Ways to Halle

International Office

MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG
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Dear international students,

Named after Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant Reformation, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) is steeped in tradition – and one of Europe’s oldest universities. A full-fledged university, we offer degree programs in the natural sciences, humanities, social sciences and economics.

MLU represents a unique combination of tradition and modernity that provides international students an outstanding learning environment, along with total support in pursuit of their academic goals. The combination of optimal teaching support and modern facilities all but guarantee the success of your studies at MLU.

I am very pleased to be able to welcome you to our university.

Prof. Dr. Udo Sträter
Rector, Martin-Luther-Universität

Dear students,

By choosing to study at Martin-Luther-Universität you will also be choosing a great university town! Halle offers not only a vibrant cultural life and the convenience of an outstanding local and long-distance transportation infrastructure, but also a beautiful natural environment – all of which combine to create the ideal setting for learning and a rich student life. Halle combines an inspiring urban atmosphere with the ease and convenience of a smaller city. All in all, a very pleasant place to live, study and work!

With hopes that you decide to come to Halle,
I wish you much success at MLU!

Dr. Bernd Wiegand
Senior Mayor, City of Halle (Saale)
A word from our international students

Mirac, Turkey
I was extremely nervous about my Erasmus year in Halle before the programme began, but I had the perfect year in Halle! The city, MLU’s International Office, the people, the students and Germany as a whole were all wonderful. I learned a good deal of German and was also able to work part-time during my studies. Now I want to come back and find a job here in Germany as soon as possible. Thanks for everything!

Mathilde, France
I learned a lot from being in a foreign country. Coming into contact with different cultures has really help expand my horizons – far more than if I had remained at home.

Patricia, Spain
Attending MLU in Halle was the best decision I could have ever made. It was a very warm welcome from day one and I always received the support I needed. It’s no accident that MLU is ranked number one in Germany as a place to study law.

Ekaterina, Russia
I have been extremely impressed by the university, the city and the people here. The Institute of Pedagogy has advanced facilities and very friendly professors, and I received outstanding support from the International Office from my very first day on campus. For international students there are numerous cultural events and excursions to Berlin, Dresden and Weimar.
Marta, Poland
My academic adventure at Martin-Luther-Universität began as an Erasmus student. Right away I discovered how multicultural and multilingual the city is – and how strong it is in the sciences and research. From the very beginning I was impressed by the high level of study and the large course offering. There is a ton to discover on campus and the city’s night life is also a lot of fun. I’m glad I came to Halle and hope to stay here for a while!

Aino, Finland
Really nice people, high academic standards, an incredibly beautiful city – it’s the perfect place for students. It’s been one of the greatest experiences of my life.
The history of Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) goes back over 500 years, making it one of Germany’s oldest universities.

MLU was established in 1817 with the union of the University of Wittenberg (founded in 1502), which was considered the center of the Protestant Reformation, and the University of Halle (1694), which was a springboard for the Enlightenment. Today, MLU is the largest university in the German state of Saxony-Anhalt.

Great minds “made in Halle”

MLU is named after Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant Reformation, who studied theology at the University of Wittenberg and later assumed the “Lectura in Biblia” professorship.

Other famous personalities have also chosen to study in Halle, including the composer George Frideric Handel and well-known German political figures such as Kurt Schumacher, one of the founding fathers of the Federal Republic of Germany, and former Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Nobel laureates Gustav Hertz and Karl Ziegler both taught at MLU and today Halle researchers – in law, medicine or physics – are among the world’s best.

MLU has been attracting students and researchers from around the world for many years. As early as 1730, the philosopher Anton Wilhelm Amo became the first African student to receive a university degree in Germany. Numerous successful international political leaders and scientists have also studied at MLU.
Modern – Outstanding facilities

Study in comfort
Students at Halle enjoy an ideal working environment: WiFi throughout the entire university campus, numerous scan, copy and printing facilities, computer workstations in the libraries as well as canteens and cafés at all university locations are all standard at MLU.

Modern campus facilities
At MLU, teaching and cutting-edge research takes place in ultra-modern facilities. Over the years, the university has grown steadily and today comprises multiple locations across the entire Halle metropolitan area. The natural sciences campuses have been recently renovated and, in some cases, newly constructed. The new Center for Humanities, which opens in 2014, will bring together all institutes of the three Faculties of Philosophy under one roof.

Libraries: Extensive collections in every field
About 20 libraries in Halle guarantee that the right book is always easy to find. Among these is the university and state library with locations throughout the city, including the main branch and several smaller discipline-specific libraries. MLU makes it a priority to accommodate the needs of its students. The law library, for example, is open daily until 5 am.
With over 260 Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programs, anyone can find what they are looking for at MLU – whether in the natural sciences, humanities, economics or the social sciences. Along with traditional disciplines such as Mathematics, English Studies and History, the university also offers less common courses of study such as Japanology, Oriental Studies and Social and Cultural Anthropology.

The language of instruction at MLU is primarily German, although the institutes are offering more and more courses in English. In addition, MLU offers degree programmes entirely in English.

Areas of study

- Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences
- Biosciences
- Chemistry
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science
- Economics and Business
- Educational Sciences
- Geosciences
- Historical Cultural Studies
- Law
- Languages & Literatures
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Musicology
- Physics
- Social Sciences
- Sports Science
- Theology
Renowned university rankings continue to place MLU among the strongest schools – a testament to its high-quality teaching.

**Optimal support**

Every one of MLU’s 20,000 students receives the support they need. A **large number of professors and research staff** guarantees an optimal learning experience. Regular office hours and email make it easy to maintain regular contact with professors and the rest of the teaching staff. International students can also take advantage of special contact points such as the university’s **Commissioner for Foreigners**, who provides assistance to international students who encounter difficulties within the university or with the City of Halle’s administrative agencies. The **International Office** can answer all of the most important questions regarding life at the university and in Halle. Please see page 26 for additional information.

As a doctoral candidate in Philosophy specializing in German idealism, there was no question that Germany was the best place for my studies. Martin-Luther-Universität, which has historically played an important role in the development of idealism, is the perfect place to learn more about this school of philosophy. At the same time, Halle also offers a thorough, in-depth treatment of the modern philosophical debates. The Philosophy Department library as well as the Francke Foundations library provided me with the material I needed for my research. And aside from academic life, I very much enjoy the rich cultural life here in Halle.

**Gustavo Macedo Rodriguez, Mexiko**  
Winner, DAAD Prize 2013
Hands-on study and research

Several of MLU’s research projects involve collaboration with renowned institutes such as the Max Planck Institute, the Fraunhofer Institute as well as the Leibniz Association and the Helmholtz Association in Halle. Industry experts regularly join the ranks of MLU’s teaching staff to ensure a practical, applications-oriented academic experience for students. Industry partnerships include ties with Bayer, Dell and Dow Chemical, where students can pursue internships or thesis work.

Studying with children

Students with children can rest assured that MLU will provide the support they need. The university’s own Family Services Office supports them in all aspects of academic life. Family Commissioners in each of the departments also represent the special interests of students with family obligations. Baby changing rooms and play areas can be found in many places around the university and families can take advantage of childcare services and special sports activities. MLU’s family-friendliness has even been officially endorsed. For several years now, the university has proudly displayed its certificate for being a “Family-Friendly University”.
Active – Sports, music and getting involved

There’s plenty to do in Halle outside the classroom as well. The Studierenderrat (Student Council), the individual departments and a large number of local athletic clubs offer numerous ways to stay fit and active – whether in sports, music or volunteer work.

Sports

One of the 80 different sports offered by the Universitätssportzentrum (MLU sport center) is a great way to give the brain a break after the day’s lectures and seminars. Sports at MLU include traditional team sports such as football, beach volleyball or rugby, as well as more unusual disciplines like oriental dance, rope skipping and wave riding. About 400 sports facilities throughout Halle provide ample space for sporting fun.

➜ www.usz.uni-halle.de/webpage/index.htm

Local athletic clubs in Halle are also very open to new members. Halle, in fact, serves as a training center for German national teams in sports such as swimming, track & field and gymnastics.
Music

Numerous musical ensembles offer students a creative, right-brain outlet to complement the long hours of left-brain study. Campus groups such as the university choir, big band or orchestra are always happy to welcome new members. As Händel’s native city, Halle of course also offers several music clubs, choirs and orchestras outside the university as well.

Getting involved

MLU students can also get involved in numerous clubs, which range from debating to art photography. For budding journalists, activities such as “Uni-TV”, “Uni-Radio” and Halle’s student newspaper “hastuzeit” are a great option.

A wide range of student initiatives and clubs organize and host their own cultural events. Students looking to play an active role in shaping student life at MLU are encouraged to get involved in the departmental student councils or MLU’s Student Council.
Attractive – A lovable university town

Nearly one fifth of Halle’s 250,000 residents are between the ages of 18 and 30. The city is both lively and lovable, thanks to its combination of arts, culture, recreation, shopping and great food.

Colorful student life

Halle has everything that an attractive university town needs. Bars, pubs, cafés and restaurants invite students to hang-out, relax and enjoy good food, from regional cuisine to Mexican and Japanese specialties. There is always something going on at the city’s bar districts, with clubs and trend spots attracting the night revellers. The “Turm” (Tower) is an absolute must for students. Located in the historic Moritzburg Castle, the “Turm” is a favorite venue for parties, readings and concerts.

lively arts and culture scene

Vibrant cultural city

A short walk through Halle is enough to reveal the city’s rich history. The streets are lined with architecture that spans the ages from Jugendstil, classicism, baroque to renaissance style. Halle’s cultural scene is worth a visit for any fan of the arts: dramatic theatre, vaudeville and cabaret as well as numerous festivals make up an important part of the culture scene. Along with several theatres, cinemas and a newly built concert hall, there is an opera house as well as Germany’s oldest cabaret theater, the “Steintor-Varieté”.

As the birthplace of the composer Georg Frideric Handel, Halle plays host to the annual and internationally acclaimed Handel Festival. Visitors should also be sure not to miss one of central Germany’s largest folk festivals, the “Laternenfest”.

young and international
Green and affordable – Halle’s high quality of life

Reasonable rent

Halle is affordable. Unlike other large cities such as Cologne or Munich, rents in Halle are low. Particularly affordable rooms can be found in the dormitories and residential areas run by the Studentenwerk (Student Union), where tutors are also available to support international students and to help with all manner of questions and problems.

Surrounded by green

Halle is a green city. The Peißnitz – a large park on the Saale right in the middle of the city – is a great place to ride a bicycle, go for a run or play football. In the summer, water and boating enthusiasts row or water ski on the river and the park turns into a big grill party in the evenings. Several lakes and a large forest nearby provide additional recreational opportunities.
### WHAT A SEMESTER IN HALLE COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester fees</td>
<td>€100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Studentenwerk/Student Union, weekend bus/tram ticket)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLU does not charge tuition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books, copies</td>
<td>€500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living accommodations</td>
<td>€1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>€900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>€470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal expenses (clothing, leisure activities)</td>
<td>€600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAVAG Ticket (Semesterticket Plus)</td>
<td>€90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Close and accessible

Thanks to the city’s extensive public transport system, getting from A to B is quick and easy with all points in the city reachable by either bus or tram. And the best part is, your Semesterticket (public transportation ticket) covers all transportation costs for the whole semester. Getting around Halle by bike is also a breeze, with very few hills and a compact city center with everything just a few minutes away. This, together with city’s “green belt” along the Saale River, makes biking in Halle a real pleasure. There are also several bike tours to enjoy in the surrounding area.

### Centrally located

Halle is ideally located for exploring the rest of Germany. Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Frankfurt am Main as well as the Baltic Sea are all just a quick train ride away. Those looking to explore even further can hop a train at Halle’s central station and arrive at the Leipzig/Halle international airport in just 10 minutes, putting the world at your fingertips.
Enrolling at Martin-Luther-Universität

There are two ways for international students or applicants from abroad to enroll at our historic university:

1. Full-time students

Full-time students are defined as students seeking to obtain a university degree from MLU. They apply for admission to one of the university’s 260 degree programs (see page 11), choosing between a Bachelor program and a Master’s degree program. Please see page 22 for more information.

THE ACADEMIC YEAR AT MLU

Winter term: 1 October – 31 March
Summer term: 1 April – 30 September

Semester breaks are used for writing papers, preparing for exams and/or completing internships.

Click here for a list of all the important dates for the coming academic year:

➜ http://tiny.cc/s62h1w

The Löwengebäude (Lion’s Hall), home of the Immatrikulationsamt (Registration Office)
2. Exchange students

Exchange students are students that spend anywhere between one to twelve months at Martin-Luther-Universität with no intention of obtaining a degree from the university. They come to Halle either to study or to pursue other academic activities, such as internships, research projects, and thesis work. The exchange student’s study activity and academic performance are officially documented in a Transcript of Records. Please see page 24 for more information.

There are three types of exchange students at MLU:

- **ERASMUS incomers**: These are students from European universities that have an institutional agreement with MLU. The Erasmus program covers both study and internship opportunities.

- **Visiting students**: These students come to MLU from around the world as part of other international exchange programs with our university.

- Independent “Free Movers”: These are international applicants who seek temporary admission to Martin-Luther-Universität without any existing affiliation between their home university and MLU.
Applicants who did not receive their university entrance qualification or their first academic degree in Germany must submit their applications to the organization uni-assist (www.uni-assist.de). The application process is first completed electronically using the uni-assist online portal. Once this is done, application documents must be printed out, signed and submitted in paper form to the following address:

Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
c/o uni-assist e.V.
Helmholtzstraße 2–9
10587 Berlin

WHAT IS UNI-ASSIST?

Uni-assist is the university application service for international students. The organization manages the application process for MLU as well as several other German universities. Students are required to pay a handling fee for the processing of their applications.

→ www.uni-assist.de
Exceptions:

1. Citizens from the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Norway holding a high school diploma from one of these countries and who are applying to a degree program with restricted admission (medicine, pharmacy, or dentistry) must apply through the Stiftung für Hochschulzulassung “hochschulSTART” (formerly ZVS).

   ➜ www.hochschulstart.de

2. Students interested in the following postgraduate courses should send their applications directly to the MLU Immatrikulationsamt (Registration Office).
   - Master of Law, LL.M
   - Master of Business Law and Economic Law, LL.M oec. /MBL
   - Konzertexam (Master Class/concert exam)

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Deadlines for Bachelor studies and state examinations:
- Winter term: 30 June
- Summer term: 15 January

Deadlines for Master’s programs:
- Winter term: 30 April
  Exception: MSc Pharmaceutical Biotechnology: 31 March
- Summer term: 31 October

Contact for full-time students:
Immatrikulationsamt/Registration Office – International Students
Ina Hieronymus
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 55-21314
international.students@uni-halle.de

Andrea Schreiter
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 55-21519
international.students@uni-halle.de
Each year MLU welcomes students from its international partner universities to Halle - some come to study for one or two semesters, while others arrive to take part in internships.

**Application requirements**

**Erasmus incomers and exchange program students** must:

- be registered at a university that has a valid exchange agreement with Martin-Luther-Universität;
- be nominated by their home university to come to MLU - nominations must be submitted to the university’s International Office;
- fulfill certain language requirements. Most courses at MLU are taught in German. To make the students’ stay as successful as possible, it is important for them to have a good grasp of the German language. This said, international applicants coming to MLU as part of an exchange program are not required to submit proof of German proficiency. The one exception to this rule applies to students of medicine. For admission into the Faculty of Medicine, exchange students must submit proof of at least B2 CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference) level proficiency in German.

**Free Movers (independent applicants):**

Students from abroad who are organizing their stay at MLU on their own must:

- be enrolled in a university;
- find an MLU faculty member in a comparable program who is willing to act as their supervisor for the duration of their stay. The International Office is happy to assist in this process.

In addition to the regular application materials, “free movers” must also submit a written confirmation from their academic supervisor. The necessary forms can be found here:

» [http://tiny.cc/c92h1w](http://tiny.cc/c92h1w)
Application materials:
- Application form
- *Betreuerbestätigung/*Supervisor confirmation form (“free movers” only)
- Proof of health insurance coverage in copy (for EU students: EHIC)
- Current passport photo

Application materials should be submitted both electronically (PDF) and in paper form to the MLU International Office.

- erasmus@international.uni-halle.de

and

Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
International Office
Anna Kostov
06099 Halle (Saale)

Contact for exchange student applications:
International Office
Anna Kostov
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 55 - 213 83
erasmus@international.uni-halle.de

For more information about the application process and for application forms click here:

- http://tiny.cc/j82h1w

APPLICATION DEADLINES
- Winter term/entire year: 15 May
- Summer term: 15 November
The International Office – We are happy to help

The International Office is the primary point of contact for international students looking to study or take part in an internship at Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg.

Aside from advising students on the application process at MLU, the International Office also offers a wide range of support services for the university’s international community.

We provide information and advice on:

- Rights and regulations concerning entry and residence
- Finding living accommodations
- Insurance and health issues
- Student jobs and internships
- Assistance in emergency situations

We also offer:

- Orientation activities for new international students
- Language courses
- Cultural events and activities

Stop by our office any time, or write to us:

International Office
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg (D HALLE01)
Universitätsring 19/20
06108 Halle (Saale)

incoming@international.uni-halle.de

For more details about our office and services:

➜ www.international.uni-halle.de/incomings
International students at the welcome event

Student welcome bags for MLU’s new arrivals

Orientation session to kick off the new semester
In good hands from day one

Buddy Program – no need to go it alone

Every new beginning is tough – especially if you are studying abroad and jumping into an entirely new city, a new university and a new learning environment. The International Office has developed the Buddy Program to help ease the transition. Every incoming Erasmus and visiting student from abroad is assigned a “buddy”. Buddies help the new students find their way in and around campus and figure out the formalities of their stay.

Resident assistants – support from day one

All of the Studentenwerk Halle (Student Union) dormitories have so-called Wohnheimtutoren (resident assistants). Most of the resident assistants are international students themselves. Their job is to help new students from abroad adjust to the new university environment. Resident assistants, who can be contacted by new students even before they arrive in Halle, stand ready to support MLU’s new arrivals from the day they move into the dorm.

⇒ www.wohnheimtutoren-halle.de

Orientation week and welcome seminars

At the beginning of each academic year, MLU welcomes all of its new students with an orientation week. The centrally organized event provides important information on a full range of topics, including registration, formalities with Halle’s administrative bodies, library facilities, the Studentenwerk (Student Union) and other ins and outs of student life. The various orientation events help the university’s newest members make the most of their time at MLU.

The International Office also invites MLU’s international students to take part in welcome and orientation workshops. The events give newcomers the chance to meet other international students and to reflect on what they wish to achieve during their stay in Halle. The program helps ensure a smooth transition into the university community and prepares students for their academic studies at MLU.

HOST FAMILY PROGRAM

International students taking a language course before the semester begins have the opportunity to live with a host family during this time. The program is a great opportunity to gain first-hand exposure to German culture.
Language courses

Still not feeling confident with your German skills? Not to worry - the Sprachenzentrum, MLU’s language and media center, offers a wide range of German and foreign language courses and programs, and they are free. German language courses are also offered by the “Institute for German Language and Culture at the Martin-Luther-University in Wittenberg”, which are available for a fee both during and between semesters. Another effective way to enhance intercultural competencies is through the International Office’s Language Tandem Program. Two or more students from different countries are matched up and together they learn about each other’s language, life and culture. International students naturally expand their knowledge of German in the process.

Cultural program

The International Office also offers a rich cultural program throughout the year, featuring excursions, theme nights, concerts, museum events and an international Stammtisch (Regulars’ Table), which meets regularly in one of Halle’s pubs. There are also English, Polish, Spanish and Italian Regulars’ Tables.
Contacts and links

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erasmus@international.uni-halle.de

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gritt.eisenkopf@international.uni-halle.de
incoming@international.uni-halle.de

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Registration Office – International Students Section
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 55-21519
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 55-21314
Fax: +49 (0)3 45. 55-27052
international.students@uni-halle.de

Studentenwerk Halle/Student Union Accommodation Office
Wolfgang-Langenbeck-Str. 5
06120 Halle (Saale)
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 68 47-413, -415, -417
Fax: +49 (0)3 45. 68 47-418
wpvhalle@studentenwerk-halle.de

Ausländerbehörde/City of Halle’s Authority for Foreign Citizens
Am Stadion 5
06122 Halle (Saale)
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 2 2153 05
Fax: +49 (0)3 45. 2 2153 12

Bürgerservice/Local registration authority
Marktplatz 1
06108 Halle (Saale)
Tel.: +49 (0)3 45. 2 2114 54 or +49 (0)3 45. 2210
(by appointment only)
Fax: +49 (0)3 45. 2 2146 17
buergerservice@halle.de