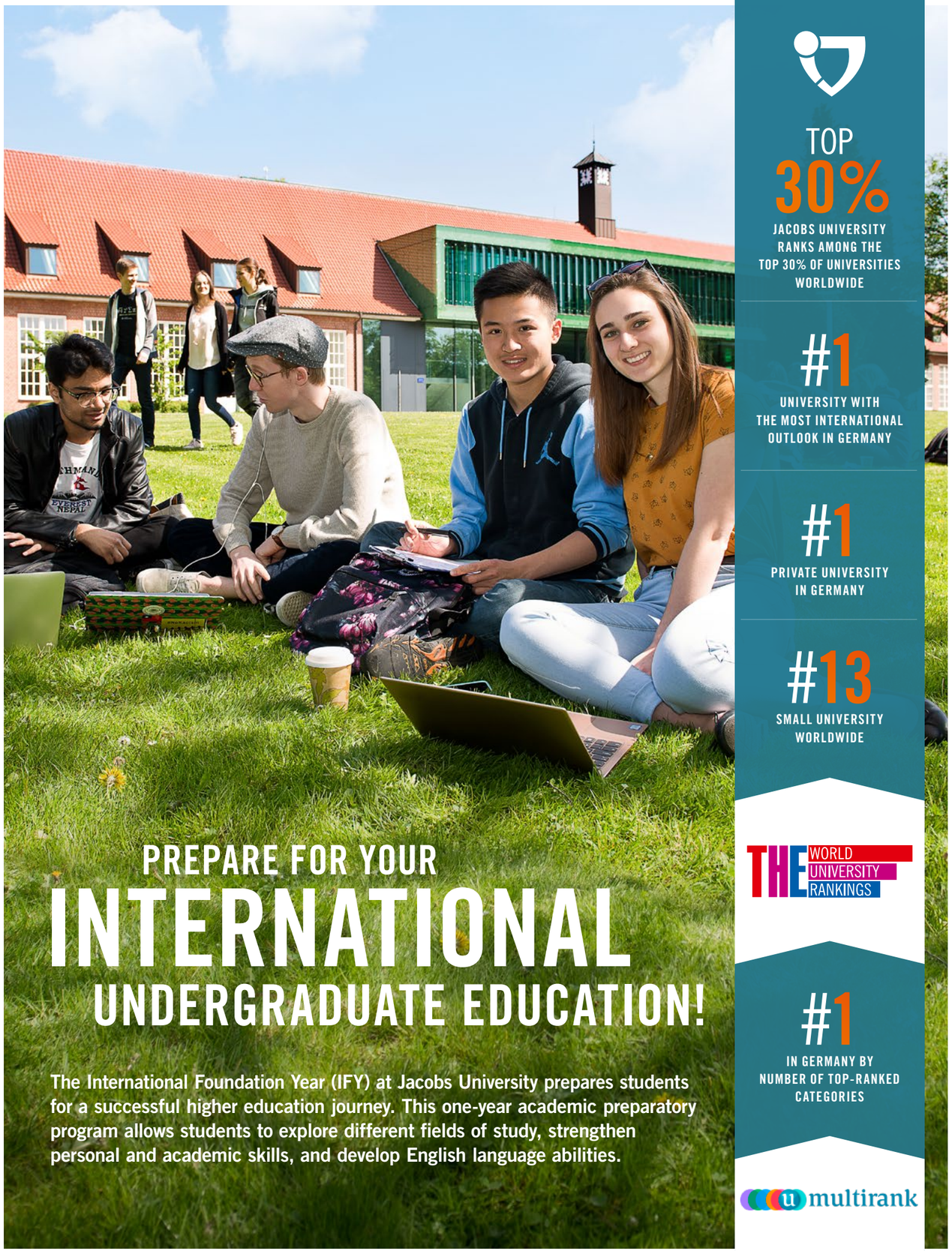
JACOBS UNIVERSITY

THE FOUNDATIONS OF YOUR FUTURE

YOUR INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION YEAR

APPLY NOW



TOP
30%
JACOBS UNIVERSITY RANKS AMONG THE TOP 30% OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

#1
UNIVERSITY WITH THE MOST INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK IN GERMANY

#1
PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN GERMANY

#13
SMALL UNIVERSITY WORLDWIDE

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

#1
IN GERMANY BY NUMBER OF TOP-RANKED CATEGORIES

multirank

PREPARE FOR YOUR

INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION!

The International Foundation Year (IFY) at Jacobs University prepares students for a successful higher education journey. This one-year academic preparatory program allows students to explore different fields of study, strengthen personal and academic skills, and develop English language abilities.

YOUR INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION YEAR

At Jacobs University, we know the importance of personal growth. That's why we have developed an academic preparatory program, the International Foundation Year, that provides students with tailored academic and personal support for their individual development and prepares them for the challenges of university-level study.

THE RIGHT PATHWAY FOR YOU

Our International Foundation Year offers two pathways to a degree course at Jacobs University. Based on your high school diploma, you will either have the Qualification or Orientation pathway.

1 QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

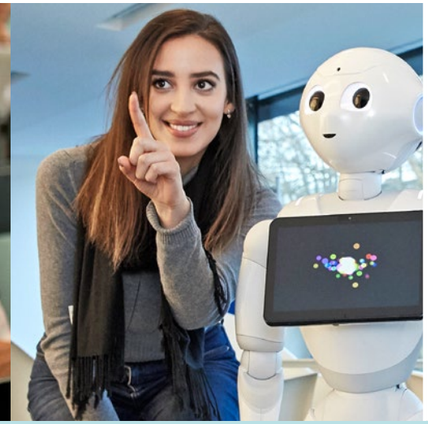
This pathway allows students to study a specific subject area (Technology, Science, Society) in preparation for a degree course.

1. Choose one subject (from subject areas Technology, Science, Society)
2. Choose 2 modules within the same subject area and study one in the 1st and one in the 2nd semester. Get prepared for the exams necessary for guaranteed admission to your desired degree program at Jacobs University
3. Take part in the Test AS examination
4. Successfully complete the program
5. Progress directly onto year one of the chosen degree

2 ORIENTATION PATHWAY

Here, students have the opportunity to explore a variety of subjects and decide on their degree program later. Having chosen this pathway they can also stay within one subject area (Technology, Science, Society) throughout the program and prepare for a specific degree course.

1. Choose a subject in the first semester
2. Have the option to stay within a specific subject area or choose again from a different subject area
3. Decide on a degree program in the second semester
4. Successfully complete the IFY program
5. Progress directly onto year one of the chosen degree



CORE MODULES

The core modules are integral parts of the IFY program. They are designed to provide students with basic interdisciplinary knowledge to enhance their academic and personal skills.

ENGLISH AND ACADEMIC LITERACY

This module aims to strengthen English language abilities in all four areas (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and improve academic study skills. Students will also learn the fundamentals of conducting research, such as writing academic papers and citing sources.

BASIC OR ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

Upon joining the program, students will be given a mathematics placement test to determine whether they take the basic or advanced route. Both are designed to help students develop skills around mathematics and statistics. The first semester focuses on generic content, while the module in the second semester is specific to each student's chosen subject.

CODING AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING

Students will learn the basics of coding and computational thinking providing them with problem solving skills that are highly sought after in today's job market.

TestAS PREPARATION

The program also provides students with training for the TestAS, which is the precondition for progressing to an undergraduate degree program at Jacobs University. This only applies to students who need to pass a German university entrance examination.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

This module has been specially designed to enable students to progress to their undergraduate studies. It focuses on increasing the self-competence and social skills necessary to flourish in a university environment. It also provides students with general skills that pave the way for success in life and the world of employment.

SUBJECT AREAS

Through a combination of core modules and subject-specific study, students will develop the skills they need to successfully start their undergraduate education. Students can choose from three subject areas that act as a pathway to a degree at Jacobs University.

TECHNOLOGY

This subject area covers the fundamentals of computer programing, coding, mathematics, and technology. Digitalization lies at the core of all modern industries and plays a major role in today's work life, and so these subjects will prepare students to work in modern tech environments.

SCIENCE

This subject area prepares students for degree programs within the department of Life Sciences & Chemistry at Jacobs University. Each program teaches theoretical and practical skills for rewarding careers across many different industries in the field of natural sciences.

SOCIETY

This subject area provides students with the necessary foundation to pursue a variety of business or social science careers, from management and accounting to psychology and human resource management. Students gain practical and professional skills that enhance their employability.

UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER OPTIONS

Students will have the opportunity to attend undergraduate-level courses and earn up to 15 ECTS credit points that will count towards their bachelor's degree at Jacobs University. This gives students **direct experience with course materials and professors**, before even beginning their studies.

CHOOSE MODULES FROM THESE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS:

- **Computer Science**
- **Industrial Engineering & Management**
- **Chemistry and Biotechnology**
- **Physics**
- **Integrated Social and Cognitive Psychology**
- **Society, Media, and Politics**

and more.

YOUR BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

With the International Foundation Year, students can explore a variety of subjects before choosing a major. Attendees grow academically and personally by experiencing a unique learning and living environment on Germany's most international campus.

- **Gain experience from a highly supportive and academically challenging university environment**
- **Develop your study skills, decide on your study direction and qualify for the route to your international degree**
- **Improve your Academic English – academic literacy as the foundation for successful education**
- **Take your time to develop and learn in a less formal teaching approach, strongly supported by your teachers and academic advisors**
- **Intercultural Experiences – Gain an understanding of other cultures to prepare you for your international career**
- **Earn up to 15 transferable undergraduate course credits (ECTS) that will count towards your bachelor's degree at Jacobs University.**
- **Get guaranteed admission to Jacobs University after successful completion of the IFY program. Jacobs University is top ranked #3 Young University in Teaching in Germany (THE Young 2022)**
- **Enjoy the inspiring atmosphere of living and learning in an international, safe campus environment with students from over 110 nations and a rich offering of sports activities, clubs and socializing events.**
- **Benefit from promising career prospects thanks to strong professor and alumni networks**

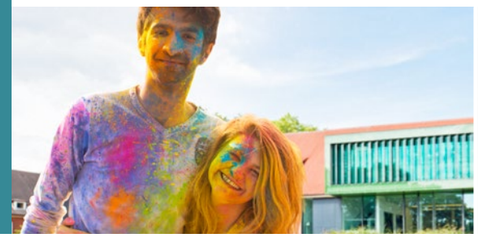
"WE ARE INTEGRATED INTO EVERYDAY UNIVERSITY LIFE AND GET A GOOD INSIGHT INTO THE LIFE OF THE STUDENTS AND INTO THE VARIOUS SUBJECTS. IT'S NOW MUCH CLEARER TO ME WHAT I WANT."

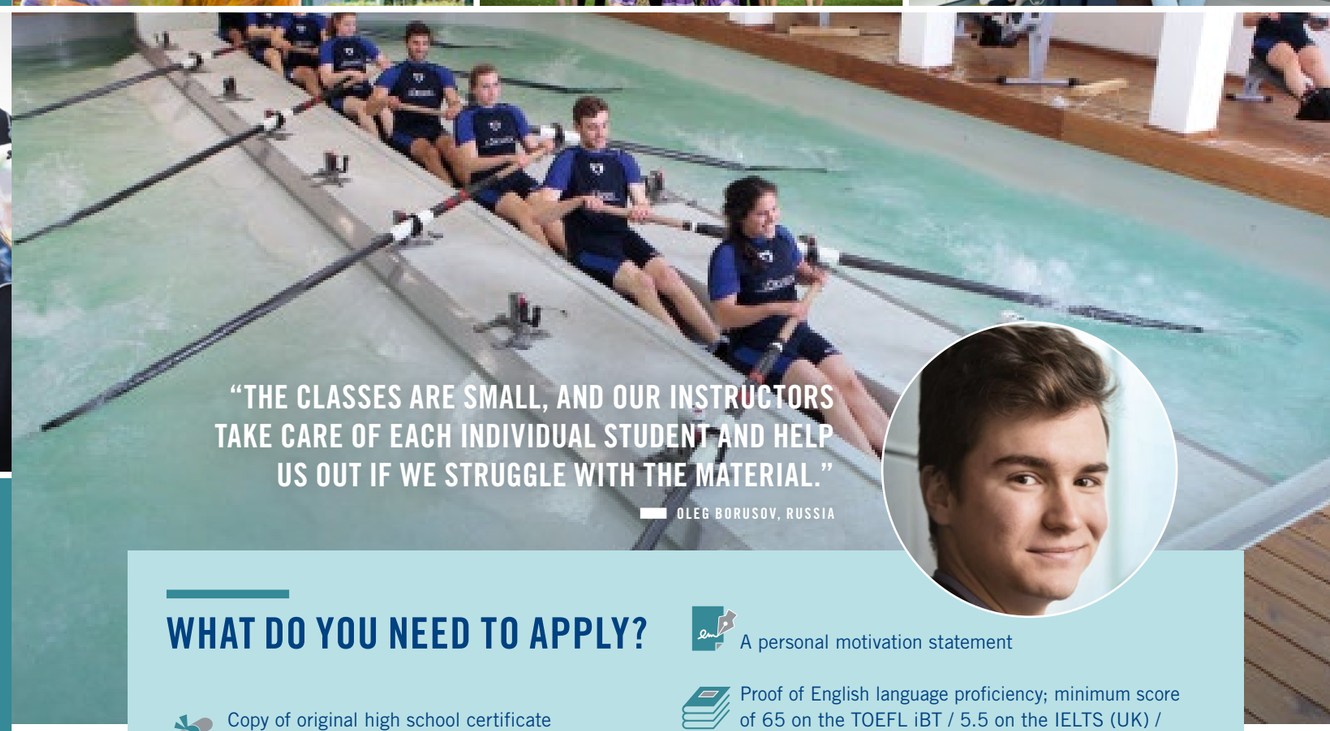
ELIAS BOSCH, GERMANY

INSPIRATION IS A PLACE

Jacobs University attracts highly talented and open-minded students from all over the world. As a private, non-profit, English-speaking university, we offer the highest standards in research and teaching.
The International Foundation Year comes with a **full package of services** from accommodation, food, leisure activities on campus, as well as a broad range of personal, academic and professional counseling services. With our tight-knit support web, we are happy to provide a safe environment for all students, even minor students (16+).

- Furnished two-bedroom apartment and full board with three meals per day
- Personal support by Resident Mentors in each college
- 24/7 security on campus
- Host-family program
- Modern recreational facilities: soccer pitch, outdoor volleyball court, indoor sports hall, fitness gym, rowing tank, music studio, theater space, cinema
- 35+ Student clubs for sports, fine and performing arts, technology, and social engagement
- Green, spacious campus close to a river and a lovely park
- Semester ticket included to use public transportation
- Orientation Week to facilitate your arrival on campus
- Visa and pre-arrival support





"THE CLASSES ARE SMALL, AND OUR INSTRUCTORS TAKE CARE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AND HELP US OUT IF WE STRUGGLE WITH THE MATERIAL."

OLEG BORUSOV, RUSSIA

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO APPLY?

- Copy of original high school certificate and transcripts of the last 2-3 years
- Official recommendation letter from a high school counselor or a teacher on letterheaded paper
- A personal motivation statement
- Proof of English language proficiency; minimum score of 65 on the TOEFL iBT / 5.5 on the IELTS (UK) / 46 on the Pearson PTE Academic or 162 on the Cambridge Certificate (FCE) / 90 on the Duolingo English test
- The Education History Form

CONTACT US

Do you have any questions or need personal consultation?
Call us or write us – we are happy to help you with your inquiry.

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Visit us online

"LIVING ON CAMPUS ALLOWS YOU TO EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF DIFFERENT CULTURES. I HAVE MADE FRIENDS WITH STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD."

DARLINA MAMAQI, ALBANIA

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GET IN TOUCH!

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