, research and live. Alongside academic institutions, it also contains student accommodation, childcare facilities, and even restaurants and cafés. Our Faculty of Translation Studies, Linguistics and Cultural Studies is located in the German town of Gernersheim, which is 100 km upriver from the main campus.

3

# LIVING IN MAINZ





## LIVING AND FEELING AT HOME IN MAINZ

We want you to feel ‚right at home‘ while studying in Mainz! In order to enable Mainz to become your ‚home away from home‘, Student Services (Studierendenwerk) and the **SIS Office (Service International Students (<http://sis-mainz.de/>))** in particular offer a large number of services relating to the topic of living and feeling at home in Mainz.

Student Services provides students with a wide range of different types of rooms in the numerous housing complexes located both on campus and in the city of Mainz. All rooms are furnished, regardless of whether they are individual rooms or located in shared houses („WG-Zimmer“). Thanks to the **SIS Pack**, which is available at for a small charge, you can even move to the city without having to bring any pots, pans, plates, duvets, etc.!



A special service: all foreign students who apply in good time are guaranteed a place in halls of residence, regardless of whether you want to attend the university for a semester or an entire degree course!



**PRIVILEGES AND  
BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS  
IN MAINZ**

No tuition fees!

Special rates for contracts, memberships and subscriptions, e.g. for health insurance, telephone and Internet, gyms and newspaper subscriptions

Affordable accommodation in student halls of residence

Student discounts with your student ID card, e.g. for Mainz 05 football tickets or tickets for the **Staatstheater Mainz** (theatre)

A wide range of (mostly) free sports activities available from the **Allgemeiner Hochschulsport** (university sports association)

Stay mobile in the region with the semester ticket for bus and train travel

Free computer and Internet access (incl. printing and scanners) on campus and in halls of residence

Low-priced food on campus (at the Mensa and cafeteria)

Living in halls of residence is often the cheapest option when it comes to finding university accommodation. It also gives you the opportunity to immediately get to know many other students and, for example, to make the most of free Internet access. Alongside the halls of residence available from the Student Services, private landlords and church organisations also offer accommodation in halls of residence all over Mainz and in its suburbs.

Would you prefer to look for your room on your own? If so, please bear in mind that most rooms available for rent in Germany are not furnished and are often more expensive than rooms in halls of residence. The best place to search for available accommodation is on the various search engines available online or, if you are already in Mainz, on the noticeboards in the university buildings.

## **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO STUDY IN MAINZ?**

Of course, the total cost of studying in Mainz depends on how you want to spend your time at our university but you should generally calculate approx. 700 euros per month to cover your semester fee, rent, food, clothes, other expenses, and health insurance. When you arrive, however, you should bring more than this amount because you will need to pay your semester fee, first month's rent and deposit immediately, as well as possibly needing to make other initial purchases.

## **MOBILE IN MAINZ? OF COURSE!**

Mainz is a small urban city in which you can travel from A to B quickly and without any problems. You don't even need a car, thanks to the public transport connections available throughout the city.

As soon as you enrol as a student at JGU, you will automatically receive your semester ticket. This ticket is always valid for a period of six months, from April to September and from October to March. It can not only be used in the city of Mainz, but also throughout the entire Rhine-Main region, thus

enabling you to travel to towns and cities such as Wiesbaden, Frankfurt am Main, Koblenz, Darmstadt, Limburg or Worms. The ticket is valid for travel in all regional trains, city and regional buses, suburban trains (S-Bahn), underground trains (U-Bahn) and trams. It cannot, however, be used for journeys on long-distance trains (IC, ICE, EC...).

If you'd rather keep fit while travelling in the city, you can use the „MVG MeinRad“ bike hire service in Mainz at a special discounted student rate or buy a

second-hand bike. There are cycle paths virtually everywhere and you can normally reach your destination quicker when travelling by bike than by bus and tram.





4

# LIFE ON CAMPUS





## **STUDENT SERVICES, TOM AND FOREIGNERS BECOME FRIENDS**

The Student Services (Studierendenwerk) offer much more than just accommodation! Culture brings people together, and cultural events give you the opportunity to get to know other students and residents of Mainz, the local region and Germany in general. Come and experience German and international food and cultures at events such as the Mix Tour, excursions, city trips, TOM parties, cooking events (e.g. running dinners), the ‚Mainz Diploma‘ (Mainz-Diplom) and many more.



### **Contact with students:**

Our contact programme TOM will put you in touch with students in Mainz who can provide you with an insight into student life on campus and in the city.

**Sign up for TOM at [www.tutorsofmainz.de](http://www.tutorsofmainz.de).**

### **Contact with residents:**

Get away from the campus and explore real life while getting to know what it feels like to be a resident of Mainz. Sign up for the Foreigners becomes Friends scheme and get to know the city's non-students. The scheme gives you the opportunity to experience the region and culture up close and in person with the locals during your spare time, for example by going out for coffee together, going on trips and excursions, hiking and cooking.

**[www.fremdewerdenfreunde-mainz.de](http://www.fremdewerdenfreunde-mainz.de)**



## AEGEE

The Erasmus team at AEGEE offers many excellent services and activities that help to ensure that you quickly feel ‚at home with your friends‘ here in Mainz and can enjoy an easy start and an exciting, interesting and fun semester! The programme is kicked off by the team’s extremely popular icebreaker weekend, the Mix Tour. Every Tuesday evening, incoming students and interested German and/or local students meet up to enjoy informal drinks and chats at the weekly international Stammtisch gathering in the Inter-II-Bar.

You can make the most of a programme of events and activities ranging from excursions over several days through to a multitude of day trips, interesting guided tours and sports activities such as the international Erasmus Fun Sport Tournament. You can additionally use AEGEE’s very own „Sprachduo“ database and „Sprachduoabende“ events to find conversation partners with whom you can learn, practice and improve your foreign language skills.

<http://aegEE-mainz.de/erasmus/> and  
[facebook.com/erasmusmainz](https://facebook.com/erasmusmainz)





## UNIVERSITY SPORTS

Do you like to work out or play ball in your spare time? If so, the **Allgemeiner Hochschulsport** (AHS) university sports association is ideal for you, offering you a huge selection of sports activities ranging from A (for aerobics) through to R (for rock ,n' roll, or maybe even rugby?) right through to Y (for yoga). Most of these courses are free because the participation fee is covered by your semester fee :-)

<http://www.ahs.uni-mainz.de/>

## LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

A multitude of other leisure and cultural activities are also awaiting your participation during your time in Mainz, with highlights such as an evening at the KlubKino cinema on campus, a concert at the School of Music and many different cultural courses (choir, music, art,...) ensuring that you won't get bored after lectures. If you would like to get involved in social or political activities, you can take your pick from a wide range of university groups.

<http://www.campus-mainz.net/>

## CAMPUS MEDIA

Mainz is one of the media capitals of Germany. The university campus reflects this fact by giving you the opportunity to fully put your journalistic talent to the test in a variety of areas. CampusTV, Campusradio and a multitude of different magazines keep you up to date with the latest news and are looking forward to your contributions.

<http://www.campus-mainz.net/freizeit/campus-medien/>

5

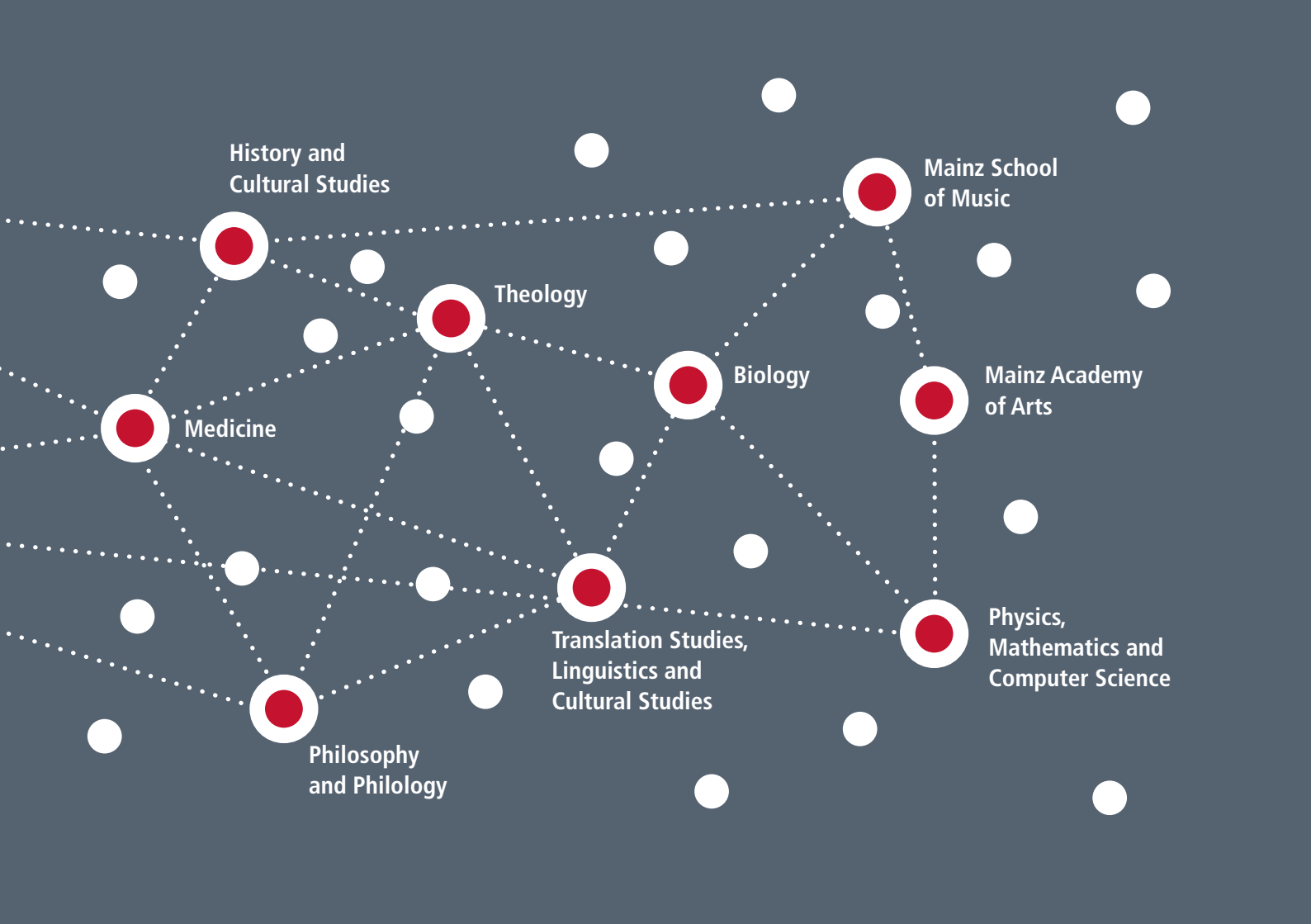
# STUDYING AT JGU

Chemistry,  
Pharmaceutical  
Sciences and  
Geosciences

Social Sciences,  
Media and Sports

Law,  
Management  
and Economics

At JGU, you can study  
(almost) anything!





## **SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES FOR NEW STUDENTS**

A new university? A new city? A new country? The first thing that you need to do is to find your feet, regardless of whether you are from Germany or abroad. Alongside an abundance of information online, JGU offers all new German and international students a wide range of services to make the start of their university studies in Mainz as easy as possible. Before the beginning of each semester, for example, important interdisciplinary introductory events are held to get you off to a good start in Mainz.

Are you an exchange student or completing the Erasmus programme?

If so, the InfoDays are the ideal events for you.

Do you want to complete a degree in Mainz?

If so, come to the Orientation Days.

Would you also like to find out about Mainz and its surroundings and get to know other new German and international students?

If so, be sure to make the most of the Mix Tour.



## **INFODAYS**

The Info Days help all exchange students to get their bearings at the university. They give you the opportunity to familiarise yourself with the campus and help you to prepare your documents for matriculation. The events also provide you with support when searching for contacts in your subject areas and putting together your class schedule,... and of course when dealing with the essential activity of activating your ZDV account and Internet access.



### **ORIENTATION DAYS**

Do you want to complete a degree at JGU? If so, the Orientation Days will help you to get off to the perfect start. They not only give you the opportunity to get to know the campus and a large number of contacts for international students, but also ensure that you know how to use module guides and can find your bearings in the JOGU-StiNe network. Who knows, maybe they will also introduce you to your first friends at the university?

### **THE MIX TOUR**

As its name suggests, this tour aims to give all new students arriving in Mainz the opportunity to ‚mix‘ ;-). By going ‚on tour‘ over a period of two to three days in the area around Mainz, you are sure to have the chance to get to know friendly fellow students who will make it easier for you to master your day-to-day life as a student. The Mix Tour is a joint event organised by the International Office, the Student Services and AEGEE.



### **INTRODUCTORY WEEK FOR NEW STUDENTS**

The „Einführungswoche“ (Introductory Week) is held for all new students during the week before the official start of the lecture period. During the week, the university’s individual departments will inform you about your subject of study and help you with tasks such as selecting your courses by providing you with support from course advisers and student councils. The student councils also organise pub evenings and other leisure activities.





## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **ACADEMIC CALENDER**

At JGU, the academic year is divided into the Winter Semester (1st October to 31st March) and the Summer Semester (1st April to 30th September).

The lecture period always runs from mid-October to mid-February (Winter Semester) and mid-April to mid-July (Summer Semester). No lectures or courses are held in the time between these periods (the so-called semester holidays), on

national or regional public holidays, at Christmas and on Rosenmontag (Fastnacht).

### **APPLICATION**

Depending on the subject and/or course of studies that you want to apply for at JGU through the JOGU-StiNe online portal, different application deadlines apply between May and September for the Winter Semester and between November and March for the Summer Semester. Most courses of study can be started in both semesters and only a select few start solely in the Winter Semester.

If you want to complete a degree in Mainz, you first need to send us your school leaving certificates for approval before you can apply. Exchange students do not need to have their certificates approved.

## LECTURES AND COURSES

Courses take place during the lecture period. You can find the online course catalogue on the platform JOGU-StlNe (no login required; select: „Course Catalogue“ and then choose your semester, department, and subject).

<https://jogustine.uni-mainz.de/>

## EXAMINATIONS AND GRADES

At JGU, you are awarded ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) points for all courses. In most courses, you need to sit an examination in order to receive these ECTS

points and a grade, but there are also some courses in which you receive ECTS points for participation and do not need to sit an examination.

Course examinations normally take place at the end of the lecture period. The university does not, however, have a general examination period. Each subject individually decides when and how examinations are held – either during the course, at the end of the lecture period or in the lecture-free period. Examinations are held as written tests, e-tests, presentations,

The best grade available in Germany is 1.0.  
You need to achieve a grade of at least 4.0  
in order to pass an examination.

papers or oral examinations.

## GERMAN SKILLS AND GERMAN COURSES

### Degree-seeking

#### students:

If you want to complete a degree in Mainz, almost all courses (with the exception of a small number of degree courses such as those held completely in English) require you to pass the DSH-2 or DSH-3 language proficiency test required for entry to a German university as a foreign student or a German examination recognised





6

## RESEARCH AT JGU

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU) is one of the largest universities in Germany and the centre of scientific expertise in the German Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate. Approx. 3,000 scientists and scholars, including roughly 500 professors, teach and research at more than 150 institutes and clinics.

Science and research are the core areas of activity of the university.

The top achievements of our researchers lay the foundations for cooperative research within the university as well as for regional, national and international partnerships.

JGU is part of the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments. In the second phase of the Excellence Initiative, the Excellence Cluster for Precision Physics, Fundamental Interactions and Structure of Matter (PRISMA) and the Graduate School of Excellence for Materials Science in Mainz (MAINZ) were approved in 2012. JGU is a member of "German U15", a network of 15 large German research universities that commonly represent their interests.

7

## SERVICE AND ADVISING



## **CENTRAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE**

### **Hotline of the Student Service Centre**

...your telephone contact for general questions on applications, admissions or student administration

**+49 6131-39 22122**

With a special hotline for foreign students:

**+49 6131-39 22525**

<https://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/hotline-2>

### **The International Info Desk in the Student Service Centre**

...your source of information on campus!  
Here you can find out everything you need to know about applications, admissions or student administration.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/studsek>

### **International Admission Office (Stabsstelle Zulassung International)**

...your contact for the approval of school leaving certificates from outside of Germany and the admission of applicants with foreign certificates, regardless of whether you want to complete a degree at JGU or are coming to the university for one or two semesters as an ERASMUS/exchange student.

<http://www.uni-mainz.de/incoming>

### **Welcome Center for International Scholars**

...the central service and advising centre for international scholars and their families, offering advice on all non-academic and everyday issues and providing support for the planning, preparation and realisation of your time at JGU.

<https://www.international.uni-mainz.de/welcome>

### **Subject Advisers (Studienfachberatung)**

...in different subjects answer all of your questions concerning course selection, registrations, languages of instruction, ECTS points, grades, and examination formats. They provide advice on matters such as the content and organisation of studies, course planning, credit transfer when changing subjects or moving to a different university, and examination procedures.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/studienfachberatung/>

### **Central Student Advisory Service (Zentrale Studienberatung)**

...answers all of your questions on the range of courses available, application procedures, and changing subjects or moving to a different university.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/zsb>



## SUBJECT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

### **Student Advising Offices (Studienbüros)**

...in the individual subjects answer all of your organisational questions on arranging class schedules (lecture and course management) or registering for examinations in bachelor's/ master's degree programmes (examination management).

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/studienbueros/>

### **Student Councils (Fachschaften)**

...provide information and advice on planning your studies or dealing with problems during your studies from a student perspective. Student councils represent the interests of students in each individual subject. They always welcome the help and support of interested students.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/fachschaften/>

### **The Campus-Wide Writing Workshop (Schreibwerkstatt)**

...brings together all of the services and courses available from different institutions at JGU for scholarly writing, from workshops to courses and tutorials right through to individual advice and the Nacht der Hausarbeiten (Night of Academic Papers).

The workshop's website also offers recommendations for further reading and links to e-learning portals.

<http://www.schreibwerkstatt.uni-mainz.de>

### **PHILIS – Studying in the Philosophicum**

...for students in Philosophy and Philology (Fachbereich 05). PHILIS provides support for all issues and questions concerning study-related problems, as well as offering methodical courses and workshops focusing on studying at JGU.

[www.philis.uni-mainz.de](http://www.philis.uni-mainz.de)

### **„SoWi?So!“**

...for students in Social Sciences, Media, and Sports (Fachbereich 02). SoWi?So! provides support for all issues and questions concerning study-related problems, as well as offering methodical courses and workshops focusing on studying at JGU.

[www.sowiso.uni-mainz.de](http://www.sowiso.uni-mainz.de)

### **Courses in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (for all exchange students)**

...thematic courses for exchange students in all subjects on Germany in Europe in between the past, present and future. These courses include tutorials on academic work and award ECTS points.

### **Language Tandem Schemes at the ISSK**

...offer you the opportunity to further develop your foreign language skills and expand your own linguistic ability and cross-cultural competence in direct

contact with native speakers of German. The ISSK also holds a number of events to accompany language tandems.

<http://www.issk.uni-mainz.de/222.php>

### **Career Service**

...for both students and graduates. The Career Service offers support for your career orientation, planning your professional future, and achieving interdisciplinary qualifications. It helps to ensure that you are well prepared for a successful start into your working life.

<http://www.career.uni-mainz.de>

### **International Office – Outgoing**

...provides information and advice on study-abroad opportunities. This includes time spent either in other European countries or outside of Europe, and focuses on studying, research, internships, language assistantships, and language courses.

<http://www.uni-mainz.de/outgoing>

## **SUPPORT AND ADVICE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES**

### **Family Services Center**

...the contact point and coordination office for (expecting) parents and families on how to co-ordinate university studies and/or careers with family responsibilities. The Family Services Center provides advice on the topics of childcare, transitional care, emergency care, holiday periods, and financial aspects.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/familien-servicebuero/>

### **BAföG Office (BAföG-Amt)**

...financial support for students. Degree-seeking international students can also apply for this state funding under certain circumstances.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/bafoeg-amt/>

### **Service for Disabled Students**

...the central contact for disabled students and students with chronic illnesses and the local care you might need in Mainz.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/barrierefrei/>

### **Psychotherapeutic Counselling Centre**

...helps JGU students with critical mental problems to clarify and solve their study-related problems and connected problems in their lives. Depending on students' individual needs, the centre can also provide individual or group consultation sessions. Advice and support from the centre are free of charge, confidential and non-binding.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/pbs/>

### **Women's Office**

...offering a wide range of different services aimed at all women at JGU.

<http://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/frauenbuero/>



**IMPRINT**

JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

## **PUBLISHER**

The International Office at  
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz  
55099 Mainz, Germany

[www.international.uni-mainz.de](http://www.international.uni-mainz.de)

## **EDITORIAL TEAM**

Gabriel Belinga Belinga  
Silke Jennerich  
Saskia Mahal  
Marta Marciniak-Gorski  
Ute Roßmann-Knapp

## **LAYOUT AND DESIGN**

Mailin Lemke

## **TRANSLATION**

Daniela Meijer

## **PHOTOS**

International Office  
AEGEE Mainz-Wiesbaden  
Foreigners become Friends  
Thomas Hartmann  
Nino Kopaliani Photography  
Mainz Student Services  
Tutors of Mainz  
JGU Public Relations

JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

