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MSc Finance – Information for New Students

Academic Year 2026/2027

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The sky is the limit
Intelligence may be artificial, risk is real

The trend is your friend

Momentum

What goes up must go down

Mean reversion

Black-Scholes

Black holes

Black boxes black swans

NEVER catch a falling knife

Value at risk

Rest assured

Trust all sayings—until the market opens

If you want a guarantee, buy a toaster

Welcome



The Faculty of Mathematics and Economics is happy to welcome you as a new student of the Master in Finance program. This brochure is meant to summarize important information that you need in order to organize your studies and get along. Of course, there is a lot of information available on the internet, and you may have already received some information material.

This brochure does not replace other sources. It shall rather serve as a handy, quick reference that saves you time in finding the information that you need. Additional information for double degree students can be found in the brochures "Additional information for double degree students from ..." that we will hand out to you.

We are aware that there may be questions to which you do not find an answer here or elsewhere. Then please do not hesitate to contact us. I'll be very glad to answer your questions. You can also contact the program coordinator Stefan Rausch. The lecturers and tutors of the classes you attend will be happy to answer questions related to their courses and their field. After all, one advantage of Ulm University is that it is a small university where students and staff closely interact.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve the program or the services surrounding it, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With the best wishes for your studies in Ulm,

Gunter Löffler
Program Director
Master in Finance

Master of Science Program in Finance

The Master in Finance program is your gateway to studying actuarial science, financial economics or financial mathematics. The program includes courses from (financial-) mathematics, financial economics, insurance and actuarial science, and data science.

Through the program, students will gain a sound understanding of cutting-edge techniques used by financial institutions, consultants, regulators and many other economic institutions. Topics of the program include valuation of derivatives, portfolio and risk management, insurance, data analysis and regulatory aspects.

Graduates with a sound training in these areas are sought after on the job market. The use of artificial intelligence, big data and online platforms in the provision of financial services creates a lot of exciting opportunities for graduates with a strong quantitative background. Dealing with climate risk is a big new challenge for financial players, but prospects for more traditional fields in finance and insurance also continue to be very good.

With the knowledge that you gain from the MSc Finance program, you will be ready for the opportunities and challenges that are shaping the world of finance.

Study Plans

a) Study Plan for the Specialization Actuarial Science (CP is credit points)

Term	Actuarial Science	Financial Economics	Mathematics	Quantitative Methods	Other	CP
1	Electives (8 CP)	Derivatives (7 CP) Electives (7 CP)	Discrete Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)		Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP)	30
2	Electives (9 CP)		Electives (10 CP)		Seminar I (4 CP) Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP) Practical Actuarial Science (4 CP)	30
3	Electives (8 CP)		Electives (5 CP)		Seminar II (4 CP) Practical Financial Engineering or Risk Management Roundup (4 CP) Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (2 CP)	30
	Electives (7 CP)					
4	Master's Thesis (30 CP)					30

b) Study Plan for the Specialization Financial Economics (CP is credit points)

Term	Financial Economics	Mathematics	Quantitative Methods	Other	CP
1	Derivatives (7 CP)	Electives (6 CP)		Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP)	30
	Asset Pricing (7 CP)				
	Electives (7 CP)				
2	Electives (11 CP)	Electives (8 CP)		Seminar I (4 CP) Practical Financial Engineering or Project Class in Asset Management (4 CP) Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP)	30
3	Electives (14 CP)	Electives (6 CP)		Seminar II (4 CP) Risk Management Roundup (4 CP) Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (2 CP)	30
4	Master's Thesis (30 CP)				30

c) Study Plan for the Specialization Financial Mathematics (CP is credit points)

Term	Financial Economics	Mathematics	Other	CP
1	Asset Pricing (7 CP)	Discrete Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)	Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP)	30
	Electives (7 CP)	Electives (8 CP)		
2		Continuous Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)	Seminar I (4 CP)	30
		Stochastic Analysis (5 CP)	Practical Financial Engineering (4 CP)	
		Electives (9 CP)	Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (3 CP)	
3	Electives (20 CP) with at least 16 CP from Mathematics at least 4 CP from Financial Economics		Seminar II (4 CP)	30
			Practical Actuarial Science or Risk Management Roundup (4 CP)	
			Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills (2 CP)	
4	Master's Thesis (30 CP)			30

The study plans show typical courses of study, separately for the three possible specializations. Note that the credit points stated per semester are not binding in the sense that you need to achieve exactly the stated number of points per semester. For example, in the specialization Actuarial Science, instead of studying for seven credit points in electives in Financial Economics in the first semester you could do more. The courses offered in a given semester will not always allow you to exactly hit the number of credits stated in the plan. However, we aim to put together a course program that allows you to follow the study plan fairly closely. In order to design your personal study plan, you can check the courses to be offered in the next semesters on the MSc Finance web pages.

We recommend that you finish your course work in the first three semesters, reserving the fourth for the Master's thesis. However, you can also take courses in the fourth semester. You only get the degree if you have passed the compulsory courses and earned the number of credits required for electives in each field. The requirements depend on the chosen specialization. Note that another word used for electives is *optional modules*.

Possible specializations are "Actuarial Science" (in German: Aktuarwissenschaften), "Financial Economics" (in German: Finanzwirtschaft) and "Financial Mathematics" (in German: Finanzmathematik). By default, you will be assigned the specialization "Actuarial Science" – because it comes first in the alphabet. But don't worry, the Student Administration Office (Studiensekretariat) will ask you to either confirm or to change this choice prior to the examination period of the first semester: They will contact you via e-mail, typically around Christmas. During the second semester you still have the opportunity to change your mind but the choice of specialization has to be finalized before the start of the examination period of the second semester. This is your last chance to change your specialization. To do so, simply contact the Student Administration Office via e-mail. After the start of the examination period of the second semester, it is not possible to change your specialization anymore.

Please note that the start of the examination period is an official date independent from your personal first exam date. It is published via e-mail by the Student Administration Office a few weeks before the end of each lecture period. You can also find the date online.

Depending on the choice of specialization, the following modules must be completed:

a) Specialization Actuarial Science

1. Discrete Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)
2. Derivatives (7 CP)
3. Electives in Actuarial Science with a minimum of 25 CP
4. Electives in Mathematics with a minimum of 15 CP
5. Electives in Financial Economics with a minimum of 7 CP
6. Electives in Actuarial Science, Financial Economics, Quantitative Methods or Mathematics with a minimum of 7 CP
7. Two seminars, one of which must be in Actuarial Science (8 CP)
8. Practical Actuarial Science (4 CP)
9. Practical Financial Engineering or Risk Management Roundup (4 CP)
10. Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills with a minimum of 8 CP
11. Master's Thesis (30 CP)

b) Specialization Financial Economics

1. Derivatives (7 CP)
2. Asset Pricing (7 CP)
3. Electives in Financial Economics with a minimum of 32 CP
4. Electives in Mathematics or Quantitative Methods with a minimum of 20 CP
5. Two seminars, one of which must be in Financial Economics (8 CP)
6. Risk Management Roundup (4 CP)
7. Practical Financial Engineering or Project Class in Asset Management (4 CP)
8. Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills with a minimum of 8 CP
9. Master's Thesis (30 CP)

c) Specialization Financial Mathematics

1. Discrete Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)
2. Asset Pricing (7 CP)
3. Stochastic Analysis (5 CP)
4. Continuous Time Financial Mathematics (5 CP)
5. Electives in Mathematics with a minimum of 33 CP
6. Electives Financial Economics with a minimum of 11 CP
7. Two seminars, one of which must be in Financial Mathematics (8 CP)
8. Practical Financial Engineering (4 CP)
9. Risk Management Roundup or Practical Actuarial Science (4 CP)
10. Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills with a minimum of 8 CP
11. Master's Thesis (30 CP)

As Interdisciplinary Competences and Language Skills you can, for example, attend German language courses specifically offered for international MSc students. If you attend these German courses, please note that you need three courses to earn the required 8 credits. The first two courses earn you 3 credits each, the third one 2. While it is advisable to learn German (if you do not know it already) because it increases your chances of finding a job in Germany after graduating, there is a wide range of other courses that qualify. Please note, however, that German language courses other than the ones specifically offered for international MSc students are usually not eligible. If you are already proficient in German you may take an advanced course in e.g. Wirtschaftsdeutsch, but only with the consent of the language center (contact Katrin Husemann). English language courses below C1 and language courses in your mother tongue are not eligible. If you took the German language placement test before enrolment and sent us your results, you will automatically be registered for the German course that suits you best. Starting from the second semester, you must register online for the German courses yourself, which can be done via the [CoronaNG platform](#) (see also the collection of useful links).

If you want to learn more about the contents and the requirements of a course, you can browse the module descriptions available in the [Campusonline University Services Portal](#). Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are unsure about your optimal plan of study, requirements for attending a course, and the like.

Information about Examinations

Please note that this is an incomplete summary of the exam regulations. If you are in doubt about the rules, please seek advice. The complete exam regulations are available [here](#). Note that two documents are relevant for you: The general study and examination regulations and the subject-specific one for the MSc Finance. (At the time of writing, the current, 2025 version of the latter is not available in English yet.) The [FAQs of the Student Administration and Examinations Office](#) also answer a lot of questions.

Grading System

Passing grades range from 1 (very good) to 4 (sufficient). There are intermediate grades (1.3, 1.7, 2.3, 2.7, 3.3 and 3.7). A grade of 5 means that you have not passed.

Final Grade

The overall grade of the Master's degree is calculated as a weighted average of the relevant module grades, using credit points as weights. The modules determining the final grade consist of (i) all compulsory modules including the Master's thesis, (ii) the best-graded elective modules up to the required number of credit points in the respective area of specialization, and (iii) the required modules from the interdisciplinary competences and language skills area. Seminars, which are often not graded anyway, do not count towards the final grade.

If the credit point requirement for a given area is exceeded, the last module that crosses this threshold is only included with the credit points needed to reach the requirement. To determine this *last* module, modules are sorted by grade, from best to worst.

The degree certificate is issued upon request of the student, provided that you have successfully passed all compulsory modules and achieved the required number of credit points for the electives.

Because of these rules, students may take additional modules beyond the requirements, and by doing so they may improve the final grade, provided the grades they achieve on the additional modules are better than the grades of modules already taken.

Registering for Exams

You need to register until five calendar days prior to the date of a written exam. For example, if the exam is on the 21st you need to register on the 16th at the latest. Registration can be done via the portal [Campusonline](#). Don't forget to check that your registration was actually accepted by the system. You can download a certificate stating all exams you are registered for. Up until one day before the exam, you can withdraw a registration without giving any reason. Later, you need a doctor's certificate (see the *attestation form* [here](#)). It is not possible to withdraw from an exam after you have taken it. Please regularly check that the provided information on registration deadlines is up to date.

If you register for an exam and then fail, you will not be automatically registered for the retake, i. e. you have to register again via [Campusonline](#). If you do not show up to an exam for which you registered, it will be recorded as a fail, i.e. grade 5.0 is recorded for the exam. Retakes can be "open" or "closed", which is up to the examiner. If a retake is

closed, students can only participate if they failed in the first exam or could not attend due to a proven incapability (doctor's certificate needed). If a retake is open, students can participate without having taken the first exam.

Prerequisites

In some courses, you need to successfully complete coursework during the term in order to be able to register for the exam. Particulars about the respective coursework are specified in the module handbook. If such a prerequisite is required, it is necessary to register for it on [Campusonline](#) prior to the registration of the module examination. It should be stressed that registration deadlines for prerequisites are usually several weeks before the deadlines for exam registration.

Deadlines for Taking Exams

Until the end of the second examination period of your fourth semester, you should have reached at least 75 credit points. Until the end of the second examination period of your seventh semester you should have completed the entire program including the Master's thesis. The right of admission to an examination ceases if these deadlines are not met, which means that you may lose your study place and cannot finish your degree in Ulm.

Exam Dates

Usually, exams take place in the last week of the lecture period and the first two weeks of the semester break. Retakes usually take place in the two weeks before the lecture period of the following term starts.

Please note that if you miss an exam because of a trip to your home country or similar reasons, you do not have the right to take the exam at an extra date.

Retakes and Grade Improvement

Each exam – if failed previously – can be retaken twice. In addition, the compulsory courses can be retaken up to three times if not passed in previous attempts. Referring to the lists from above, these compulsory courses are a) 1. and 2. for Actuarial Science; b) 1. and 2. for Financial Economics, and c) 1., 2., 3. and 4. for Financial Mathematics. You can retake the Master's Thesis only once.

You may not retake an exam or the thesis once it has been passed, except in the following cases: until the end of the second examination period of the first semester, up to two successfully passed written exams from the compulsory area may be retaken once for the purpose of improving the grade, but only in written form. Registration for such exam improvement attempts is via email to the Student Administration Office. In your email, please state the information listed on the [FAQ page of the Student Administration Office](#) ("How are grade improvement attempts registered?") and make sure that you only request it for a passed exam that you are allowed to take again according to the information given in this paragraph. So, please do not request a retake of a passed elective exam, an oral retake of a passed compulsory exam, or a retake of a passed compulsory exam after the second examination period of your first semester.

Registering for Seminars

Seminar registration is organized by the study commissions of either Economics or Mathematics, depending on the subject area. Before each registration period, you should receive two emails from the faculty: one email for seminars in Economics and one for seminars in Mathematics. For Economics, the registration dates and the corresponding email are typically sent out at the end of January for seminars in the summer semester and at the beginning of July for seminars in the winter semester. The registration procedure is explained in detail in the email, but it usually takes place via a web-based allocation platform. For Mathematics, there is a dedicated [Moodle course](#) listing the seminars offered in the upcoming semester. Please note, however, that not all lecturers post their seminars there. In many cases, registration for a seminar in Mathematics is handled by sending an email to the lecturer before the specified deadline.

Master's Thesis

You can register the thesis once you have achieved at least 60 credit points. Students must register for their Master's Thesis directly at the Student Administration Office. Further information on how to register are given on the [FAQ page of the Student Administration Office](#) ("How do I register for the bachelor's/master's thesis?"). The thesis has to be submitted six months after the start date stated on the registration form. Submission is done electronically, via email to the Student Administration Office. The Student Administration Office then forwards your thesis to the examiners.

You should find a professor who supervises the topic of your thesis. If you don't find a supervisor in time, you can ask the examination board to assign a topic to you.

Timetables, Courses Offered and Module Handbook

A list of courses offered in a semester, including timetables, is available on the [Course Offer website](#). It lists the courses offered in a semester, the area they belong to, the number of credit points and links to the corresponding Moodle courses.

Moodle is the central learning platform for your courses. There you will find important information and materials such as lecture and exercise documents, as well as details on rooms, dates, exams, and credits. You can generally enrol in any Moodle course without any obligation to take the course or its exam. If you are unsure whether you want to take a course, you are therefore welcome to enrol and have a look. A few courses require a password; this is usually provided in the first class. If you are unable to attend and need the password, contact the responsible institute by email.

If you want to take an exam in a course not listed on the Course Offer website, please clarify this with Stefan Rausch or Professor Löffler.

A downloadable PDF timetable is also available on the Course Offer website. Please note that the timetable and course information are normally updated only in the week before the semester starts, as some courses and Moodle pages are not finalized earlier. Minor changes may also occur during the first week of lectures; we will update the information as quickly as possible. The page also contains a preliminary overview of courses planned for the following semesters at the bottom. This is subject to change as well, but we do our best to plan and communicate the course offer as reliably as possible.

For a complete overview of the modules in the Module Handbook, use [Campusonline](#): after logging in, go to Study → Browse Module Descriptions → Master of Science → Finance → Examination Regulations 2025 → your specialization. There you can see which courses fit into your study plan, access individual module descriptions, and download the complete Module Handbook as a PDF.

Re-Registration for the Next Semester

You can re-register by paying the required semester fees, which ensures that you remain enrolled for the next semester. This is particularly important if you have not yet completed your studies, as without re-registration you will lose your student status. The re-registration deadline is typically February 10 for the summer semester and August 10 for the winter semester, but you should always check the [university website](#) for the exact dates. If you miss the deadline, a late fee will be charged, and if you do not pay at all, you will be withdrawn from the university. About one month before the deadline, the Student Administration usually sends a reminder email with all necessary payment details. You can also find your personal payment details on [campus4](#) by navigating to “Student Services” and selecting “Payments.” There, you will find your payment reference and can check whether your payment has been received.

Software

As a student of Ulm University, you can use a range of software products for free or at very favorable rates. Here we only list three products frequently used by students:

- [Microsoft Office \(with Word and Excel\)](#) is available for less than €5 per year. (Unfortunately, the page is currently only available in German. In such cases, you can use your browser’s built-in translation feature. If that doesn’t work, please feel free to contact us or ask your lecturers for assistance.)
- [Zoom](#) offers more features and fewer restrictions when used with your university account than with a free account. To get started, see the FAQ “Create a new licensed EDU account for yourself”.
- [Overleaf](#) is an online LaTeX editor. If you use it with your university account (log in with SSO), the restrictions of the free plan do not apply.

Housing

If you live in a student dormitory of the [Studierendenwerk](#) (German name for student services body), your rental agreement is typically concluded for two years, from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2028. If you have not yet completed your studies after two years, you can apply for an extension of your rental period.

If you want to cancel a rental agreement in Germany, you have to be aware of the cancellation period. For the [student dormitories](#), rental agreements can generally only be terminated effective 30 March or 29 September. The written notice of termination must be received by the Studierendenwerk at least eight weeks before the respective date. Missing the deadline may result in having to pay rent for an additional period. Please also

inform yourself to ensure this information is up to date and check the conditions outlined in your individual rental agreement.

For further information on important rules and practical matters relating to your accommodation, such as quiet hours, waste disposal and tenant responsibilities, please visit the [page with information for tenants](#). You can also find the current forms for extending your rental period, moving to another room and terminating your rental agreement there.

Different cancellation periods may apply to private housing. Always check the rules specified in your rental agreement.

Gaining Practical Experience

It can be a valuable experience to gain practical knowledge during your studies. Not only does it foster the understanding of theoretical models, but it also offers the opportunity to form a network for later career entry. However, it can sometimes be challenging to find the right place to work. Therefore, Ulm University provides various ways to help you with your job search. First of all, a [student society](#) organizes the [WiMa Congress](#), which is an annual career event in November. The main part of this event is a large job fair with many companies related to finance and insurance. This is a great chance to get to know the attending companies and to find out about upcoming internships and working student positions. (A working student position is a part-time position that is offered specifically to students). This year's WiMa congress is scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2026. In addition to the WiMa Congress, there are always postings on job openings in the corridors of the university or the respective departments. Some departments also provide an online job list in which they publish current vacancies related to their subject matter. For example, you can find job openings published on the homepage of the [Institute of Finance](#) or the [Institute of Insurance Science](#).

Student tutor and student research assistant jobs at the university are listed on the [Convenda platform](#).

Another way to find work placements is to use external sources. There are many different online job portals. Some of them are limited to regional jobs, whereas others cover nationwide job openings (e.g., see [indeed](#) or [stepstone](#)). Most companies maintain a career portal on their own, where they have a section for the advertisement of work placements. Many large companies also post job openings on [LinkedIn](#). In smaller companies it might also be sensible to directly contact human resources departments about open positions.

Ulm University runs a service called [Career Services](#) to help students in finding a suitable job. This includes consultations, a review of your written application and regular information sessions. As these are predominantly held in German, the [International Office](#) organises a number of additional events in English as part of the [FIT4U program](#). Information provided during such events include how to write a good application, what to put in the application, how to design your CV, where to find job offers and much more. In addition, they also offer additional German courses.

Typically, an internship lasts between three and six months. During this period, the work requires a high time commitment such that there is not much time left for your studies. This means that internships are best done during the term break or during a period of academic leave (see separate section on academic leave for more information). In

contrast, working student positions are mostly limited to one or two days a week, which is better compatible with studying. Ulm may not always offer an ideal internship position closely related to your studies, but it is possible to commute to Stuttgart and Munich by train, and our students also do internships in Frankfurt, Cologne, Hannover or elsewhere. In addition, the possibility to work remotely makes it easier to manage both your studies and a working student job.

Working During Your Studies

International students can work part-time alongside their studies. The rules depend on your nationality and residence status. In the following, we have collected some information from several sources: [\(1\)](#), [\(2\)](#), [\(3\)](#) and [\(4\)](#). Please review the information below carefully and check the rules that apply to your individual situation. We do not provide legal advice.

Students from EU/EEA countries and Switzerland have free access to the German labour market and are generally subject to the same rules as German students.

Students from non-EU/EEA countries who hold a residence permit for study purposes can work without approval from the Federal Employment Agency for up to 140 full days or 280 half days per calendar year. A working day of up to four hours counts as a half day. During the lecture period, students should generally not work more than 20 hours per week, just like German students. During the semester break, full-time work is generally possible. The specific rules depend on the type of employment and your individual circumstances, so please check the conditions of your residence permit before starting a job.

The 140-day/280-half-day limit does not apply to student assistant and research assistant positions at universities, university-related institutions or other scientific institutions. Self-employed or freelance work is subject to separate rules and should be clarified with the Foreigners Authority before starting such an activity.

Further Information

If you exceed the permitted scope of employment, you may need approval from the responsible authorities. It is therefore important to keep track of your working days and hours and to check the conditions stated in your residence permit. Violations of the regulations may have consequences for your residence status.

For students from non-EU/EEA countries, the 140 full days/280 half days are counted per calendar year. A working day of up to four hours counts as a half day; a working day of more than four hours counts as a full day. The relevant working days should be documented so that you can keep track of your annual allowance.

If you are unsure whether a particular position qualifies as a student assistant job, please check with the university or the Foreigners Authority before starting the job.

Working as a student can also affect your social insurance status. In particular, the 20-hour-per-week rule during the lecture period is relevant for maintaining student status for social insurance purposes. Working more than 20 hours per week may result in different social insurance obligations, depending on the circumstances of your employment. During the semester break, different rules apply and students are allowed to work more than 20 hours per week, i.e. full-time.

If you are planning to work more than the permitted amount, take up self-employment, or are unsure whether a specific job or internship is permitted, please contact the responsible foreigners authority before starting the activity. The information provided here is for general guidance only and you should check the specifics of your residence status.

Internships

Voluntary internships generally count towards the 140-day/280-half-day allowance, including unpaid internships. Compulsory internships that are a required part of other degree programs are exempt from this limit. Since the MSc Finance program does not include a compulsory internship, please remember to check your remaining allowance.

For longer internships that extend beyond the semester break, you should consider taking academic leave. During a leave of absence, examinations generally cannot be taken. In addition, semesters of academic leave are not counted towards the study-related deadlines.

Working Student Positions

Working student positions (*Werkstudententätigkeiten*) are a common form of part-time employment for students in Germany. They allow students to gain practical work experience while studying. Working hours during the lecture period are generally limited to 20 hours per week if you want to retain student status for social insurance purposes. During the semester break, you can generally work more hours.

Working student positions are subject to the same residence and work regulations as other employment. For students from non-EU/EEA countries, working student positions generally count towards the 140-day/280-half-day allowance.

Studying Abroad

For many of you, studying in Ulm already means that you study abroad, and you may not feel like spending a part of the program outside Ulm. Be that as it may, the faculty runs several exchange programs with universities outside Germany. As a Master in Finance student, you can apply for a place in such programs.

Examinations taken during such a study abroad can be acknowledged here in Ulm, reducing the number of exams that you have to take in Ulm.

In the following, we briefly list the programs as well as the contact persons. Further information can be obtained from Ulm University's [International Office](#) who regularly offer [study abroad counseling](#) for outgoing students via Zoom.

Exchange programs with European Universities

There are several partner universities where students can stay within the ERASMUS framework for European student exchange. You can usually stay for one or two terms. The application deadline is usually in December for a stay in the following academic year. Contact persons in the faculty are:

Exchange programs with focus on mathematics (including financial mathematics) and statistics:

Helen Kafka, Helmholtzstr. 20, room 1.48
international.mathematics@uni-ulm.de

Exchange programs with focus on economics, including financial economics:

Helen Kafka, Helmholtzstr. 20, room 1.48
international.economics@uni-ulm.de

Exchange Program with US Universities (Focus: Mathematics and Statistics)

Students participating in this program work as teaching assistants while studying at one of the seven US partner universities. Length of stay is one year minimum. The program coordinator is Manfred Sauter:

Dr. Manfred Sauter, Institute of Applied Analysis
Helmholtzstr. 18, room 2.06
manfred.sauter@uni-ulm.de

More information on the Faculty's exchange programs with US and European Universities is available on the [following website](#).

Academic Leave

If you have good reasons for not studying during a semester, you can apply for academic leave. Semesters of academic leave do not count toward the semesters of study that are relevant for study deadlines, and are free of tuition fees. The most frequent reason for taking academic leave is an internship. Other reasons include: studying abroad, birth of a child, long illness or taking care of family members. Further information and a form for applying for academic leave can be found on the [website of the Student Administration Office](#) and the [MSc Finance FAQ page](#).

To apply for academic leave, submit the signed application form to the Student Administration Office. Before doing so, however, you need a signature from the [examination board](#). As an MSc Finance student, please seek the signature from the program coordinator Stefan Rausch, who is also a member of the examination board. In order to obtain the signature and to submit the form, you need a proof of the reason for academic leave, e.g. the contract with your employer in case of an internship.

Note that academic leave is not the same as de-registering from the program. You should not de-register from the program unless you want to definitely quit it!

Examination Board

Contact:

Stefan Rausch
Institute of Finance
Helmholtzstr. 18, room 1.03
phone: 0731/50-23599
stefan.rausch@uni-ulm.de

Chairman:

Prof. Dr. Mitja Stadje
Institute of Insurance Science
Helmholtzstr. 20, room 1.50
Phone: 0731/50-31186
mitja.stadje@uni-ulm.de

Secretary:

Bernadette Maiwald
Helmholtzstr. 18, room E.30
phone: 0731/50- 32451
bernadette.maiwald@uni-ulm.de

Leisure and Culture in Ulm

Ulm offers many opportunities to enjoy your free time, from historic sights and cultural events to sports, outdoor activities and student life.

A good place to start exploring the city is the Ulm Minster (Ulmer Münster), famous for having the tallest historical church tower in the world. The historic Fishermen's Quarter (Fischerviertel), with its half-timbered houses, narrow streets, cafés and restaurants, is another popular area to explore. The Danube (Donau) is ideal for walking, cycling and relaxing, while the nearby Friedrichsau park offers plenty of green space and several beer gardens. The surrounding region is also well suited for hiking and cycling.

Culture and Events

Ulm offers a lively program of cultural events throughout the year. The municipal theatre ([Theater Ulm](#)) stages plays as well as opera and ballet performances, so even if you are not proficient in German, you may find something that interests you. Students at Ulm University can get free tickets to performances (see [the student theatre ticket scheme](#); information currently available only in German).

The [Kunsthalle Weishaupt](#), an art museum well worth visiting, offers free admission to students at Ulm University. Other museums may offer free admission to everyone on certain days, often the first Friday of the month.

The Ulmer Zelt is a multi-week cultural festival held in the Friedrichsau in early summer, featuring international and local artists, concerts, comedy, theatre, dance and other performances. The Ulmer Volksfest takes place in July every summer and offers many amusement rides.

One of Ulm's most distinctive traditions is Oath Monday (Schwörmontag) in July. The day includes the mayor's traditional Oath Speech (Schwörrede), followed by the famous Nabada, a large water procession on the Danube in which decorated boats, rafts and thousands of participants make their way down the river. The Lantern Serenade (Lichterserenade), held on the Danube during the same period, is another highlight, when hundreds of illuminated boats create a special atmosphere on the river.

Every two years, the International Danube Festival (Donaufest) brings together music, art, food and cultural activities from countries along the Danube. Other regular events include the Ulmer Wine Festival (Weinfest) in August on the Münsterplatz, the Culture Night (Kulturnacht) in September, with museums, theatres, galleries and other cultural venues open for special events, and the Einstein Marathon in autumn. During the summer, "Stürmt die Burg" offers concerts and cultural events at the historic Wilhelmsburg. Every other year, Ulm hosts the State Brass Music Festival (Landesposaunentag), bringing brass musicians from across Württemberg together for concerts and a huge joint performance on Münsterplatz. In winter, the Christmas Market (Ulmer Weihnachtsmarkt) transforms Münsterplatz into a large market with more than 100 stalls, food, crafts and seasonal entertainment.

The City of Ulm provides an [event calendar](#) with an overview of upcoming cultural events. Many cultural institutions offer reduced prices for students, so it is always worth checking for student discounts.

Activities at Ulm University

Ulm University also offers a wide range of opportunities to get involved outside your studies. The University Sports ([Hochschulsport](#)) program offers numerous courses to students at a low cost. The [Musisches Zentrum \(MUZ\)](#) provides opportunities to take part in music, art and creative activities.

Students can also take advantage of the [Theaterflatrate](#), which allows students of Ulm University to obtain available tickets for many regular performances at Theater Ulm free of charge from seven days before the performance. The university also has its own cinema ([UniKino](#)), campus parties such as the [SoNaFe](#) and events organised by the Studierendenvertretung (StuVe, Student Representation), as well as numerous student groups covering different interests and activities. Additionally, the [International Office](#) also regularly offers get-togethers and other events.

Collection of Useful Links

On the webpages of the MSc Finance, you'll find a lot of useful information:

<https://www.uni-ulm.de/mawi/master-in-finance/>

A list of courses offered in a semester, including timetables, is available here:

<https://www.uni-ulm.de/mawi/master-in-finance/current-students/course-offer/>

On CampusOnline, you can register for exams and access important information about your courses: <https://campusonline.uni-ulm.de/qislsf/>

On the campus portal, you can take care of administrative matters and, for example, download study certificates: <https://campus4.uni-ulm.de/>

Moodle is the central platform for accessing course material, assignments and other important information related to your courses: <https://moodle.uni-ulm.de/login/index.php>

Information and registration for interdisciplinary competences and language courses can be found on CoronaNG: <https://campusonline.uni-ulm.de/CoronaNG/index.html>

The general study and examination regulations and the subject-specific one for the MSc Finance set important rules and deadlines for MSc Finance students:

<https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/einrichtungen/administration/dezernat-i/legal-and-organisational-affairs/statutes-and-regulations-etc/under-and-postgraduate-study-doctoral-degree-habilitation/study-and-examination-regulations/>

The International Office supports incoming students with questions about studying and living in Ulm: <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/io.html>

Ulm University offers support for students entering the job market:

<https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/university/career/career-services/>

Important information about exams, semester dates, fees, and other aspects of organising your studies: <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/study/organisation>

The FAQ of the Student Administration Office answer many questions related to exams: <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/study/exam-administration/exams-and-modules-faq/>

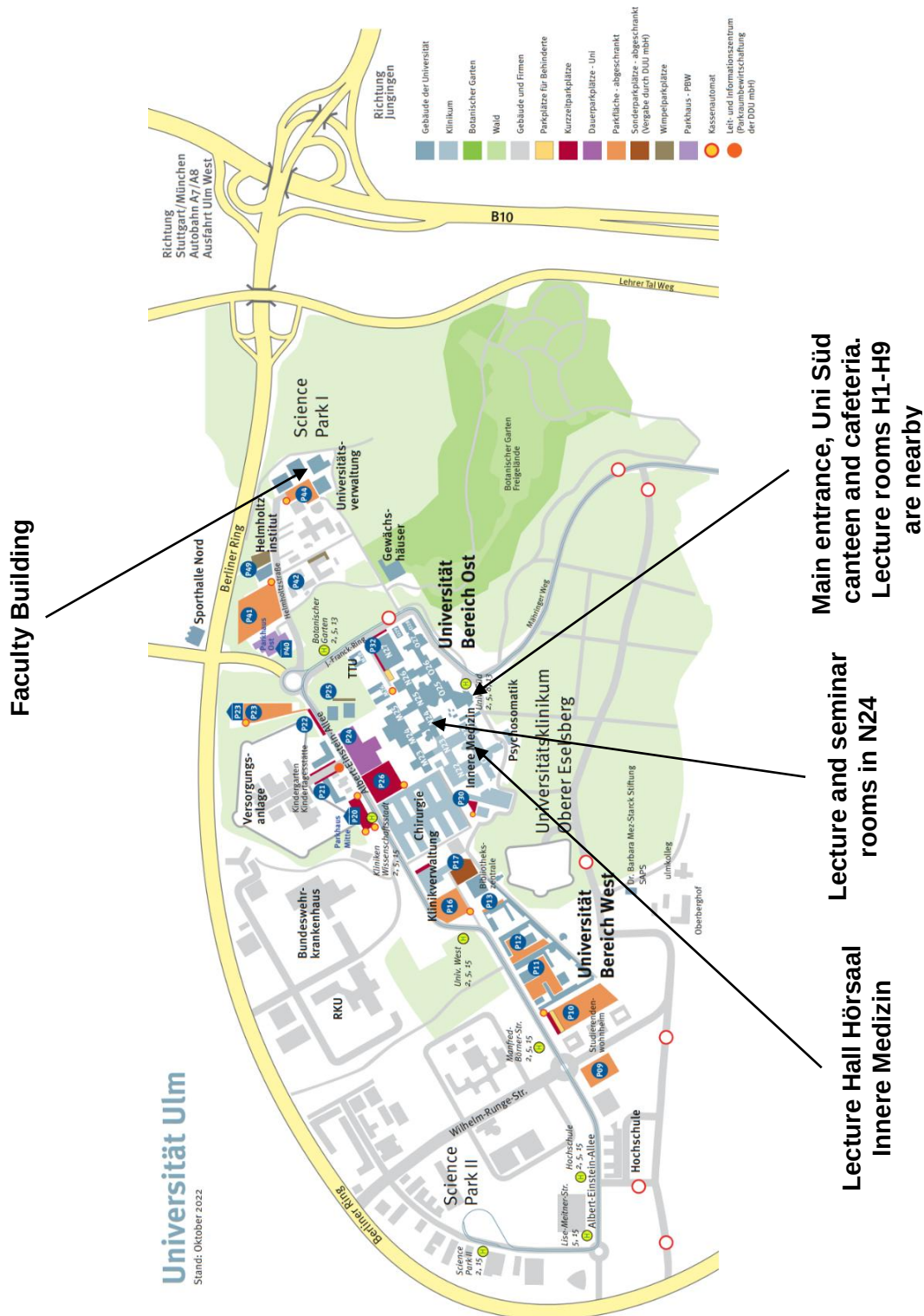
The homepage of the faculty provides information on boards, councils, committees and study organisation: <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/mawi/mathematics-and-economics/> and <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/mawi/mathematics-and-economics/studies-and-teaching/students/information-for-students/>

The Examination Board is responsible for approving applications for academic leave: <https://www.uni-ulm.de/en/mawi/mathematics-and-economics/faculty/boards-councils-and-committees/examination-boards/examination-board-finance/>

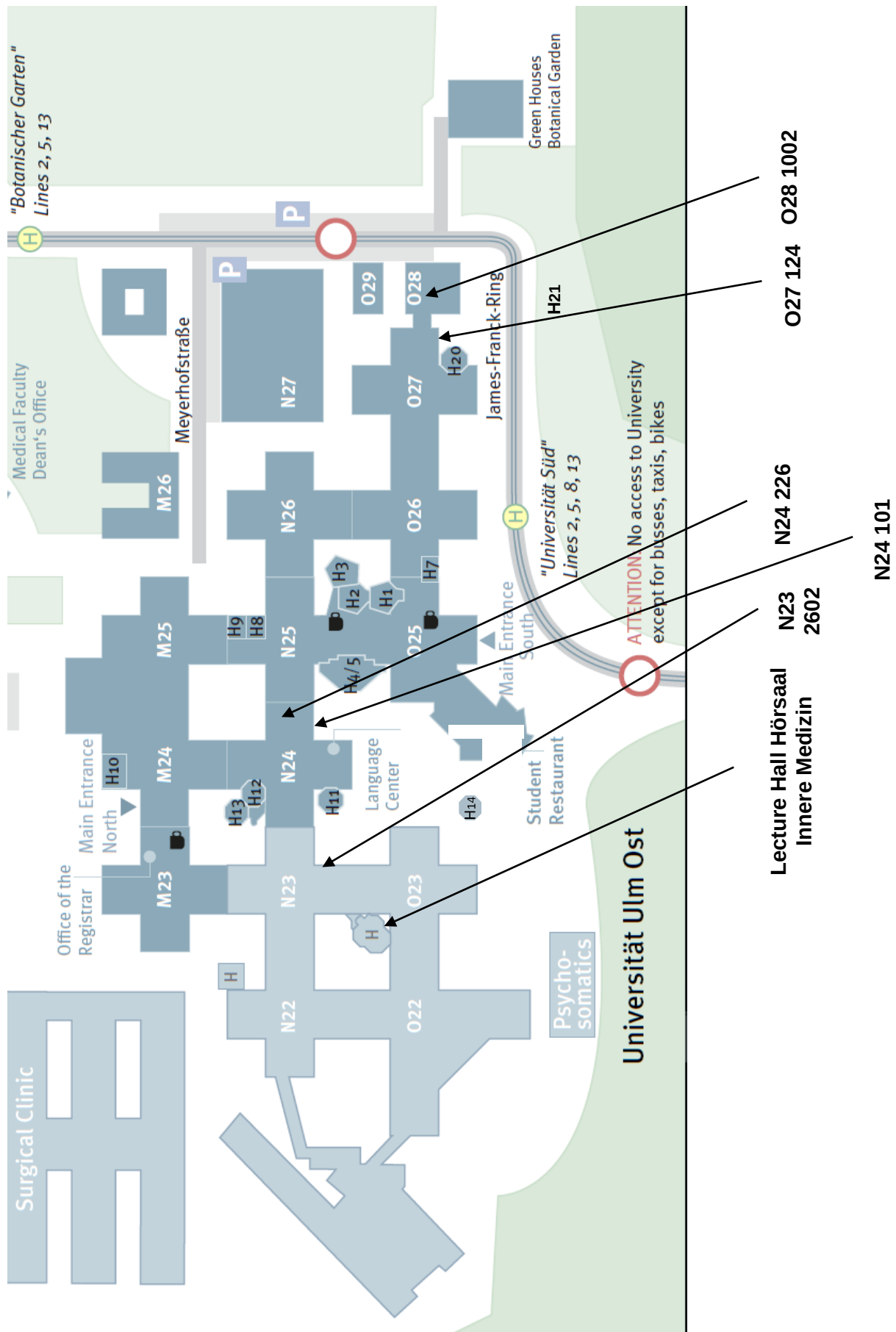
Campus Site Map

The faculty building is located in Helmholtzstrasse 18. Sometimes this is abbreviated to He, He 18 or HeHo 18. There are four seminar rooms in the faculty building. Usually they are referred to as E20, E60, He 120, He 220. Some institutes of the faculty as well as additional seminar rooms are located in neighbouring buildings (He 20 and He 22).

Some of your classes will be held in lecture halls of the main university building. In the map, we highlight selected lecture halls/rooms where some of your classes may be held. Please see the following page for a detailed map of lecture halls in the main building.



Ground Plan – Lecture Halls/Rooms in the Main Building



Glossary of Important Terms – German/English

c.t.	Cum tempore, i.e. with time. This means that a class starts at a quarter past the full hour. 8 c.t. is 8.15. To make clear that the class starts at 8 sharp, use 8 s.t. ($\triangleq$ sine tempore).
ECTS	The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, used for credit points at Ulm University. In practice, ECTS is often used in the sense of ECTS credits (see below).
Dekan	Dean. The head of the faculty. The dean's office is the Dekanat.
Frist	Deadline. Some important deadlines are listed in the section on examination regulations.
Leistungspunkte (LP) / CP / ECTS credits	Credit points. Are related to the work load of a module. Study requirements are formulated as a minimum number of credit points that you need to achieve. Sometimes called ECTS because there are based on the E uropean C redit T ransfer and A ccumulation S ystem.
Modul	Module. A unit of study such as a lecture plus exercises or a seminar that is part of the degree program. In most cases, the module is made up by one course. There can be modules made up by two or more courses, though.
Pflichtfach	Compulsory course.
Prüfungsausschuss	Examination Board. Decides in cases where the examination regulations leave flexibility.
Schlüsselqualifikation	Interdisciplinary competences, or soft skill and language courses, often abbreviated ASQ.
Seminar	Seminar. A seminar at a German university is not necessarily the same as a seminar in another country. In a German seminar students usually write a paper on a set topic, and then present their paper in class.
Sprechstunde	Office hour. Most people do not mind if you knock on their door outside the office hour. As working remotely has become more common, some office hours have moved online.
Studiendekan	Study dean. Responsible for degree programs offered by the faculty. Can share the responsibility with the program director of a degree program.
Studiensekretariat	Student Administration and Examinations Office. It handles the examination registration and other formalities.
Studierendenwerk	Student union. A public body offering a wide range of services to students (food, housing, counseling etc.)
SWS, Semester- wochenstunden	Hours per week during the lecture period. One academic hour in Germany is 45 min. SWS measure the length of a class. There is no one-to-one relation between credit points and SWS. On average, 1 SWS ~ 1.5 CP.
Übung	Often translated as exercises, sometimes as tutorial. In such sessions, the solutions to problems (mostly based on a lecture) are discussed.
Urlaubssemester	Academic leave.
Vorlesung	Lecture. In a lecture, teachers usually talk for most of the time. This does not mean that you shouldn't ask questions. On the contrary, most teachers would welcome more active participation of students.
Wahlpflichtfach	Elective, or optional course.

