



Information for incoming Erasmus students at Heidelberg University Medical Faculty

For the academic year 2025-26



Dear international students from our partner universities,

We are very pleased that you have taken an interest in studying at Heidelberg University as an Erasmus student. We hope that this brochure will provide all the necessary information for planning a successful semester and help answer any questions you may have.

If you have any remaining questions after reading this brochure then members of our team will be happy to answer them personally.

Yours sincerely,

The Dean of Studies' Office

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Application process

The first step in the Erasmus program is the application at your university. Having undergone the selection process at your home university, you have to be nominated at Heidelberg University by your home coordinator.

At the end of May (for courses starting in the winter semester) or the end of November (for courses starting in the summer semester) you will receive an e-mail with information about:

- Registration in Heidelberg (Application Form)
- Preparatory language courses
- Accommodation

Until the start of June (for the Winter term or the whole academic year) or 20th November (for the summer term), you have to complete [the Learning Agreement](#) with the courses you wish to take and to return it to us.

Language skills

All medical courses are in German. In addition, during courses and rotations you will come into contact with patients with whom you will have to speak German.

For this reason, we expect our Erasmus students to have a very good knowledge of the German language. **We require at least a level B2 for additional clinical rotations. In case you wish an internship, please send your language certificate.**

In September and March Heidelberg University offers a preparatory language course to its students. Unfortunately, a place in this course cannot be guaranteed.

Proof of immunity

In order to participate in our courses and their integrated practical courses (bedside teaching), you must provide proof of measles immunisation. You have two options for providing proof of measles immunisation:

- Either with the document [Incoming-Vaccination-Certificate for clinical course](#)
- Or with a copy of your vaccination certificate (cover page and relevant pages for the measles vaccination) and the document [Erklärung zum eingereichten Impf-Immunisierungsnachweis](#)

→ The documents are to be sent directly to the following e-mail-address: Erasmus.Hiwi@med.uni-heidelberg.de

Proof of additional immunisations is required for clinical rotations. Please see the *Rotations* section on page 6.

Contact partners

For questions regarding courses and rotations

Abra Avono (Medical Student Affairs Office)

Telephone: +49-(0)-6221-5622704
E-Mail: abra.avono@med.uni-heidelberg.de
Address: Im Neuenheimer Feld 346
69120 Heidelberg

For questions regarding enrolment, accommodation and language courses

Alexandra Braye (ERASMUS Incoming Office)

Telefon: +49 6221 54 12731
E-Mail: braye@zuv.uni-heidelberg.de
Adresse: Seminarstr. 2
69117 Heidelberg

Insurance

We recommend to bring along or contract, besides health and personal liability insurance, a medical malpractice insurance and an accident insurance to be protected from all the typical legal risks in medical school and everyday life.

Please note that the Heidelberg University Medical Faculty cannot and may not recommend any insurance provider.

Overview of ECTS-Credits

- Valid from Sept.2025

ECTS-Credits are obtained after successfully passing the module exam.

First Clinical Year		
3.2	Block I: Internal Medicine (Winter semester only)	
3.2.1	Clinical Chemistry, Laboratory Diagnostics	4
3.2.2	Gastroenterology General Internal Medicine, Psychosomatic Medicine, Nephrology Cardiology, Angiology, Pneumology Hematology, Oncology, Rheumatology Endocrinology, Sports Medicine General Practice	27
3.2.3	Geriatrics	2
3.2.4	Clinical Pharmacology, Pharmacotherapy	2

Second Clinical Year		
4.1	Block II: Surgery (Winter semester only)	
4.1.1	Cardiac Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Plastic Surgery Visceral Surgery Vascular Surgery, Urology Trauma Surgery, Orthopedics Anesthesia	25
4.1.2	Emergency Medicine	2
4.1.3	Rehabilitation, Physical Therapy, Naturopathy	4
4.1.4	Clinical pathological conference	2

4.2	Block III	
4.2.1	Neurology	8
4.2.2	Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychosomatic Medicine	8
4.2.3	Ear, Nose and Throat Medicine	5
4.2.4	Ophthalmology	5
4.2.5	Dermatology, Allergology	4
4.2.6	Infectious Diseases, Immunology	4

Third Clinical Year		
5.1	Block IV	
5.1.1	Gynecology, Obstetrics with practical training	8
5.1.2	Pediatrics with block practical training	8
5.1.3	Epidemiology, Biometry, Medical Informatics	4
5.1.4	Human Genetics	4
5.1.5	Occupational, Social, Environmental and Forensic Medicine	8
5.1.6	History, Theory and Ethics of Medicine	2

Rotations

Rotations can be completed as an addition to courses. Rotations are full-time clinical placements without any classes– so you can only do one rotation at once, and not parallel to a course.

The following documents are required for clinical rotations:

- **Language certificate: at least B2. There are departments that require a C1 level - see table *Department / Conditions and required documents***
 - **Curriculum vitae (CV)**
 - **Proof of immunity: Please have the document [Impfnachweis für Praktika](#) issued in full and be sure to enclose a copy of your vaccination certificate (title page and relevant pages for the required vaccinations)**
- **Send the documents directly to the following address:**
- **Erasmus.Hiwi@med.uni-heidelberg.de**
- **Send it also to the departments if requested**

Important note: The sooner you send these documents, the sooner the rotation can be planned for you. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

You will receive 1.5 ECTS credits per 1 week of rotation.

Have the department issue you the form [Bestätigung für Rotation](#) and then hand it in to the Dean of Studies Office (Studiendekanat). This is the only way for the rotations to be included in your Transcript of Records.

Rotations are possible in the following departments:

Department	Conditions & required documents
Anesthesia	
Ophthalmology	
Chest Pain Unit	
Surgery	
Dermatology	Minimum of 4 weeks, completion of Dermatology module
Endocrinology	
Gastroenterology	
Vascular Surgery	Certificate of Enrolment of home institution
Gynecology	
Hemato-Oncology	Minimum of 4 weeks
Cardiac Surgery	
Ear, Nose and Throat Medicine	
Infectious Diseases	Minimum of 4 weeks
Cardiology	
Pediatric and Adolescent Psychiatry	German C1
Pediatric Surgery	
Nephrology	
Neurosurgery	
Neurology	Transcript of Records of home institution
Emergency Out-Patient Ward (Surgery)	
Emergency Out-Patient Ward (Internal Medicine)	Minimum of 4 weeks
Orthopedics	
Pediatrics	Minimum of 3 weeks
Pathology	
Psychiatry	German C1; duration: 2 - 5 weeks
Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology	Minimum of 4 weeks
Rheumatology	German C1
Urology	

Exams

Exams normally take place on the last day of the course. The exams for Block I and II are at the end of the semester.

All exams are graded and students are given grades in line with the German system:

- Excellent (1)
- Good (2)
- Satisfactory (3)
- Pass (4)
- Fail (5)

If an exam is not successfully passed (fail (5)) then no ECTS-Credits will be awarded but it will appear in the Transcript of Records. An exam may be retaken twice after the first unsuccessful attempt.

Unfortunately, we cannot award ECTS grades (A, B, C, D, E, F)

Semester breaks

Throughout the semester breaks there are no lectures. The dates of the semester breaks for the academic year 2025/2026 are:

Winter holiday:	22.12.2025 – 11.01.2026
Carnival holiday:	16.02.2026 – 22.02.2026
Easter holiday:	30.03.2026 – 12.04.2026
Whitsun holiday:	25.05.2026 – 07.06.2026

During the semester breaks it is possible to complete a rotation.

Terms and abbreviations

Bedside Teaching: Students, in groups of maximum three, practice taking patient histories and physical examinations. Through this and with the help of a tutor, students are able to put their theoretical knowledge in a clinical context.

INF (Im Neuenheimer Feld): The campus where most of the medical curriculum takes place.

MediKIT (Medical communication and interaction training): With the help of actors and feedback, students are given the opportunity to practice their communication skills, the art of taking patient histories, patient education and delivering bad news.

Moodle: The Learning platform for Heidelberg University. Here you can find study plans, lecture slides and other course information.

OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination): A practical oral examination.

POL (Problem Orientated Learning): A chance for students to develop problem-solving strategies using clinical cases

Skills Lab: Tuition in a variety of practical skills (for example physical examinations, stitching, knots, catheterization or inserting a gastric tube).

Courses and ECTS-Credits

The Heidelberg curriculum (HeiCuMed) has a modular structure. Each module takes place repeatedly during a semester and always finishes with an exam. It is therefore possible to create an individual program.

Block I (Internal Medicine) and II (Surgery) are exceptions as they run for the course of a whole semester.

Below you will find an overview of all courses for our Erasmus students.

Occupational, Social, Environmental and Forensic Medicine

Duration: 3 Weeks

ECTS-Credits: 8

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-17.10.25	13.04.26-01.05.26
	27.10.25-14.11.25	11.05.26-12.06.26
	24.11.25-12.12.25	22.06.26-10.07.26
	02.03.26-20.03.26	

Course Contents

Occupational Medicine

- The role of statutory accident insurance in a social system
- The obligation of doctors to report suspected occupational diseases
- The basics of the ordinance on occupational diseases, assessing medical associations and preventative check-ups.

- Diagnosis, therapy and rehabilitation of selected occupational diseases (respiratory and lung diseases, skin diseases, noise-induced hearing loss, neurological syndromes and infectious diseases)
- The basics of occupational toxicology, biological monitoring and effect monitoring
- The role of occupational doctors in companies
- Cooperation between general practitioners and occupational doctors

Social Medicine

An introduction to the fundamental issues of social medicine at the individual and population levels

Presents a comprehensive overview of the current issues and knowledge in social security in Germany (especially health insurance). Comparisons with other European countries, an overview of outpatient and hospitalized care systems, opportunities in promoting health, prevention and rehabilitation as well as health economics

Environmental Medicine

An introduction to the issues of environmental medicine at individual and population levels

Presents a comprehensive overview of the current knowledge and topics in allergy, bio monitoring, particulate matter, sick building syndrome (SBS), chemical sensitivity (MCS/IEI), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), nutrition, electro-smog and air pollution.

Forensic Medicine

Thanatology, forensic traumatology, forensic toxicology, health care laws, ethics, forensic genetics and traffic medicine

Competent completion of a post-mortem examination, interpreting injuries on patients and bodies, gathering probes for toxicological tests, interpreting

toxicological results, basics in health care laws and ethics, obligations of doctors, analyzing evidence, ancestry determinations, assessing the fitness to drive

Prerequisite

Basic knowledge in clinical medicine, particularly internal medicine, pneumology, ear, nose and throat medicine, dermatology, toxicology, psychosomatics medicine and clinical pharmacology

Basic knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathology

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test

Ophthalmology

Duration: 2 Weeks

ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-10.10.25	13.04.26-24.04.26
	13.10.25-24.10.25	27.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-07.11.25	11.05.26-22.05.26
	10.11.25-21.11.25	08.06.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-05.12.25	22.06.26-03.07.26
	09.12.25-20.12.25	06.07.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-13.03.26	
	16.03.26-27.03.26	

We recommend taking the ophthalmology course combined with ENT because both courses have a shared lecture spanning 4 weeks (from the beginning of the module on).

Course Contents

Students receive daily lectures, a clinical placement, an examination course, POL, give a presentation on an ophthalmologic topic and a presentation on a patient observed during the clinical placement. On top of this, students will take part in patient discussions and two seminars on refractive surgery and visual diagnoses.

Prerequisite

The ophthalmology course is short but intensive. Therefore, reading a textbook beforehand is advised but not compulsory.

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test, practical test of the examination techniques through a Skills Check

Block I – Internal Medicine

Duration: 14 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 35

Module Dates: Winter semester
13.10.25-06.02.26

Course Contents

Week	Subject
1-2	Clinical chemistry, Laboratory diagnostics
3-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardiology, Angiology, Pulmology• Gastroenterology• Hematology, Oncology, Rheumatology• Nephrology, General internal medicine• Endocrinology, Sports medicine• General practice
13-14	Exam preparation and exam

Block I begins with a two week clinical chemistry course. Once completed, students take part in six two-week subject-related modules (weeks 3-12). These six subject-related modules cannot be taken individually, but rather as a whole. Two cross-sectional fields are integrated into the six subject-related modules:

- Clinical Pharmacology / Pharmacotherapy
- Geriatrics

These two courses can either be taken additionally or individually.

Prerequisite

Students must have completed the pre-clinic and the basic block.

Form of Examination

- Clinical Chemistry, Laboratory Diagnostic: Written exam at the end of the course
- Interdisciplinary course (Cardiology, Angiology, Pulmology, Gastroenterology, Hematology, Oncology, Rheumatology, Nephrology, General Internal Medicine, Endocrinology, Sports Medicine, General Practice): Multiple-Choice Test, OSCE, Patient report, Encounter Cards, Mini Clinical Examination (MiniCex)
- Clinical Pharmacology: written exam
- Geriatrics: Geriatric Assessment and written exam

Special Features

Erasmus students are not required to attend the fields of clinical pharmacology and geriatrics. You can also choose to only take the subject-related modules (weeks 3-12).

Erasmus students are also not required to attend the Clinical Chemistry course.

Block II - Surgery

Duration: 14 Weeks

ECTS-Credits: 33

Module Dates: Winter semester
13.10.25-06.02.26

Course Contents

Week	Subject
1	Interdisciplinary Propaedeutic
2-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anesthesia• Vascular Surgery• Cardiac Surgery• Thoracic Surgery• Musculoskeletal Modul (Orthopedics, Surgery, plastic Surgery)• Urology• Visceral Surgery
Continuously during week 1-12	Rehabilitation, Physical Medicine and Naturopathy.
13-14	Exams preparation and Exams

The surgery block is comprised of a one-week propaedeutic and several subject-related modules (week 1 and weeks 2-12). **These are all compulsory. Selecting individual subjects is not possible.**

Also included in Block II are three cross-sectional fields:

- Emergency Medicine (selecting this course individually is possible)

- Clinical pathological conference (interdisciplinary board) (selecting this course is **only possible in combination with weeks 1-12**)
- Rehabilitation, Physical Medicine and Naturopathy (selecting this course is **only possible in combination with weeks 1-12**)

Prerequisite

Students must have completed the pre-clinic and the basic block.

Form of Examination

- Interdisciplinary course (Anesthesia, Vascular Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Orthopedics, Plastic Surgery, Thoracic Surgery Traumatology, Urology and Visceral Surgery): Multiple-Choice Test, OSCE
- Emergency Medicine: Computer-based Test, "Mini Practical exam" and participation in course
- KPK: Written exam and course presentation
- Rehabilitation, Physical Medicine and Naturopathy: Multiple-Choice Test
- Palliative Medicine: Patient report

Dermatology, Allergology

Duration: 2 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-10.10.25	13.04.26-24.04.26
	27.10.25-07.11.25	11.05.26-22.05.26
	24.11.25-05.12.25	22.06.26-03.07.26
	02.03.26-13.03.26	

Course Contents

Recognizing and treating skin diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, allergic diseases and rashes. Developing differential diagnoses, recognizing skin diseases based on their typical location, understanding skin diseases, especially by high risk patients (HIV patients) and describing changes in skin using a differential diagnostic thought process.

Prerequisite

Basic knowledge in microbiology and pharmacology

Form of Examination

Computer-based exam

Epidemiology, Biometry and Medical Informatics

Duration: 2 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-10.10.25	13.04.26-24.04.26
	27.10.25-07.11.25	11.05.26-22.05.26
	24.11.25-05.12.25	22.06.26-03.07.26
	02.03.26-13.03.26	

Course Contents

Epidemiology: Basics of epidemiological research, epidemiological indicators, descriptive epidemiology, types of epidemiological studies, planning, exacting and analyzing epidemiological studies.

Biometry: Basics of empirical research, assessing therapeutic measures, evaluating diagnostic procedures, evaluating prognostic factors and evidence-based medicine.

Medical informatics: Data quantification, types, standardization, coding (ICD, DRGs...), qualities, multiple uses. Knowledge: Sources, research, quality.

Information Systems: Components, security, scenarios in supporting patient care especially image processing.

Form of Examination

Written exam

History, Theory and Ethics of Medicine

Duration: 1 Week ECTS-Credits: 2

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	20.10.25-24.10.25	04.05.26-08.05.26
	17.11.25-21.11.25	15.06.26-19.06.26
	15.12.25-19.12.25	13.07.26-17.07.26
	13.04.26-17.04.26	

Course Contents

Lectures:

History: Ancient medicine; medicine in the Middle Ages; early modern medicine, medicine from the 19th century until contemporary times.

Ethics: Critical judgment in medical treatment decisions; working positions and responsibilities in the clinic; passive and active euthanasia.

Theory: Medical diagnoses and therapy; medicine as a science

Seminars:

The function of the seminars is to expand the topics touched on in the lectures. During the course of the semester, students will be asked to choose a seminar topic (History and Theory I, History and Theory II, Ethics I and Ethics II).

Prerequisite

Completion of the pre-clinic

Form of Examination

Written work (up to 7,000 characters including spaces), the so-called "Reading Notes". The introduction to the writing of "Reading Notes" and the related exercises are part of the lessons during the week and may be accompanied by tutors. The "Reading Notes" is graded according to previously announced criteria. An independent written performance is expected.

Gynecology (with practical training)

Duration: 4 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 8

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-24.10.25	13.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-21.11.25	11.05.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-19.12.25	22.06.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

Basics of gynecological anatomy, endocrinology, gynecology, obstetrics, contraception, endoscopy, gynecological pathology, molecular biology, check-ups, mamma diagnostic, cycle diagnostic, pharmaceutical therapy, breastfeeding, urogynecology and forensic medicine.

Theoretical knowledge, practice relevant courses to develop diagnostic and practical skills, phantom course for practical skills

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test, OSCE

Ear, Nose and Throat Medicine

Duration: 2 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-10.10.25	13.04.26-24.04.26
	13.10.25-24.10.25	27.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-07.11.25	11.05.26-22.05.26
	10.11.25-21.11.25	08.06.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-05.12.25	22.06.26-03.07.26
	09.12.25-20.12.25	06.07.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-13.03.26	
	16.03.26-27.03.26	

We recommend taking the ENT course combined with ophthalmology because both courses have a shared lecture spanning 4 weeks (from the [beginning of the module](#) on).

Course Contents

- Introduction to ear, nose and throat medicine
- Presentation of the most important examination methods in ear, nose and throat medicine (including practical courses)
- Teaching of the most important aspects of causes, diagnosis and treatment of ear, nose and throat diseases
- Compilation of important diseases for differential diagnoses
- Expansion of clinically important diseases
- Participation in patient treatment in the out-patient ward and operating room

Prerequisite

Basic knowledge of anatomy, physiology, pathology, examination techniques and patient history taking

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test, OSCE (with case presentation)

Human Genetics

Duration: 2 Weeks

ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
Seminars:	13.10.25-24.10.25	27.04.26-08.05.26
	10.11.25-21.11.25	08.06.26-19.06.26
	08.12.25-19.12.25	06.07.26-17.07.26
	16.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

- Clinical and molecular basics
- Chromosome: presentation methods, diseases, misdistribution
- Basics of genetics: sexual development and its disruption
- Heredity: autosomal dominant, autosomal recessive, X-chromosomal
- Mitochondrial heredity
- Trinucleotide expansion and defective Imprinting
- Common genetic diseases, mental disability and dysmorphism
- Complex diseases and multi-factor heredity
- Hereditary and acquired cancer forms
- Embryonic and fetal development, deformities and teratogenic toxicants
- Predictive and prenatal diagnostics
- Population genetics and genetic consulting

Prerequisite

Completion of the pre-clinic

Form of Examination

Written exam

Infectious Diseases, Immunology

Duration: 2 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 4

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	13.10.25-24.10.25	27.04.26-08.05.26
	10.11.25-21.11.25	08.06.26-19.06.26
	08.12.25-19.12.25	06.07.26-17.07.26
	16.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

Recognizing and treating infectious diseases, toolbox for diagnosing and treating infectious diseases, basics of antibiotic therapy, important infectious diseases, important prophylaxis and vaccinations for travelling, infectious diseases in general practice, outbreak management in hospitals, interactions of anti-infectives with other pharmaceuticals, basics of tropical medicine, intervention and prevention strategies (hospital hygiene), infections of high risk patients

Prerequisite

General knowledge of infectious diseases and immunology

Form of Examination

Computer-based exam

Neurology

Duration: 4 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 8

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-24.10.25	13.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-21.11.25	11.05.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-19.12.25	22.06.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

- Neurological diagnostics, neurological examination techniques and patient history taking. These skills will be taught in lectures and refined by bedside teaching.
- The topics: dizziness, ocular motor disturbances and dementia will be taught during interdisciplinary seminars
- Making diagnoses and differential diagnoses using test results, patient histories and neurological examinations
- Recognizing which diagnostic and therapy to use

Prerequisite

None

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test (40 Questions), OSCE (5 Stations)

Pediatrics (with practical training)

Duration: 4 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 8

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-24.10.25	13.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-21.11.25	11.05.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-19.12.25	22.06.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

The most important knowledge, skills and attitudes in pediatrics

Recognizing, naming and relating the most important aspects of pediatrics

Demonstrate basic communication skills in patient history taking and patient consulting using typical patient cases

Demonstrate basic examination techniques for infants, small children and school children

Attitude: demonstrate situation judging and respect for patient personalities

Prerequisite

Basic knowledge of internal medicine, examination techniques and taking patient histories

Form of Examination

Computer-based exam (Multiple-Choice and Key-feature questions), OSCE

Psychiatry, Psychosomatic Medicine and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Duration: 4 Weeks ECTS-Credits: 8

Module Dates:	Winter semester	Summer semester
	29.09.25-24.10.25	13.04.26-08.05.26
	27.10.25-21.11.25	11.05.26-19.06.26
	24.11.25-19.12.25	22.06.26-17.07.26
	02.03.26-27.03.26	

Course Contents

- Diagnoses and differential diagnoses in psychiatry, psychosomatic medicine and child/adolescent psychiatry
- The basics of treating psychiatric, psychosomatic and pediatric/adolescent psychiatric diseases
- Demonstrate skills in: psychopathology, taking psychopathological patient histories, assessing interactions and behavior, suicidology
- Conversational skills (building patient-doctor relationship; doctor vs. patient-orientated consulting; perceiving non-verbal signals; talking about emotions)
- A comprehensive overview of current issues and knowledge in psychopathology, psychodynamics, neurobiology, psychobiology, social psychology and developmental psychology
- Psychometrics (Assessing cognition and personalities)
- Forensics

Form of Examination

Multiple-Choice Test, OSCE (4 Stations)