



**Berufsakademie Mosbach
- Staatliche Studienakademie -**

University of Cooperative Education

English-Language Business Programs

in Mosbach and Bad Mergentheim

Berufsakademie Mosbach
University of Cooperative Education
Lohrtalweg 10
74821 Mosbach
Germany

<http://www.ba-mosbach.de>

Contact:

Daniela Englisch M. A.
Head of International Relations



+49 62 61 9 39-5 15/-5 16



+49 62 61 9 39-5 14

e-mail englisch@ba-mosbach.de

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1. Mosbach University of Cooperative Education

Nearly 30 years ago, the University of Cooperative Education – or "Berufsakademie" as it is known in Germany – was launched as an innovative new project in the Southwest German state of Baden-Württemberg. It was designed to provide students with a system of higher education based on the unique combination of theoretical training and on-the-job experience.

Five Features of the University of Cooperative Education

Practice-oriented: Students completing their degrees at a University of Cooperative Education alternate between theoretical and on-the-job training giving them the opportunity to immediately apply concepts learned in class to the workplace. This relationship is also reflected in the faculty, which is made up of university professors and lecturers directly from the industry.

Innovative: The constant exchange of information between participating companies and the university ensures that academic courses continue to be on the cutting edge of business trends and technology.

Time Efficient: The University of Cooperative Education offers intensive degree programs, which take three years, as opposed to the traditional four to five years, to complete.

Cost Effective: The German government covers the academic costs for students completing their degrees at a University of Cooperative Education, while participating companies carry the costs of the practical training. These companies integrate students from the beginning, pay them for the duration of the program, and select future business leaders from among the student body.

Professional Opportunities: High standards of academic training in innovation, team work, and leadership, combined with practical work experience, provide graduates of the University of Cooperative Education with the skills they need to be competitive in today's job market, both in Germany and abroad.

Today, Mosbach University of Cooperative Education is one of fifteen institutions of its kind that continue the tradition of offering students the best of both worlds. It includes a wide range of programs in the fields of Business Administration and Engineering. While many of these programs are conducted in German, Mosbach University of Cooperative Education also offers several English language options intended to welcome international students into the student body.

2. Living in Mosbach and Bad Mergentheim

a) Mosbach

Nestled among ancient castles and steep vineyards, Mosbach is located in the heart of the scenic Neckar river valley near the southern foothills of the Odenwald, a mountain range and recreational area in northern Baden-Württemberg. Within a one hour driving distance of Heidelberg, Stuttgart, Würzburg, and Mannheim, Mosbach, with its 25,000 inhabitants, is a regional center of economic, administrative and cultural significance.

The friendly atmosphere of Mosbach's old town with its small shops, cafés and diverse cultural events attracts visitors throughout the year. During the "Mosbacher Sommer", Mosbach's festival season, the city becomes the venue for a wide range of cultural events. Many of these take place in the historical setting of the market place, while others are held in the "Alte Mälzerei", the city's restored malthouse, which has recently become Mosbach's community center and concert hall.

In Mosbach, tradition and modern lifestyle complement each other to form an attractive place to live, work and study. The picturesque medieval town with its restored half-timbered houses bears witness to an almost 1,200-year history. While preserving its original look, Mosbach is a modern center for service industries and trade.

b) Bad Mergentheim

Like Mosbach, Bad Mergentheim is a town steeped in history. The Teutonic Order of Knights (*Deutscher Orden*) established its headquarters there in 1525 and built the castle whose mighty walls and domed towers still dominate the town. Bad Mergentheim Business School is located in one section, the "Archivbau," of this Renaissance castle.

When its mineral springs were discovered in 1826, Bad Mergentheim grew into one of Germany's most celebrated health resorts where thousands of people combine their vacations with "taking the waters".

Bad Mergentheim, with its 22,000 inhabitants, is located in the scenic Tauber river valley. Würzburg in Frankish-Bavaria is within a 45-minute driving distance from Bad Mergentheim. Another nearby highlight is the medieval town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber, which is still completely surrounded by its original wall, gates and towers.

With its relaxed and subtle atmosphere, its elegant stores, cafés and restaurants, the wide spa gardens, and its pools, Bad Mergentheim is an attractive place for living, working and studying.

3. English-Language Programs

Mosbach University of Cooperative Education offers two Business programs aimed at familiarizing students with Germany and its internationally oriented marketplace, while developing their skills in international business communication and collaboration. These programs are conducted in English by a rotating international faculty on both the Mosbach and Bad Mergentheim campuses. They are available to students completing their degrees at the university as well as to exchange students from its many partners overseas.

Junior Program of Business Administration – A one-semester program involving coursework focused on the field of international business administration and an optional internship. It includes:

- Two-weeks intensive German language training and orientation program in Mosbach or Bad Mergentheim
- One semester of academic classroom coursework taught in one-or-two-week blocks
- A visit to one of the participating companies
- Optional internship at a German company

Students who successfully fulfill the requirements of the *Junior Program of Business Administration* are awarded a *Certificate of Completion* at the end of the program.

International Business Program – A program involving two academic semesters and a mandatory internship. It offers advanced coursework in major topics in international business administration. It includes:

- Four-week German language training in Heidelberg or Würzburg and orientation program in Mosbach
- Two semesters of academic classroom coursework taught in one-to-two-week blocks
- Individual study project at the end of the first semester
- A visit to one of the participating companies
- Written and oral examinations
- Mandatory five-month internship at a German company
- Three-month thesis during the internship period

Students who successfully complete this program, receive the nationally recognized German *Diplom-Betriebswirt (BA¹)* degree. The University of Cooperative Education is accredited by the Open University in London, giving graduates the additional option of receiving a British *Bachelor's Degree of Arts with Honours*.

Note: Students from both programs will receive active support in finding an internship position. This service is provided free of charge and no work permit is needed. In Germany interns are typically paid a monthly stipend, which varies by company or project. If internships are paid, stipends range from 300 € to 800 € per month. Basic German language skills are necessary for an internship.

In addition to the *Junior Program of Business Administration* and the *International Business Program*, the department of International Business Administration on the Bad Mergentheim campus also offers opportunities for international students to directly enroll in other semesters of its three-year degree program, also taught in English. For more information please contact Bad Mergentheim Business School (☎ +49 7931 530-600, 📠 +49 7931 530-604, e-mail: info@ba-mergentheim.de).

¹ "BA" is an abbreviation for "Berufsakademie".

4. Eligibility Requirements

Students applying for the *Junior Program of Business Administration* or the *International Business Program* must:

- ✓ Be enrolled at a partner institution
- ✓ Have certain academic prerequisites (see specific program requirements)
- ✓ Have work experience in a related field (see specific program requirements)
- ✓ Have a good command of the English language
- ✓ Have a basic knowledge of German (if planning or required to do an internship)

Note: Other requirements may apply. See program information for details.

5. Application Deadlines

Application materials submitted by the deadline (see program information for date) will be given first consideration in the participant selection process. Qualified applicants will be admitted to the program of their choice as space allows. Applications received after the deadline will still be considered however, if all slots have been filled, they will be placed on a waiting list and notified if space becomes available. Interested students should fill in all application materials for their chosen program carefully, and send them to Mosbach University of Cooperative Education.

6. Program Costs

Estimated monthly expenses in Mosbach or Bad Mergentheim are approximately 500.- € to 700.- €. This breaks down as follows:

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|---|---------------------|
| • Housing in Mosbach/Bad Mergentheim (per month)
(additional refundable deposit of two to three months rent) | 200.00 € - 350.00 € |
| • Student Services Fee (one-time fee) | 26.00 € |
| • Costs for residence permit (for non-EU citizens) | 40.00 € |
| • Public health insurance (per month) | approx. 55.00 € |
| • Lunch at the student cafeteria in Mosbach/Bad Mergentheim
(per meal) | 2.45 € |

Note: Additional program specific costs may arise (language course, off-campus workshop, company visit, books). See program information for details.

7. Housing

Students at Mosbach University of Cooperative Education typically share houses and apartments in Mosbach/Bad Mergentheim and the surrounding areas. In Bad Mergentheim there are also a few dorm rooms available. Rent ranges from 200.- € to 350.- € per month for a single room with bathroom and shower. The International Office will offer assistance in finding housing to students upon request.

For a regularly updated list of available student housing in Mosbach visit our website at:

<http://www.ba-mosbach.de/zimmerliste/>

A list of housing in Bad Mergentheim is available upon request at ☎ +49 7931 530-600, e-mail: info@ba-mergentheim.de .


International students can be matched with host families for the first few weeks, while they get accustomed to every-day life in Germany and get settled into permanent housing. Host families may be available for the duration of study if families can be found.


8. How To Contact Us

For further information please contact:

International Office

Berufsakademie Mosbach
University of Cooperative Education
Lohrtalweg 10
74821 Mosbach
Germany

 +49 62 61 9 39-5 15/-5 16

 +49 62 61 9 39-5 14

e-mail: auslandsamt@ba-mosbach.de