PIASTA Welcome Week

How Does Studying Work?
Write to us in the chat:

1. What are you studying?
2. Where are you viewing this right now?
How does studying work?

1. What can you expect during your studies?
2. How is the semester organized?
3. What kind of courses are there?
4. What kind of examinations are there?
5. How are degree programs structured?
6. What does it mean to study?
7. How can you actively shape your studies?
8. Who helps when and where?
1. What can you expect at the start of your studies?
Write to us in the chat:

1. The first classes will take place in two weeks. What do you think will still take place in the two weeks before your studies start?
What can you expect at the start of your studies?

- Welcome Week
- Orientation module
- Course registration
- Semester start
Orientation module (OE)

• Important information for your subject
• STiNE
• Examination regulations and subject-specific provisions (FSBs)
• Choosing courses with tutors

When do OEs take place?

Short cut:  
www.uni-hamburg.de/oe

Or:  
www.uni-hamburg.de > Studies

You are now on the Campus Center website: > Organizing your studies > First-year info
Orientation module (OE)

Example: Law OE

- Activating uni username (e.g., explained at the “To-Dos für neue Studierende” and “IT-Dienste und WLAN” sessions)
- Registering at Open OLAT
Orientation module (OE)

Example: Informatics OE

• Registration is optional but helpful.
• Information may change at short notice. Check the OE / departmental student representative committee website.
2. How is the semester organized?
# Timetable overview

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Welcome Week</th>
<th>Orientation module (OE)</th>
<th>Course registration</th>
<th>Semester start</th>
<th>Breaks</th>
<th>Semester break (reading period)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4–7 October 2022 | 10–14 October 2022 | First semester  
10 Oct, 9 am—13 Oct, 4 pm  
Course changes:  
17 Oct, 9 am—27 Oct, 1 pm | Winter Semester 2022  
1 October 2022—31 March 2023 | Winter break:  
22 December 2022—8 January 2023 | 5 February 2023—31 March 2023 |

**First semester**  
10 Oct, 9 am—13 Oct, 4 pm  
Lecture period  
17 October 2022—4 February 2023
How is the semester organized?

Lecture period
• Weekly courses and block courses
• Preparing for and following up on courses
• Working in study groups
• Documenting completed coursework
• Preparing for and taking exams

Reading period
• No courses
• Time for internships
• Time for term papers
• Exams (depending on faculty)
3. What kind of courses are there?
What kind of courses are there?

**Weekly courses**
- 90 minutes, once per week
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Practical courses, tutorials, lab work ...

**Block courses**
- Individual appointments throughout the semester
- Several hours at a time
What kind of courses are there?

**Lecture**
- Lots of students
- Lecture hall or online
- Professors
- Written examination

**Seminar**
- 10–30 students
- Research associates
- Group work
- Presentations
- Term paper

**Practical course / tutorial / lab work**
- 10–25 students
- In addition to other courses
- Tutors
- In-depth exercises
Scheduling at the University

12 s.t.

s.t. = *sine tempore* (Latin)

This indicates that the course begins punctually on the hour.

12 s.t.

= 12 pm

12 c.t.

c.t. = *cum tempore* (Latin)

This indicates that the course begins 15 minutes after the hour (*academic quarter*).

12 c.t.

= 12:15 pm
Online learning platforms at Universität Hamburg

E-learning portal: www.uni-hamburg.de/elearning.html
4. How are degree programs structured?
How are degree programs structured?

Subject-specific provisions (FSBs)

- Program structure
- Module descriptions
- Calculation of grades

Examination regulations

- Regular period of study
- Recognition and accreditation of coursework and examinations
- Admission to examinations
- Theses and similar
How are degree programs structured?

**Modules**
- Required modules
- Required elective modules
- Multiple courses and examinations
- One or two semesters

**Elective area**
- Courses taken in addition to required courses

**ECTS credits**
- ECTS credits
- Credit points
- 1 ECTS credit = approx. 30 hours of work (e.g., participation and exam preparation)
Degree plan (FSBs)
Example:
BA in Socioeconomics

“SWS” = credit hours per week
“LP” = ECTS credits

2 SWS = 1.5 hrs. per week
1 LP = time expenditure of 30 hours
5. What kind of examinations are there?
What kind of examinations are there?

Write to us in the chat:

What types of examinations are you familiar with from school, vocational training, or your previous studies?
What kind of examinations are there?

Coursework
- Not graded
- Presentations, portfolios, and smaller written work, for instance

Examinations
- Graded
- Written examinations, oral examinations, and term papers
# What kind of examinations are there?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written examination</th>
<th>Term paper</th>
<th>Oral examination</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Usually at the end of lectures</td>
<td>• Focus on a specific topic</td>
<td>• Agreed-upon topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Multiple choice</td>
<td>• Consultations during office hours</td>
<td>• Questions/discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Written tasks</td>
<td>• Line of inquiry and literature searches</td>
<td>• Duration of, e.g., 15–30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Deadlines</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
6. What does it mean to study?
Mentimeter:
1. What does studying mean to you?

2. What are you looking forward to in your first semester?
What does it mean to study?

Independent study
(Bibliographic) research
Preparation and follow-up
Examination preparation
In-depth work on topics
Reading

COURSE LOADS:

Attendance
Seminars, lectures,
tutorials, ...
Group work
Internships and lab work

Independent Study
7. How can you actively shape your studies?
How can you actively shape your studies?

- Independent study
- Time management
- Jobs related to your studies
- Planning internships and stays abroad
- Course options
- Reflection
Reflecting on your studies and defining goals

It is a good idea to clarify your goals and motivation.

Ask yourself these questions:
- What is fun about my studies?
- What skills do I want to acquire?
- What can I do to reach my goals?

Write us in the chat:
- What you expect from your studies?
- Why did you choose your subject?
- Is there something special you wish to learn?
Tips on managing your time

• **Important:** Plan your semester! What duties and deadlines are there? What do you want to decide yourself?

• Think about what you want to learn or do and in which order, and then make a plan.

• Set weekly and daily goals—be realistic and do not take on too much.

• Finish up your notes during the lecture/seminar and revise them afterwards.

• Formulate the main points of texts directly after reading.
Resources for time management and reflection

Literature:

Studienwissen: Tipps für Erfolg im Studium | e-fellows.net

Podcasts:
*Tipps auf Augenhöhe (tipps-auf-augenhoehe.de)*
*Stidis Online (studis-online.de)*
*Studium mit Rückenwind (podomatic.com)*
Resources for time management and reflection

PIASTA cooperation project:

*StudienPerspektiven* blog:

https://studienperspektiven.check.uni-hamburg.de/

Extracurricular (voluntary) workshops in faculties and centralized institutions—in STiNE and UHH Join
7. Who helps when and where?
Who helps when and where?

Central points of contact

Help with studies (advice and workshops)
- Campus Center / Academic Advising
- Writing Center
- PIASTA

Social, financial, and legal advising
- Studierendenwerk Hamburg
- AS\(t\)A (student council)

IT services at the University
- Regional Computing Center (RRZ)

Departmental contacts

- Academic office
- Departmental student representative committee (FSR)
- Lecturers
Welcome Week events and activities

Overview of University programs:
*Who, What, Where? A Short Guide to the University*
- German: 5 October, 11:30 am–12:30 pm (online)
- English: 6 October, 10–11 am (online)

Register at

[app]

or with the
Online survey about Welcome Week

• We work hard to plan events and activities and would love to get your feedback.

• Our team will hand out a QR code for a questionnaire at in-person events. After you have taken part in your last event of the week, let us know how the week went for you.

• No QR code? No problem. At the end of Welcome Week, we can also give you an email link for the online questionnaire.

• After your last event at the end of the week, take a few minutes to answer the questions.

Thank you!
Write us in the chat:

Which Welcome Week activities do you plan to attend this week?
Thank you for your time!

Time for questions😊