



General Information on Application for International Students

Thank you for your interest in our University of Art and Design “Burg Giebichenstein”. With this information paper we would like to answer your most important questions concerning the studies at our university.

What can I study at your university and how long do the studies take?

At our university there are offered exclusively art and design studies. There are five design and four art **courses that are partially subdivided into specific fields. You can only apply for one field of study**. All the study programmes are taught in German language!

Design Study Programmes – Bachelor / 4 years:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Industrial Design | Industrial Design
Ceramics and Glass Design
Design of Playing and Learning |
| 2. Fashion Design | Fashion
Textiles |
| 3. Interior Architecture | |
| 4. Multimedia I Virtual Reality Design | |
| 5. Communication Design | |

Design study programmes take 4 years and graduate with a Bachelor degree.

Design Study Programmes – Master / 1 year or 2 years:

The University of Art and Design Halle also offers different Master programmes taking one more year (or two more years for extern applicants). For further information please take a look at: <http://www.burg-halle.de/en/university/studying/information-for-course-applicants/masters-courses/>

1. Conceptual Fashion Design
2. Conceptual Textile Design
3. Design of Playing and Learning
4. Design Studies
5. Editorial Design
6. Furniture and Interior Design
7. Industrial Design
8. Interior Architecture
9. Multimedia Design

10. Photography

11. Product Design and Applied Art (Porcelain, Ceramics and Glass)

Fine Art Study Programmes (5 year – Diploma programmes)

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|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Painting / Graphics: | Painting
Graphics
Image, Space, Object, Glass
Book Art
Textile Arts |
| 2. Sculpture | Sculpture – Figurative work
Sculpture – Metalwork
Ceramics
Jewellery
Time-based Arts |
| 3. Art Education | Diploma and Teaching Degree (State Examination) |

The study programmes Painting / Graphics and Sculpture take five years and finish with Diploma of Fine Arts. Art Education studies finish with Diploma of Art Education.

Concerning the Teaching Degree of Art Education it is necessary to take another subject at the cooperating institution: [Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg](#) Teaching Degree Studies finish with the German State Examination.

What are your admission requirements?

Admission requirements for Bachelor and Diploma studies:

- successfully passed [suitability test](#) of our university (artistic and creative skills)
- [university entrance qualification](#): equivalent of the German “Abitur” (certified translation in German)
- practical skills and technical know-how, experiences / internship (pre-study internship for all Design Studies, 3 – 9 months, depending on study programme)
- proof of sufficient German language skills (in general [Test DaF 4](#), [DSH 2](#) or comparable [C1-level](#))

Admission requirements for Master studies:

- degree of Art or Design Studies or degree in related fields of study
- proof of the required advanced creative or scientific capacity (aptitude test)
- proof of sufficient German language skills (in general [Test DaF 4](#), [DSH 2](#) or comparable [C1-level](#))

- for postgraduate courses (which are only possible in the domain of Art Studies): professors of the required study programmes and the examination boards have to agree

How do you accept activities of study performed at the native country?

After a successfully passed [suitability test](#), the examination board will decide, whether and in which way activities of study (experiences, internships), performed at your university in your native country, will be accepted at our university.

When are the deadlines of application?

- Applications for **Bachelor** and **Diploma** studies: from **December 15th till March 15th** (the test takes place at the end of March, the semester starts in October – begin of undergraduate studies in winter semester only)
- Applications for **Master studies**: **from April 1st till May 15th** for the following winter semester, or from October 1st till November 15th for the following summer semester (only for following master courses: Multimedia Design, Photography)
- Applications for postgraduate studies in Fine Arts: June 15th for the following winter semester, December 31st for the following summer semester
- Winter Semester Time: October – March / Summer Semester Time: April – September

How to apply?

- Online Applications for **Bachelor** and **Diploma** Studies: [online registration for the suitability test](#)
- Upon registration applicants will receive an invitation with more detailed information (time, place, required material and accommodation possibilities...). Those who need a [visa](#) are urged to register well ahead of time.
- Please do not send us your application portfolio and copies of your certifications (translated into German) – bring it with you when the suitability test takes place. [Find out more...](#)
- Unrequested posted applications can not be sent back after the aptitude test for financial reasons. We also do not assume any liability for these applications.
- [Applications for Master studies online](#) and by post at: Burg Giebichenstein Kunsthochschule Halle/ Dezernat studentische und akademische Angelegenheiten/ PF 200252/ D-06003 Halle (Saale)
- Please send us the following documents in German:
 - Curriculum vitae
 - Undergraduate Degree course certificate or corresponding transcript of records (certified translation in German)
 - Letter of application: motivation, chief expectations, desired fields of emphasis
 - Documentation of practical projects

- Portfolio (Print)
- Publications, if any

What are the costs of studying? Are there any scholarships?

There are no tuition fees at the University of Art and Design Halle. For living and for costs remaining during the studies you should calculate about 500,00 € per month.

Following fix costs occur:

1. **Social contribution for student services and Student Union** (organisation providing social, financial and cultural support services to students in Germany): 65,00 € per semester
2. **Health insurance:** the matriculation to our university is only possible with valid health insurance (about 70,00 € per month). [Find out more...](#)
3. **Living:** renting of students apartments cost from about 150,00 € up to 250,00 €. For further information please contact the student services institution “[Studentenwerk Halle](#)”, Dept. Studentisches Wohnen, PF 11 05 41, 06119 Halle, Tel.: +49(0)345 68 47 413/414 [Find out more...](#)
4. **Public transportation:** semester ticket for bus, tramway about 80,00 €
5. **Lunch:** students can chose from variety of meals, snacks and drinks offered in our cafeteria, prices around 2,50 €
6. **Material:** Design or Art Studies are expensive, because of the material you need! Depending on your field of study there might be high costs

For further information please visit our [website](#) offering all necessary information about our university.

German language skills, German classes

1. For Diploma, Bachelor and Master Programmes

As you know from the admission requirements, basic German language skills are necessary before you can start your studies at our university. Even if you have passed the suitability test successfully, you will not be allowed to start your studies before you will have proved your German language skills. Reason for this: language of instruction at our university is German. There are several theoretical courses (like history of art and design, psychology, aesthetics) you have to take and where you also have to hand in written term papers and to pass written exams in German. Therefore and on behalf of all students, our university insists on good knowledge of German language **before studying**.

Proof of German skills until the aptitude test: As all exercises of the test (in written or in spoken form) will be in German, at least basic German language skills are necessary in order to pass the aptitude test. Foreign students, who have not sufficient knowledge of German language, often do not reach enough scores because of misunderstandings.

Proof until the begin of study: You can only start your studies at our university, if you can proof sufficient German language skills until the begin of study in October. Generally this means that you have to succeed in one of the following language tests:

- [Test DaF 4](#)
- [German language university entrance exam for foreign students](#) (DSH 2)

For the case that you should have different certifications, please first of all contact the International Office of the Burg Giebichenstein: international@burg-halle.de / phone: ++49.345.77 51 555

2. Proof for Fine Arts postgraduate students and visiting students (ERASMUS, free mover)

The professor you are working with on a project will decide whether your German language skills are sufficient for a good communication within your courses. It is suggested having achieved at least a medium language level. The Test DaF and the DSH-exams are not required, but there is no opportunity for postgraduate students to attend German language courses in foundation courses.

Language tests and preparing courses

Where can I take the required language tests?

In principle the essential language skills should be acquired in your native country before you start your studies in Germany. Please inform yourself at the Goethe-Institution or via internet about worldwide language centres where you can pass the [Test DaF](#).

In addition you have the opportunity to pass the [German language university entrance exam for foreign students](#) (DSH) (or in several facilities the *Test DaF*) at the universities and in the foundation courses in Germany. Both language tests are realised twice a year in the foundation course of Martin-Luther-University in Halle.

I know that my German language skills are not sufficient. What can I do?

Again: try to bring your German skills to perfection in your native country. If you are from a country not providing any German language courses, you can make use of the opportunity to apply for a DSH preparation course in the foundation course of the university at first for free. You can take the aptitude test not until the following year. Generally beginners can not be considered. You should at least have solid basic level skills in order to be admitted to a DSH-preparing course as the number of seats is limited. There is neither a guarantee nor a claim for

such a seat. Only applicants, who have already passed the aptitude test, can be accepted (concerning the available capacity of the courses). As long as you attend the DSH-preparation course, you are not registered at the University of Art and Design, but in the foundation course of the Martin-Luther-University Halle. A regular attendance of art and design courses at our university is not possible during this time. Further information about the course and about DaF-Test or DSH-exams are available among:

[Studienkolleg der Martin-Luther-Universität Halle](#) –

Wittenberg, Nietlebener Straße 6, 06126 Halle, Fon (+49) (0) 345 / 552 4486

Equivalent of the German „Abitur” (Higher Education Entrance Qualification)

What can I take as equivalent to the German Abitur?

Prerequisite for admission to studies at Burg Giebichenstein is the [equivalent of a German higher education entrance qualification](#) (“Abitur”).

There are applicants who have fulfilled all requirements to enter university in their home country, but who are not fully entitled – according to German guidelines (Richtlinien der Kultusministerkonferenz) – to directly enter a German postsecondary institution. Those applicants have to pass the so-called “Feststellungsprüfung” at the Studienkolleg.

An exception may be made for those who have passed the Artistic Aptitude Test with the additional remark *outstanding artistic aptitude*. Those candidates are exempt from the “Feststellungsprüfung” and may enter the program directly. However, this privilege will be granted by the committee in very few cases only.

Status of applicants can only be determined after the Office of Student and Academic Affairs has reviewed the complete application dossier (consisting certifications of high school, college/ university, university entrance tests and transcripts...). We urge you to submit your complete dossier as early as possible in order to avoid disappointments for all parties involved in this process.

Suitability test

What is a suitability test?

In order to be accepted as a regular fulltime (i.e. degree seeking) student at Burg Giebichenstein in the Diploma-programmes of Fine Arts and in the Bachelor-programmes in Design, applicants have to take an entrance test (Artistic Aptitude Test). The test evaluates artistic and design abilities and is administered once a year, usually at the end of March / beginning of April, by our school. Applicants should be imaginative and able to think logically, they should demonstrate a special talent for drawing, and have an ability to imagine three-dimensional spaces.

How long does the aptitude test take and how is it organized?

The aptitude test takes maximum three days for applicants of Art Studies and two days for applicants of Design Studies (for Studies of Communication Design maximum five days) and consists on three parts: preselection procedures and main selection procedures and interview. The **preselection** is based upon the applicant's portfolio and will be made during the first day of test (depending on the course of studies) either directly after a review of all portfolios or after some more drawing exercises. A successful preselection leads to participation in the main selection. During the **main selection** a test will be administered consisting of free artistic work, drawing exercises, written exams and an **interview** with the selection committee. In order to pass the selection, candidates must reach a minimum of 40 points out of 100 **and** must have reached a minimum of 10 out of 20 points in the interview. The interview will be held in German.

Those who have successfully passed the test may then apply to the school for the coming fall or for the year thereafter.

IMPORTANT: The test will be administered entirely in German.

It is thus strongly recommended that participants have some basic knowledge of German.

What is important for my application portfolio?

There are no specific requirements of technique, material, size or content for your personal portfolio. Only applicants of Communication Design Studies will receive a supplementary homework, which can be found in the invitation for the aptitude test after having registered online. Basically the portfolio should consist of a minimum of 20 works, not being older than 2 years. The selected works should show a variety of techniques as well as your interest in the particular course of studies and your creativity. Sculptures and similar works can be included as photographs. Printed samples of digital work, such as printed sequence of a video or an animation, may be included. CDs and DVDs cannot be considered during the preselection. They may be brought to the interview.

Only exception: Zeitbasierte Künste (Time-based Arts). Digital work should be included already in the portfolio!

When does the next aptitude test take place?

The next aptitude test takes place 14.03. – 19.03.2016

You can online apply for only one program of studies. But it is possible to change your choice until the beginning of the aptitude test.

Please visit us to our next Annual Exhibition of the Burg Giebichenstein: **16. – 17.07.2016**