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University of Freiburg

Welcome to the Future Research University

Birgit Anderson
Executive Director
North American Liaison Office

University of Freiburg

University of Excellence

Founded in 1457, the **University of Freiburg** is one of Germany's oldest and **strongest research universities**.

On October 2, 2026, our university rejoined Germany's ***Universities of Excellence***

→ ***substantial additional funding*** for Research, Teaching, Knowledge Transfer and Infrastructure over a period of 7 years.

The Future Research University: Sparking Change That Matters.

University of Freiburg

Hosting nearly **25,000 students,** the University of Freiburg offers a **broad** spectrum of **240 degree programs** across its **eleven faculties**, with **notable strengths** in:

- **Life Sciences**
- **Humanities**
- **Environmental Studies**
- **Engineering**

Ranked 12th nationally in the THE World University Rankings and **139th** worldwide

18% of Students are **International Students**

With over **4,800** doctoral students, **2 Clusters of Excellence**, and collaboration with top research institutions and innovative companies in the region, the University of Freiburg is a **strong hub for research and innovation.**

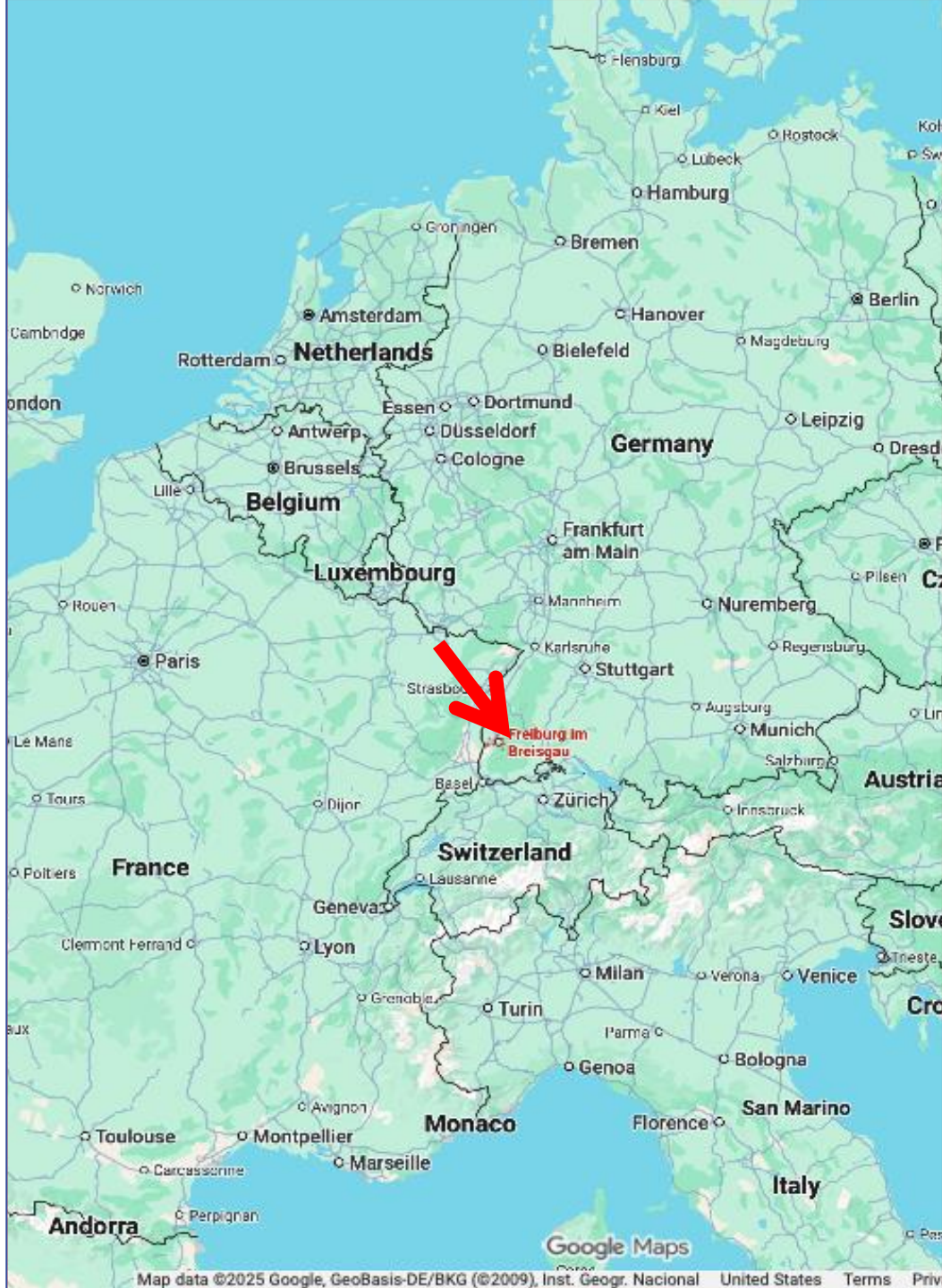
University of Freiburg
Research

- Collaborative Interdisciplinary Research
- **2 Clusters of Excellence** (*funding 2026-2032*)
  - **CIBSS –** *Centre for Integrative Biological Signaling Studies*
  - **Future Forests –** *Adapting Complex Social-Ecological Forest Systems to Global Change*
- **21** Scientific Research Centers
- **226.5 Million Euros** in Third Party Funding
- **Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS)**
- Close collaborations with **innovative companies** in the region and **top regional research** institutions:
  - Freiburg University Medical Center
  - 1 Max Planck Institute
  - 5 Fraunhofer Institutes
  - Hahn-Schickard-Institutes

University of Freiburg

Location - Freiburg im Breisgau

- Located in **southwestern** Germany
  - in the state of **Baden-Württemberg**
- Nestled at Edge of **Black Forest**
- Near Borders to **France** & **Switzerland**
- **Vibrant University Town**
- Approximately **240,000 residents**
- Well-Connected
  - **2 hours** by *Intercity Train* from **Frankfurt International Airport**
- Excellent **Public Transportation**
- **Bicycle** Town!



Freiburg, Germany

- **Picturesque & Rich in Culture** – historic old town center, pedestrian areas, theater, museums, numerous shops, cafes, & restaurants
- **High Quality of Life** – vibrant student life, Germany's sunniest city, access to nature, sustainable "Green City" initiatives, bicycle to class
- **Location** – surrounded by green hills, lakes, vineyards, and Black Forest, the Alps, and Lake Constance just nearby
- **Strong Industry & Research Hub** – collaborations with research institutions and innovative companies, Freiburg region is strong hub for research and innovation, offering different pathways to career in Germany

Freiburg, Germany

University of Freiburg

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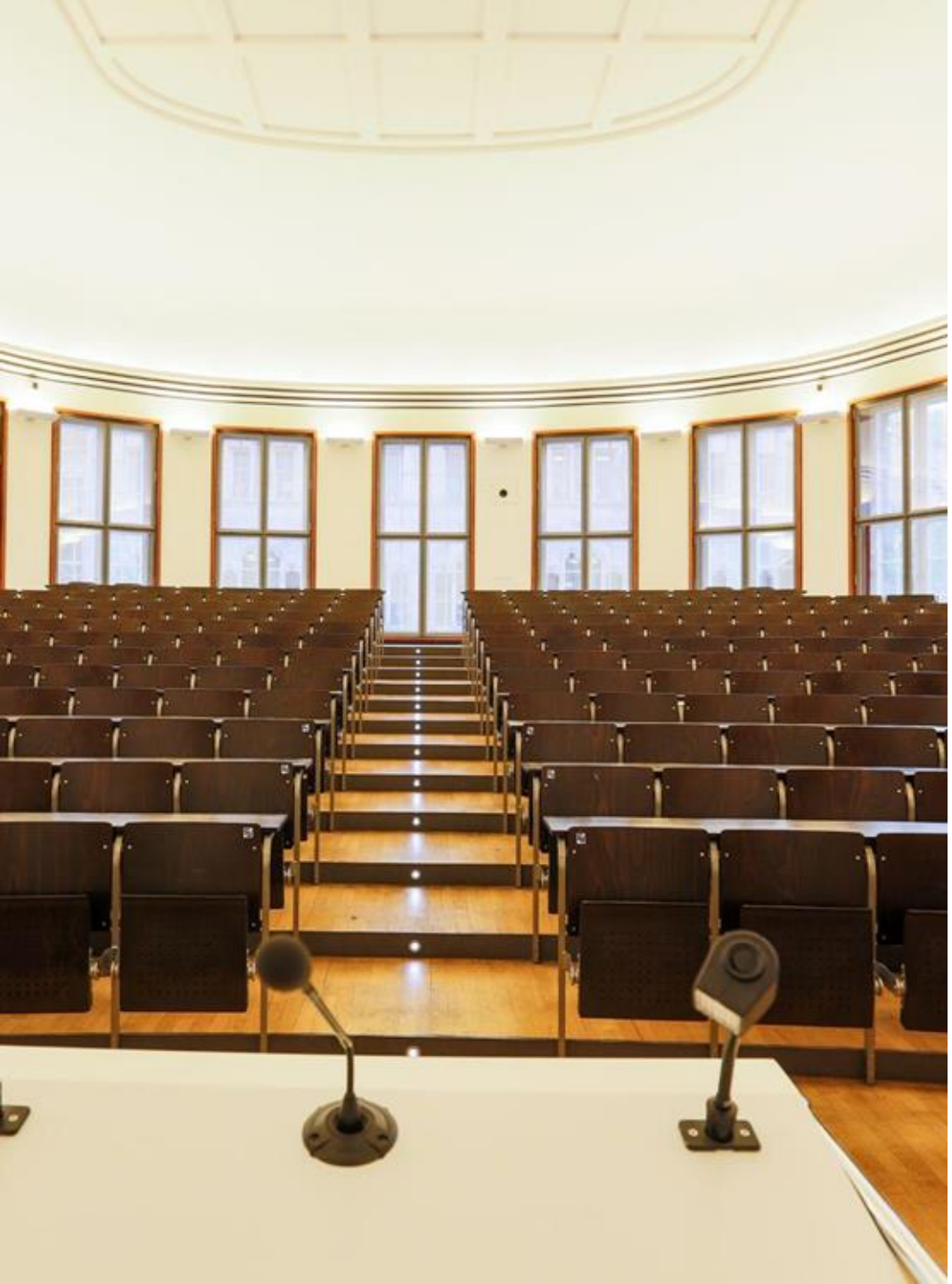
University of Freiburg – Faculties

- Theology
- Law
- Economics and Behavioural Sciences
- Medicine
- Philology
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Physics
- Chemistry und Pharmacy
- Biology
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Engineering



University of Freiburg
Masters & PhD Programs

Master Degree Programs

- **132** master degree programs offered
- **25** in Englisch
- **2 years / 120 ECTS (credits)**

analytical and scientific skills
personal and academic independence

Doctoral Studies

- PhD opportunities across all 11 Faculties
- Both “classical” form of **individual doctoral studies** and large selection of **structured doctoral programs**

University of Freiburg

Masters Degree Programmes Taught in English

25 Masters Programs in English

Applied Physics
Biomedical Sciences
British & North American Cultural Studies
Earth Science
Economics
Embedded Systems Engineering
English Literature & Literacy Theory
Environmental Governance
Forest Sciences
Global Urban Health
Computer Science
Mathematics
Mathematics in Data and Technology
Medical Sciences - Cardiovascular Research
Microsystems Engineering
Modern China Studies
Molecular Medicine
Neuroscience
Physics
Social and Cultural Anthropology
Social Sciences
Solar Energy Engineering
Sustainable Materials
Sustainable Systems Engineering
Environmental Sciences

University of Freiburg

Coming for Master's Degree – Things to know!

Application Deadlines

Will vary by degree program, but generally **Mid-July**. Most Master programs enroll only for Fall Semester

Check in well in advance!

Cost

Semester Fees - ~200 € / semester

Tuition Fes - Only for Non-EU citizens (1.500€ / Semester)

German Language Skills

Not required for ***English taught*** degree programs (but knowledge of German will enrich your experience!)

Language classes offered to incoming students

Housing

Available but admission does not guarantee housing, so ***start early and apply through several options***

Living costs for Freiburg range between $800 – 1200/ month (including rent, food and transportation)

Support

International Office organizes welcome events & intercultural mentoring programs

University of Freiburg

Coming for a PhD to Freiburg - what to know?

Classic PhD Studies

- **Requires Master Degree** (or Equivalent) in the field or related field to PhD research interested in pursuing
- **Choose a PI / Group** in research area of interest and contact them about supervising you
- **or Apply to an open PhD / Scientific Assistant position** through our job portal
- Each Faculty has their own rules / regulations about additional application materials

Structured PhD Programmes

- **Doctoral Schools** with funding (only in Medicine)
- **Third-party funded collaborative graduate centers** (only open calls every now and then)
- **Clusters of Excellence** (open calls every 3 years)
- Open positions in third-party funded **collaborative centers**

University of Freiburg
Student Services & Information

Service Center Studies

International Office

Student Advisory

Studierendenwerk Freiburg

Student Council (StuRa)
Council of the Doctoral Students (GAA)

Graduate Center (GraCe)

University of Freiburg
PhD, Postdoctoral & Mid-Career Professionals

GraCe
Freiburg Graduate Centre

Visit our website and register for our newsletter

https://uni-freiburg.de/frs-en/grace/

GraCe is the central service point for current doctoral candidates and those interested in pursuing a doctorate

- **Advising –** Guidance on the doctoral process and dissertation funding, as well as counseling
- **Qualification –** free courses and workshops in English and German covering leadership, mental health, communication, career planning, and language skills
- **Support for Funding Options –** administration / coordination of travel grants, completion funding, and funding for self-organized doctoral projects
- **Coaching –** coaching and career coaching
- **Networking & Welcome Events –** Organize events like *Doc On!* and connects researchers across the university's 11 faculties

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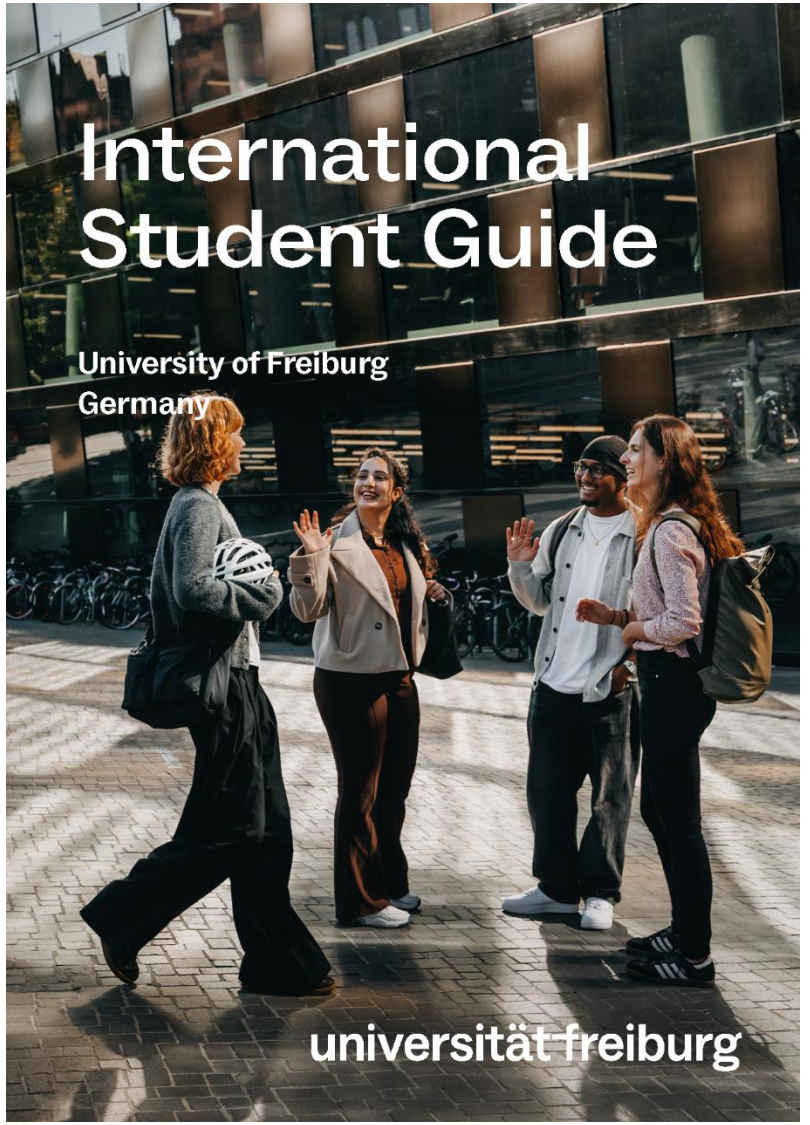
International Student Guide

- Applying at the University of Freiburg as an International Student
- Living & Studying in Germany/Freiburg
- Frequently Asked Questions



Social Media

find us here:

Questions ?

Birgit Anderson

liaison-office@zv.uni-freiburg.de