

**M.Sc. Economics**  
**Friedrich Schiller University Jena**

**Information and Orientation**  
**for newly enrolled students**



# Welcome in Jena!

PD Dr. Markus Pasche  
Coordinator M.Sc. Economics

# How to get information

- ▶ Starting point for all questions:

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

- ▶ Handbook of the master program (explaining the curriculum and more)
- ▶ 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](mailto: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 (beginning of winter term only)

# Intercultural Experience

- ▶ About 80-90% 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  
(many of them in German language)

# Curriculum

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

- |                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| <b>1) Basic area:</b>          | 48 ECTS |
| <b>2) Specialization area:</b> | 48 ECTS |
| <b>3) Master Thesis:</b>       | 24 ECTS |

You must decide for one of the following specialization areas:

- ▶ Innovation and Change
- ▶ Economics and Strategy
- ▶ World Economy
- ▶ Public Economics
- ▶ 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/handbook!](#)



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

- ▶ 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 compulsory 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**, not subject to bargaining.
- ▶ 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

- ▶ 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 40-50 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; check handbook for detailed regulations.
- ▶ 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](http://www.uni-jena.de/SPZ)

- ▶ Registration directly at the Language Center, not Friedolin.
- ▶ 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/handbook!

[friedolin.uni-jena.de](http://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
- ▶ Help Center 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 ⇒ register early.



[moodle.uni-jena.de](https://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](https://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!**