

Questions and answers for Pepper (in general about the university and the study programs International Relations, Mobility and Logistics, Mechanical Engineering)

1. Where is the university located?

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences is located on the Lower Rhine in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia near the Dutch border. The larger location with three faculties is in Kleve, another faculty is in Kamp-Lintfort.

2. What is the difference between a university and a university of applied sciences?

While universities often focus on basic research, universities as a whole work in a very application-oriented manner, which benefits industry more directly. Teaching is also designed with a practical focus.

3. How many students are studying at Rhine-Waal University?

There are about 7500 students studying at the university.

4. What is the proportion of international students in the student body?

At Rhein Waal University, the proportion of international students is 55%. Students come from 128 countries around the world.

5. How many degree programmes does Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences offer?

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences offers 26 Bachelor's and 11 Master's degree programmes. Almost three quarters (73%) of all degree programmes are offered in English.

6. Can I study completely in English?

Yes, some degree programs are offered entirely in English. If you are not sure whether the course you are interested in is offered in German or English, please contact the Student Advisory Service.

7. Do I need German language knowledge if my desired study program is completely taught in English?

If the desired course of study is offered in English, no knowledge of German is necessary. However, we recommend a minimum knowledge of the German language to be able to cope with everyday life in Germany.

8. How can I proof sufficient English language skills?

During the application process you have to prove sufficient language skills by a recognized language certificate. Information about which language certificates we accept can be found on the homepage.

9. Does Rhine-Waal University offer language courses?

Yes, it is possible to take language courses as an enrolled student. The course offer is organized by the Center for Internationalization and Languages.

10. Is a stay abroad planned in the course of studies?

In the sixth semester, the practical semester is scheduled in the course of studies. Students have the opportunity to complete an internship in Germany or abroad or to go to a university abroad for an exchange semester.

11. How long does the bachelor's program last?

The standard period of study for the bachelor's degree programs is seven semesters. In semesters one till five, students complete their compulsory and elective modules. In the sixth semester students have the choice to do a undertaking 20-week internship at a company, or to absolve a semester abroad.

In the seventh semester, students prepare, write and present their bachelor's thesis.

12. How can I apply?

If you did not obtain your high school/secondary school qualifications or bachelor's degree in Germany, then you must apply through uni-assist. This effectively applies to all international applicants regardless of degree programme or country of origin. If this requirement applies to you, please do not send your application to the university directly as it will not be considered under any circumstances.

If you did obtain your high school/secondary school qualifications or bachelor's degree in Germany, then you must apply through the University's own application portal.

13. When can I apply?

Universities in Germany typically have two semester periods: winter semester and summer semester.

Applications for bachelor programs at our university are accepted in the winter semester only.

For master programs, applications are accepted in both the winter and summer semesters – except Design and Interaction, M.A. where applications are only possible for the summer semester.

Application period Winter semester: May – 15 July

Application Period Summer semester: December - 15 January

Applications are only accepted during the official application periods. You cannot submit documents outside of these dates!

14. When does the semester start? When do lectures start?

1 September – 28 February (winter semester)

1 March – 31 August (summer semester)

The lecture times differ from year to year. You can find the current lecture times in the academic calendar: <https://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en/academics/students/academic-calendar>

15. How can I enrol?

Once you've been approved, you'll move on to enrollment. The enrollment is done digitally. This means that you only need to upload all the required documents, such as your degree certificate. You do not have to appear in person for enrollment.

16. What happens after enrollment?

After enrollment, you will receive your access data to the student systems such as "Moodle" by e-mail. A short time later you will also receive your student ID and the semester ticket. You will receive all further information, like your timetable, during the orientation week, the Freshers` Week.

17. When do I have to provide proof of the preparatory internship?

If you cannot complete an internship before initial enrolment, then you can still complete it in your first semesters as a student. The absolute final deadline for accreditation of a preparatory internship is the **administrative end of the 3rd semester**. If you do not have official accreditation of a preparatory internship at this point, then you will not be **admitted to the 4th semester**, resulting in an automatic deregistration from the university.

The 4th semester registration deadline occurs around four weeks after the end of the 3rd semester lecture period. In essence, this means your **last realistic chance** to complete an 8-week internship is before the start of lectures in the 3rd semester!

International students are strongly advised to complete the preparatory internship in their home country before enrolling at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. This effectively removes the need to overcome any language barriers and increases the pool of potential internship positions. Finding an internship in Germany will be much more difficult, because most companies and organisations will require advanced proficiency in German.

18. How much is the semester fee?

Students are obliged to pay an enrolment fee for each new semester they register at the university. For **summer semester 2023** the semester fee is **€321.32** and includes

- Mandatory social services contribution: €88.00
- Contribution to your faculty's Student Representative Body: €10.30
- NRW semester ticket: €59.40
- VGN semester ticket: €160.62
- Support of University Sports: €1.50
- Support of University Music: €1.50

19. How do I apply for a room in the dorm in Kleve or Kamp-Lintfort?

The student dorms are managed by the Studierendendenwerk Düsseldorf. You can apply for a room online: [Studentisches Wohnen | Studierendendenwerk Düsseldorf \(stw-d.de\)](https://www.stw-d.de) Since the dorm rooms are in high demand, you should also look for alternative types of accommodation.

20. What kind of leisure activities does Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences offer students?

The university sports department offers a wide range of sports with courses such as swimming, sailing, tennis, futsal, yoga, skatesurfing, water skiing. The university music offers include rehearsal rooms for bands, concerts and music lessons.

21. Can I study online?

The university is basically a face-to-face university. Some modules/lectures are also offered online, but it is not possible to complete the entire program online.

22. How can students at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences commit to the university?

The General Student Committee (German: *AStA*) is the executive organ of the student body. It is elected resp. confirmed by the Student Parliament. The Student Parliament assigns tasks to the AStA and monitors the fulfilling of those. The AStA of Rhine Waal University of Applied Sciences is organized into the Board and the Departments. The different departments support students with advice and service offers. The AStA is always happy to see students, who would like to volunteer in one department or apply for an open position within AStA. AStA needs students who are motivated to work and organize events, who want to get engaged to see something happening at our campus.

Students can also participate in the FSR. The Faculty Student Representatives (FSR) represents the student body of the faculty. In many German Federal Lands and also at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Science, the FSR represents a legal organ of the constituted student body with own monetary means, which are raised by the tuition fees. The FSR is responsible for all kinds of affairs of the students enrolled in the faculty. It is thereby the interface between the public and the students, as well as the faculty and the students.

23. How can I deregister from Rhine-Waal University?

The application for deregistration can be found on the website: <https://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en/academics/students/forms-and-deadlines>

Please fill out the application and get it signed by the Library, to confirm that there are no outstanding issues.

If you wish to be deregistered by the end of the current semester, you may keep your Student ID/SemesterTicket.

If you wish to be deregistered before the end of a semester, your application can only be considered if you enclose the according Student ID/SemesterTicket.

For a refund of the semester fee please submit a separate refund application, as paid fees are not refunded automatically. This also occurs when you have already paid the fees for the upcoming semester. Please consider that only fully completed applications can be processed.

International Relations

1. What can I expect to learn in the Bachelor's degree programme in International Relations?

You will gain knowledge and skills in the fields of international politics, international economic relations, and international law in an interdisciplinary and international setting. As graduates, you will be able to analyse questions and problems of international relations from different perspectives and develop application-oriented solutions.

In the first semesters, you will follow modules such as Theories of International Relations, Introduction to Economics History of Political and Economic Thought, Descriptive Statistics Domestic Policy Comparative Politics and Constitutional Law, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Social Science International Affairs European Integration European Union Law Public Choice Theory Regional Integration.

2. Is the International Relations degree program admission restricted?

Yes, the International Relations degree program is admission restricted. Restricted programs also known as Numerus Clausus degree programmes (N.C.) rely on a process of selection when the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats. If we receive more applications for an N.C. programme than there are spots available, a selection procedure will be initiated. This process is formally regulated by law.

3. In which areas of work can I do my preparatory internship for the International Relations degree programme?

Students must prove that the chosen internship position relates sufficiently to the subjects in the curriculum of the study programme IR. The following areas are, for example, appropriate for acknowledgement: Political Parties/Institutions, Political Foundations, Public Administration, Non-governmental Organisations, Charitable Institutions & Non-profit Associations, Voluntary Social Year, Media, Public Relations, and Publishing, Human Resources and Marketing, Companies, Firms (no simple auxiliary activities), Banking & Finance

As International Relations aims at studying cross-border phenomena, we strongly encourage students to look for an internship at an internationally operating organisation or company a/o in an area where international/intercultural aspects do play a role.

4. What are possible professional fields after graduating the International Relations Bachelors' Programme?

The interdisciplinary study content as well as the development of intercultural competence already during the study, open up a wide range of professional activities, e.g. in the following areas:

- Local, regional, national government institutions, public administration and parliaments
- International organizations
- Political and business consulting
- Journalism, public relations, market and opinion research

- Associations, parties, foundations and NGOs
- Cross-border companies
- Human Resources, Start-Ups, Lobbying
- Science and Research

Mobility and Logistics:

1. What can I expect to learn in the Bachelor's degree programme in Mobility and Logistics ?

We developed this course to provide you with specialist knowledge of the latest logistic innovations and problem solving methods as well as strategic logistic planning processes. Additionally you will learn to design innovative private mobility concepts and to equip them with the technical systems they require. Together with the technical English language skills you will gain over the course of your studies, this programme provides excellent preparation for you to embark on an international career.

2. What are possible professional fields after graduating the Mobility and Logistics Bachelors' Programme?

As a graduate you will be a highly qualified expert in the management of logistics and will also have the knowledge and skills to respond to new challenges in the field of public and private mobility. You can expect to work in business areas like planning, implementation or economic operation and optimisation of current or future logistic processes and mobility concepts. Our graduates are highly sought after for senior positions in mobility and logistics. They gain employment as planners, consultants, innovators or optimisers and are often responsible for distribution, purchasing or process and product development.

3. Is the Mobility and Logistics degree program admission restricted?

Yes the course is admission restricted as there are only a limited number of places.

4. What requirements do I need to have in order to take the Mobility and Logistics program?

- A sufficient level of English language proficiency (CEFR level B2 or better).
- Completion of an 8-week internship before the start of the 4th semester. You can also do this internship in your home country before applying to Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.
- Interest in technical, economical and organisational problems.

Mechanical Engineering

1. What can I expect to learn in the Bachelor's degree programme in Mechanical Engineering ?

The highly interdisciplinary curriculum of our Mechanical Engineering programme links technical fundamentals in maths, IT, mechanics, construction and electrical engineering with key soft skills, management and marketing competencies. The main goal is to convey flexible expertise and sound methodology in combination with the latest technological trends and developments in order to provide solid training which stays relevant long into the future. In addition, the programme offers numerous opportunities to develop and perfect your team skills, for example in the two semester-long projects where students work in small development teams to analyse and solve fascinating, real-world problems.

2. What does the Course structure of the Bachelors Programme Mechanical Engineering look like?

The degree programme consists of seven semesters of standard study time. Basic knowledge will be taught in the first three semesters. This knowledge will be intensified in semester four and five. At the same time, selections of optional courses are made to form a study profile. The practical semester or the study semester abroad will follow in semester six. The seventh and therefore last semester is for writing the undergraduate thesis. Here, we will also attach great importance to practical relevance and support any co-operation with the free economy. Furthermore, necessary skills for writing a thesis will be provided in block courses. Finally, studies will be completed with an academic conference.

3. Is the Mechanical Engineering degree program admission restricted?

The Bachelor's degree programme in Mechanical Engineering at HSRW is not restricted in terms of admission. This means that you will be admitted if you meet all the admission criteria. There is no selective procedure.

4. What are possible professional fields after graduating the Mechanical Engineering Bachelors' Programme at HSRW?

As a mechanical engineer, your broad technical expertise and sound interpersonal skills will be in high demand in a field full of career opportunities. You'll be able to choose between a variety of interesting career paths.

- Development (design, calculation, construction and testing of technical devices and systems)

- Production (design, manufacture, operation and monitoring of technical devices and systems, testing of products and procedures, quality control)
- Marketing and sales of technical devices and products
- Management positions in the manufacturing industry, businesses or government bodies

Your qualifications will also be in very high demand in sectors such as energy and environmental engineering, process engineering, general mechanical and plant engineering, medical engineering, the automotive and supplier industries, the pharmaceuticals sector or service providers and small businesses.

5. What are the admission requirements for the Mechanical Engineering degree Programme?

A University Entrance Qualification.

A sufficient level of English language proficiency (CEFR level B2 or better).

Completion of an 8-week internship before the start of the 4th semester. You can also do this internship in your home country before applying to Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.