PIASTA Welcome Week

How Does Studying Work?
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 during your studies?
What can you expect during 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)
- Courses with tutors

When do OEs take place?

Abbreviation:
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)

Schedule: 28 March–1 April 2022

• Welcome event
• Groups
• Get-to-know-you activities
• Choosing your courses and Stine
• Information about the structure of degree programs

Example: BA in Socioeconomics

• Official welcome
• Events to get to know each other
• Information sessions on the structure of the degree program, formalities at the University, and history of the degree program
• Historical Campus Tour
2. How is the semester organized?
# Timetable—overview

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<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>
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<td>21–24 Mar 2022</td>
<td>28 Mar–1 Apr 2022</td>
<td><strong>First semester</strong> 28 Mar (9 am) – 31 Mar (1 pm)</td>
<td><strong>Summer Semester 2022</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breaks:</strong> 22–29 May 2022</td>
<td>17 Jul–30 Sep 2022</td>
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<td><strong>Course changes:</strong> 4 Apr (9 am)–14 Apr (1 pm)</td>
<td>4 Apr–30 Sep 2022</td>
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**Course changes:**

- 4 Apr (9 am)–14 Apr (1 pm)
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
- In many cases: 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. = \textit{sine tempore} (Latin)

This indicates that the course begins punctually on the hour.

12 s.t.
= 12 noon

12 c.t. = \textit{cum tempore} (Latin)

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

12 c.t.
= 12:15 pm

s.t. = \textit{sine tempore} (Latin)

c.t. = \textit{cum tempore} (Latin)
Online learning platforms at Universität Hamburg

E-Learning Portal: [www.uni-hamburg.de/elearning.html](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/elearning.html)
4. How are degree programs structured?
How are degree programs structured?

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<th>Subject-Specific Provisions (FSBs)</th>
<th>Examination Regulations</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Program structure</td>
<td>• Regular period of study</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Module descriptions</td>
<td>• Recognition and accreditation of coursework and examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Calculation of grades</td>
<td>• Admission to examinations</td>
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<td>• Theses and similar</td>
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</table>
How are degree programs structured?

- **Modules**
  - Required modules
  - Required elective modules
  - Multiple courses and examinations
  - 1 or 2 semesters

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

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

### Example:
**BA in Socioeconomics**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Einführungsmodul</strong>&lt;br&gt;30 LP</td>
<td><strong>Methoden der Sozialökonomie</strong>&lt;br&gt;12 LP</td>
<td><strong>Module im Schwerpunktfach</strong>&lt;br&gt;30 LP</td>
<td><strong>Abschlussmodul</strong>&lt;br&gt;12 LP</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 SWS</td>
<td>10 SWS</td>
<td>4 SWS</td>
<td>4 SWS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quantitative Methodenmodule</strong>&lt;br&gt;18 LP</td>
<td><strong>Aufbaumodule im Schwerpunktfach</strong>&lt;br&gt;30 LP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 SWS</td>
<td>7 SWS</td>
<td>8 SWS</td>
<td>12 SWS</td>
<td>12–18 SWS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Allgemeines Wahlpflichtmodul</strong>&lt;br&gt;12 LP</td>
<td><strong>Interdisziplinäre Aufbaumodule</strong>&lt;br&gt;36 LP</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 SWS</td>
<td>4 SWS</td>
<td>8 SWS</td>
<td>4 SWS</td>
<td>4 SWS</td>
<td>8 SWS</td>
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</table>

**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?

Coursework
- Not graded
- For instance: presentations, portfolios, and smaller written work

Exams
- Graded
- Written exams, oral exams, and term papers
What kind of examinations are there?

- **Written examination**
  - Usually at the end of lectures
  - Multiple choice
  - Written tasks

- **Term paper**
  - Focus on a specific topic
  - Consultations during office hours
  - Line of inquiry and literature searches
  - Deadlines
  - Academic work/writing

- **Oral examination**
  - Agreed-upon topic
  - Questions/discussion
  - Duration: e.g., 15–30 minutes
6. What does it mean to study?
What does it mean to study?

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

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

COURSE LOADS:

attendance

independent study
7. How can you actively shape your studies?
How can you actively shape your studies?
Reflecting on your studies—defining goals

What is fun about my studies?
What skills do I want to acquire?
Are my goals clear?
What can I do to reach my goals?

• **What** can I expect from my studies?
• **Why** did I choose this subject?
• **How** realistic are my goals?
• Do I have **resources**?
• **Why** study?
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 don’t 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:
*Podcasts | Tipps auf Augenhöhe (tipps-auf-augenhoehe.de)*
*Podcast recommendations for students — Studis 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—on STiNE and UHH
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
- AStA (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: 23 March, 11:30 am–12:30 pm (online)
• English: 23 March, 11:30 am–12:30 pm (online)

Register at
UHH JOIN

or with the
UHH JOIN app
Evaluation

We hope that Welcome Week was a good way to start your studies!
We depend on feedback to ensure that Welcome Week best meets students’ needs and wishes.

Please take our online survey and give us your feedback.
It will only take a few minutes.

https://evasys-online.uni-hamburg.de/evasys/online.php?pswd=3ECCA
Thank you for your time!

Time for questions😊