

UE's Study Guarantee Winter Semester 2021/22 *International Students (non-EU)*

Berlin, 30th May 2021

Important note

Students that hold an entry visa for Germany are expected and obliged to start their studies in September 2021 according to their study contract. Thus, your Study Contract can **ONLY** be terminated by submitting a visa refusal letter and in accordance with the Terms & Conditions of your study contract.

Due to the current climate of travel uncertainty, UE offers students without an embassy appointment or a pending visa decision to trial UE's virtual teaching facilities between the **4th October and 24th October 2021** free of charge. Should you still decide to defer your studies until the Summer Semester 2022 semester you will need to do so in writing by the 24th October 2021 (see below for further information).

I have an entry/study visa for Germany.

UE's study contract is fully applicable to UE students who hold a national visa for Germany. Visa holders are expected to start their studies online in any case. Deferring your studies after semester start or withdrawing from the programmes are subject to the terms and conditions in the study contract. *The special terms for non-visa holders as defined further below and on the following page do NOT apply to visa holders.*

Is UE offering lectures on campus during COVID-19 pandemic?

According to governmental regulations, German universities can run programmes online. However, UE has a contingency plan in place, which will enable UE to offer lectures on campus and online in accordance with hygiene and security measures set by the Federal States of Berlin, Hamburg, North-Rhine Westphalia (Iserlohn) and Brandenburg (Potsdam). It is likely that UE offers a mix of online, hybrid and offline classes during the Winter Semester 21/22. UE's plans may be subject to change.

How do Hybrid classes work at UE?

Hybrid classes means that UE will have a group of students in class, whilst students from the same programme join online, via Microsoft Teams. Imagine your programme consists of 20 students. On Monday 10 students would join online, while the other 10 students join the classes on Campus. On Tuesday, it would be the other way around. A video under the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8xw5-w8mnw> explains the Hybrid teaching concept further.

Can I start my course by Online Streaming under the Study Guarantee?

Yes, you can start your course by Online Streaming. UE ensures that your academic year starts immediately. We will make sure that the ongoing COVID-19 situation does not lead to any delay in your personal study plan and that you still receive high quality teaching and mentoring.

Can I start even without an entry visa for Germany?

Yes, you can also start your studies with UE without an entry visa. As long as you have paid a reservation fee, (your payment schedule will remain as per your contract) and enrolled on to your course at the beginning of the semester, you can already start your degree programme with us. We

will support you with issuing visa support letters; so that you can apply for a German visa once, the German embassies/consulates reopen. For example, you could complete the whole first semester successfully online and travel to Germany for the start of 2nd semester provided you obtain the visa and travel bans are lifted.

If I start my course online, when should I apply for my Study Visa?

As soon as you secure a visa appointment slot, you can apply for a Study Visa. We will provide all necessary supporting documents, so that when you go for the visa interview you can submit everything that is needed.

Can I travel to Germany and then start my course online?

Under the current conditions, a full return to the campus is unlikely until autumn 2021. But unlike most other universities, UE has taken the decision to offer selected classes on Campus under consideration of hygiene standards. Strict security concepts are developed by UE. Your health and safety is our absolute priority. Although you can also start online classes out of Germany, depending on government announcement UE will offer classes on Campus as soon as it is possible (subject to change).

If my arrival in Germany is delayed due to COVID-19, what will happen to my enrolment?

UE is planning to offer the complete 1st Semester online and offline. UE will ensure that all students can start and complete the 1st Semester online. We encourage you to do so, as studying from the comfort of your home also brings about various benefits. **We still look forward to welcoming you on campus and expect so from students that hold an entry visa for Germany. Late arrival into Germany does not affect your enrolment.**

What happens if my German visa application is rejected?

If the German embassy rejects your visa application, UE will naturally refund you even if you started the 1st semester with UE. In this case, UE will refund you the entire paid amount minus an administration fee of 250,-Euro provided you continued your programme after the 24th October 2021. The refusal letter as well as a refund form will need to be submitted to UE or your nearest representative in writing, so that UE can process the refund. It can take up to 21 working days to process a full refund.

Can I also defer the start of my studies?

Lectures start on the 1st September 2021. Usually you would need to defer your start by the start of the intake (semester start). Due to the current situation, we encourage you to start online with UE. Should you NOT hold an entry visa for Germany and decide that studying online is not an option for you, you would need to inform UE in writing by the 24th October 2021. Provided all documentation is submitted on time, we would defer your start date free of charge to the winter semester 21 intake. Students that hold an entry visa need to start online or offline according to the existing study contract on its corresponding intake.

Risk-free start with UE

As mentioned above, we allow you to trial our virtual learning facilities. We are certain that you will enjoy studying online with UE as a fresher student. The preference is to have on-campus teaching, however, we need to adapt to the current environment and developments. Hence, we encourage

you to start online. You can still defer your studies by one semester free of charge until 24th October 2021

Will I need to pay my semester fees, if I start online?

Semester fees are payable; however, UE is aware of the difficult situation and has amended its payment terms accordingly. Students can join our lectures online provided the reservation fee was paid. Test us risk-free until the 24th October 2021 provided a deposit/reservation fee was paid. If you still do not have a visa you can defer your start by one semester free of charge if you stick to the deadline mentioned above. You cannot defer your studies from the 25th October 2021 anymore and will be invoiced for the remaining 1st semester tuition fees.