

M.Sc. Economics
Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Information and Orientation
for newly enrolled students



Welcome in Jena!

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Coordinator M.Sc. Economics

How to get information

- ▶ Starting point for all questions:

<https://www.wiwi.uni-jena.de/en/economics.html>

- ▶ Explanation of the curriculum
- ▶ Study and examination regulations
- ▶ Frequently Asked Questions!



How to get information

- ▶ Any questions regarding content and organization of the program, or need for study advice:
 - PD Dr. Markus Pasche
 - Room 4.162
 - email: markus.pasche@uni-jena.de
- ▶ Any questions regarding studying in Jena, enrollment, visa issues etc.:
 - International Office of the FSU
 - Student Service Centre
- ▶ Student mentors (winter term only)

Intercultural Experience

- ▶ About 90% of the students in this program are *international* students with different educational, cultural, and religious backgrounds.
 - ▶ Mutual tolerance!
 - ▶ Variety as an asset!
 - ▶ Get in contact!
 - ▶ Learn German!

Aim and scope of the program

Just to remind: it is a

- ▶ **research-oriented** program
- ▶ in **economics**.

⇒ No obligatory internship

⇒ Only few courses related to Business Administration
(mostly in German language)

Curriculum

The program is completed when you earned 120 ECTS in the following way ([see website](#) for details):

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Basic area: | 48 ECTS |
| 2) Specialization area: | 48 ECTS |
| 3) Master Thesis: | 24 ECTS |

You must decide for one of the following specialization areas:

- ▶ Innovation and Change
- ▶ Economics and Strategy
- ▶ World Economy
- ▶ Public Economics
- ▶ Quantitative Macroeconomics
⇒ update: “Macroeconomics and Financial Markets”
- ▶ General Economics
- ▶ Regional Dynamics (*requires German proficiency!*)

You can revise your decision (but don't wait too long).

Special courses in the basic area:

- ▶ Approaches to Economic Science
- ▶ General Key Qualifications^{*)}
- ▶ Interdisciplinary Foundations^{*)}

^{*)} **See website!** Possibility to credit German language courses.

Important: We are in a process of implementing an **update** of our curriculum! You can (and should) study according to the new structure although legally the old one is still in place.

Proposed study schedule ([see website](#)):

- ▶ This is a *proposed* schedule. You can choose your own schedule according to your preferences.
- ▶ 30 ECTS per term is an *average*.
- ▶ Courses are typically given in the summer or in the winter.
- ▶ Take basic courses as early as possible.
- ▶ Don't postpone compulsory courses too much.
- ▶ *Not* recommended: 2 seminars in same term, seminar and thesis in same term.

Special Opportunity

- ▶ **Double Master Degree** with **University of Insubria (Varese, Italy)** for those students who choose “**Innovation and Change**”
- ▶ **Double Master Degree** with **University of Trento (Italy)**.
- ▶ Part of the program in Jena, the other part in Varese or Trento resp.
- ▶ Information and contact: [See website!](#)

Educational System

- ▶ Organize yourself – we assist if necessary.
- ▶ Rules and deadlines are **strict**.
- ▶ Ask your teacher if things are unclear or if you need feedback (Respect the office hours).
- ▶ Active participation and *discussion* is welcome.
- ▶ The goal is *understanding* rather than *memorizing*.
- ▶ Grading might differ from your previous experiences.
- ▶ We are intolerant against plagiarism. Use your own words. Express your own views.

Key factors for study success

1. Make realistic plans and stick to it

- ▶ Avoid impulsive decisions, avoid/reduce “attention killers” (e.g. social media)
- ▶ Specific plans (“read this article until weekend”) instead of vague plans (“invest more time for recap”)
- ▶ Tell your friends about your plans

2. Set a clear focus

- ▶ Don't try to be perfect: consider declining marginal returns from effort \Rightarrow resources required to get “perfect” are opportunity cost of preparing other important stuff
- ▶ What are the *most* important things *now*?

3. Consider studying as a full-time professional job

- ▶ Calculate 45-50 hours per week for studying.
- ▶ Keep informed about the requirements (website!), keep the deadlines.

4. Ask for help/consultation in case of troubles

Moodle Freshup course

- ▶ Recap of stuff we expect from Bachelor education:
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Microeconomics
 - ▶ Macroeconomics
 - ▶ Academic Writing
- ▶ Self-studying: slides, video tutorials, quizzes, few Q&A sessions
- ▶ Some students got a “*conditional admission*” – they have to do this bridging course within the first semester.
- ▶ Written exam at the end; can be repeated once.
- ▶ All other students are recommended to voluntarily register for this course.

Some specific questions and problems

- ▶ There are interesting courses in other faculties or at other universities – do they count for the master program?
 - ▶ How to register for a seminar?
 - ▶ How to register for my master thesis?
 - ▶ Can I prolong my study time? (Don't “plan” to prolong!)
 - ▶ I want to make an internship ⇒ “term on leave” (“Urlaubssemester”).
 - ▶ I failed (twice) in an exam – what to do?
 - ▶ After the first or second term I earned only approx. 50% of the ECTS I should have – what to do?
- ⇒ See also the **FAQ on the website!**

Language Center of the FSU:

www.uni-jena.de/SPZ

- ▶ A1 level courses cannot be credited for the curriculum.
- ▶ If you have not B1 level proficiency in German you should take German courses (at least A2) to be credited for "*General Key Qualifications*".

For one A2, B1, B2 German language course you will be exempted from fees because GKQ is compulsory ⇒ voucher.

- ▶ Additionally you can credit language courses for "*Interdisciplinary Foundations*" (elective).

See detailed explanation on the website!

Campus management system: Friedolin

friedolin.uni-jena.de (Login with URZ account)

- ▶ Official Friedolin introduction in English language.
- ▶ Registration/cancellation of courses and exams
- ▶ Your timetable and your grades
- ▶ Module descriptions, study and exam regulations
- ▶ Helpcenter in case of (technical) problems

Registration and cancellation of registrations for courses and exams within the first six weeks of the lecture time.

However, registration for the course is pre-condition for having access to the corresponding Moodle room.

moodle.uni-jena.de (Login with URZ account)

- ▶ We are using Moodle as an **e-Learning platform** (partially also for exams).
- ▶ If you are registered (and permitted) in Friedolin, you are automatically registered in the corresponding Moodle room.

cloud.uni-jena.de (Login with URZ account)

- ▶ Students have 10G cloud space (based on NextCloud software).
- ▶ You can store study materials, share documents and folders.
- ▶ Plugins for video chats, calendar, collaboration tools etc.
- ▶ Useful i.e. for facilitating student learning groups.

Good success!

Enjoy the time in Jena!