



JACOBS  
UNIVERSITY

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# FOUNDATION YEAR PROGRAM

PRE-DEGREE STUDY PROGRAM



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## THE FOUNDATION YEAR PROGRAM

Planning and preparing for your academic future is an important step. Join Jacobs University's Foundation Year Program to get a taste of different fields of study and to acquire academic learning skills before starting your degree. The intensive pre-degree program prepares you over two semesters for the challenge of studying at an international university and helps you find the study program that best matches your interests. All students who successfully complete the Foundation Year Program receive guaranteed admission to Jacobs University's undergraduate programs.

The Foundation Year Program consists of the core curriculum and an individualized track. The core curriculum allows you to take introductory courses in four different disciplines to obtain insights into different fields of study, to gain first laboratory experience and to develop your academic and professional skills. Depending on your academic background and your goals, you will be able to choose further study modules and to create your own individual study plan to complete one of three Foundation Year tracks: The Preparation Track, the Orientation Track or the Qualification Track. Your academic advisor and the program counselor will support you during this process and will advise you which track to choose.

— **PREPARATION:** If your central objective is to get ready for your future studies, the Preparation Track is for you. While gaining subject orientation in different fields of study, it will allow you to boost your math skills, to study for the SAT (standardized university admission test) and to finetune your academic English. Students of this track will be able to collect a minimum of 20 ECTS credits.

— **ORIENTATION:** If you are still wondering about possible fields of study, but already feel well-prepared for university, you can enroll in our Orientation Track. This track will allow you to take a larger number of regular undergraduate courses from several disciplines and thus, at the end of the year, to make an informed decision what subject you would like to study. Students of this track can obtain up to 45 transferable ECTS credits (a quarter of the credits necessary to finish a Bachelor's degree).

— **QUALIFICATION:** For those who would primarily like to improve their academic English before applying to university, the Qualification Track offers intensive daily English classes in a university setting. This means that additionally to the Foundation Year core curriculum, students of this track train extensively for both the SAT and the TOEFL.

Regardless of the track, a subject specialization in one of the following fields is possible: Economics & Management, Engineering & Computer Sciences, Natural Sciences & Life Sciences, Social Sciences and History.

An important component of Jacobs University's educational mission is to foster students' interpersonal and intercultural competencies which are increasingly important in an interconnected globalized world. As a Foundation Year student, you can take full advantage of the many learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom: Get immersed in the intercultural campus environment, take part in the various sports activities offered, or become a member of one of the 30 social, political, academic, and entrepreneurial clubs, such as Model United Nations or the Debating Society.

## THE CURRICULUM

The Foundation Year program seeks to provide you with the best possible preparation for a university education by responding to your individual needs. You can take part in creating your personal study plan based on your interests.

### ■ CORE CURRICULUM (ALL FOUNDATION YEAR STUDENTS)

- Two-semester introductory course covering four academic disciplines (Economics & Management, Natural Sciences & Life Sciences, Engineering & Computer Sciences, Social Sciences & Humanities)
- Participation in two regular undergraduate courses accompanied by tutorials
- Laboratory or methods course in an academic field of your choice
- Academic and professional skills coaching

### ■ PREPARATION TRACK

- Academic English
- Math and statistics
- Intensive training for the standardized university admission test SAT
- Elective courses across all academic disciplines
- German classes (optional)

### ■ ORIENTATION TRACK

- Several elective courses across all academic disciplines
- SAT training (optional) and German classes (optional)

### ■ QUALIFICATION TRACK

- Intensive daily academic English classes
- Intensive training for the SAT and the TOEFL (Test of English and Foreign Language)

■ [www.jacobs-university.de/foundationyear](http://www.jacobs-university.de/foundationyear)

# FOUNDATION YEAR MODULES

MODULE 1	UP TO 7,5 CREDITS	<b>FOUNDATION YEAR LECTURE SERIES</b> Economics, Engineering, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences  <b>ASSOCIATED LAB/METHODS COURSE</b>	<b>CORE CURRICULUM FOR ALL FOUNDATION YEAR STUDENTS</b>
MODULE 2	UP TO 10 CREDITS	<b>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE: WORLD</b> Choice between a Natural Science and a Social Science introductory lecture  <b>FOUNDATION YEAR LECTURE: GERMANY</b> Germany: History, Politics and Society	
MODULE 3	UP TO 2,5 CREDITS	<b>ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS</b>	
MODULE 4	UP TO 5 CREDITS	<b>MATHEMATICS</b>  <b>ACADEMIC ENGLISH</b>	<b>ELECTIVE MODULES</b>  After consultation with the academic advisor, students choose between two and three of these modules in addition to the core curriculum depending on their selected track.
MODULE 5	0 CREDITS	<b>SAT TRAINING</b>	
MODULE 6	UP TO 10 CREDITS	<b>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE MODULE</b> Choice of different modules in Economics and Management, Natural Sciences and Life Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Psychology, Social Sciences and Humanities.	
MODULE 7	UP TO 10 CREDITS	<b>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE MODULE</b> Choice of different study modules in Economics and Management, Natural Sciences and Life Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Psychology, Social Sciences and Humanities.	
MODULE 8	UP TO 5 CREDITS	<b>GERMAN</b>	

## FOUNDATION YEAR SERVICES

- Expert guidance in the transition to undergraduate studies
- Professional academic advising
- Intensive personalized coaching program and college counseling
- SAT/TOEFL test preparation and registration
- Residential colleges with modern single rooms
- In-college cafeterias with full board
- Fully-equipped recreation center and multimedia rooms
- Excursion to major European cities
- Orientation Week to facilitate the transition to Jacobs University
- Host family program
- General support (visa, airport pick-up etc.)
- University campus with 24-hour security

## HOW TO APPLY

For a complete application to the Foundation Year Program, please submit the following documents:

- the online application form
- a short motivation statement
- your high school transcripts
- a reference letter from a teacher or a guidance counselor
- a proof of English language proficiency (TOEFL, ILETS or Cambridge Certificate)\*

\*Students wishing to enroll in the Qualification Track are exempted from the English language proficiency requirement and do not need to take an English test.



### APPLICATION DEADLINES

The rolling admission process begins on September 15 for Fall entry in the following year and ends on August 1, four weeks prior to the start of the program. Students who require a visa for Germany should apply by June 15. Since spaces are limited, we recommend to apply early.

**Students who complete the Foundation Year Program successfully will receive guaranteed admission to Jacobs University's Bachelor programs.**

[www.jacobs-university.de/foundation-admission](http://www.jacobs-university.de/foundation-admission)

## COSTS

The total cost of the Foundation Year Program is €23,000. The fee includes all costs associated with the program, including room and board in the residential colleges, excursions to major European cities as well as public transportation within Bremen.



## ABOUT JACOBS UNIVERSITY

Jacobs University, a private university located in Bremen, is one of the most international universities in Germany, characterized by a truly intercultural community. The university, founded in 2001, attracts highly talented and open-minded students from all over the world; more than 1,300 students from over 100 nations currently live and study on our residential campus. Jacobs University is a research-oriented, state-accredited university with a broad portfolio of undergraduate and graduate study programs from the natural and social sciences to engineering and economics. All programs are taught in English. Research and education at Jacobs University are structured in three distinct focus areas:

- MOBILITY – OF PEOPLE, GOODS, AND INFORMATION
- HEALTH – FOCUS ON BIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
- DIVERSITY – IN MODERN SOCIETIES

At Jacobs University, class sizes are small; professors act as individual personal mentors and academic advisors to students. Students are actively involved in research from their first year of study. In research and teaching, our faculty members follow a transdisciplinary approach, addressing issues from multiple perspectives. In Germany's most comprehensive and detailed university ranking by the Center for Higher Education (CHE), Jacobs University has consistently achieved top marks since first participating in 2005.

## ABOUT BREMEN

Jacobs University is based in the north of Bremen – a city with a maritime atmosphere and 1,200 years of history. About half a million people live in Bremen, and it is easy to get around the city, which has a high quality of living. The historical market square is famous for Bremen's mascots, the Town Musicians from the Brothers Grimm fairy tale, and is a UNESCO World Heritage site. More than 30,000 students live and study in Bremen and nearby Bremerhaven which together form the Bundesland (state) Bremen.

There are many restaurants, pubs, clubs, museums, theaters, and other venues to explore in the city. Bremen is home to the Freimarkt, Germany's oldest funfair, and the traditional Christmas market is a popular destination not just for locals. The Schlachte area along the Weser River and the Viertel quarter are known for their vibrant nightlife. Bremen boasts a great cultural life with theater, concerts, festivals, or flea markets.



“Coming to Jacobs University for the Foundation Year was the best decision I could have made after high school. Gaining insights into an institution like Jacobs University and taking courses from many disciplines has helped me to find myself and to figure out what I want to do with my life.”

Emily Waller • Germany • Foundation Year Graduate

“Jacobs University is not too big, and that is the university’s great advantage: The classes are small, our instructors take care of each individual student and help us out if we struggle with the material. The student community is close-knit. You can always rely on your friends’ support, and it is impossible to feel bored or homesick.”

Oleg Borisov • Russia • Foundation Year Student



“Living on campus allows you to experience the beauty of different cultures. I have made friends with students from all over the world, and ultimately found a best friend from India. Outside the classroom, I found my passion for football, basketball, dance and art. Currently, I manage the Art Club together with another student. It’s exciting to be part of a team, and to be responsible for something other than studies.”

Darlina Mamaqi • Albania • Foundation Year Graduate

“As a student of the Foundation Year Program I could gain invaluable insights into many different majors. The program allowed me to get to know my strengths and my weaknesses and to recognize my potential. I really value my teachers’ support in helping me improve my interpersonal skills and study habits.”

Gökseven Cakir • Turkey • Foundation Year Graduate



## JACOBS UNIVERSITY

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