

Program Information

Living Arrangements: Students are housed in single rooms in the dormitories of the University of Freiburg – not as a group, but mixed in with other regular students of the University of Freiburg. The director arranges for these accommodations.

Costs of the Program: Students pay regular Colgate tuition, room & board, the cost of the flight to and from Europe, and a surcharge to cover expenses during the travel period at the beginning of the program. Current fee estimates can be found on the Off-Campus Study website (colgate.edu/ocs).

Calendar: The Colgate University program in Freiburg runs from mid-March through July – the exact dates depend on the semester calendar at the University of Freiburg. Students may remain in their Freiburg dormitory rooms until the end of July.

Travel Arrangements: Students make their own arrangements for travel to and from Europe and will meet in Germany at the beginning of the group activities, at a time and place arranged by the director.

Application Procedure: Applications are submitted online, and can be found on the Off-Campus Study website (colgate.edu/ocs).

Completed applications should be submitted in consultation with Colgate's Off-Campus Study office and the study group director.

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Colgate University Freiburg Study Group



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Studienprogramm an der Universität Freiburg

Freiburg

Located near the borders to Switzerland and France, Freiburg is a city with a vibrant cosmopolitan air. As Europe has moved toward greater unification, Freiburg has strengthened its cultural ties to the surrounding regions across borders – Basel, to the south, Strasbourg and Alsace to the west – and has helped form the so-called “Regio,” an economic, cultural, educational union with these neighbors. This international union brings new vitality to the older charms of Freiburg - the Gothic Munster church, the towers of the old city wall, the hills of the Black Forest, and the vineyards of the Kaiserstuhl – a vitality one sees in Freiburg’s theaters, shops, museums, restaurants, institutes, pubs, and in many other facets of the city. The university – Albert-Ludwigs-Universität – was founded in 1457 and is one of Germany’s most important centers of learning. Colgate University has had a partnership with the University of Freiburg since 1988.



Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg.
Photo: Mesenholl



Experiencing Switzerland during travel seminar. Photo: Baldwin

Freiburg Study Group

Colgate University's Freiburg Study Group combines the best features of a number of kinds of study abroad programs into a one semester program:

- Extensive travel and site-specific study in the weeks before Freiburg's semester acquaints students with a wide spectrum of German speaking cultures.
- Cultural immersion and integration into the University of Freiburg ensures that students will really experience studying at a German university and not just studying with other Americans in a German setting.
- Integration into the University of Freiburg also allows students from any major to continue studies in their chosen field while in Freiburg.
- Individual peer tutors support each student during the semester.
- The small size of the group and the full-time resident director from the Colgate German Department provide students with the personalized guidance and assistance they need to make the best use of the many opportunities that are available.

The Freiburg Study Group's program – a month-long travel seminar followed by the semester at the university in Freiburg – begins in March and runs through July. The group will travel together with the director during the first weeks of the program and settle in Freiburg in early April. During this travel period students will be introduced to representative cities in German speaking Europe – visiting cities such as Basel, Berlin, Dresden, Vienna, and Zurich – and to the political and cultural forces that have shaped and continue to shape present-day German speaking countries. In mid-April the semester at the University of Freiburg begins. In the week preceding the semester, students engage in orientation activities.

Prerequisites and Selection Criteria

Satisfactory completion of the second semester of the second year German (four semester of college German) or the permission of the director is required for participation in the Freiburg Study Group. Open to students from all academic disciplines who have sufficient German proficiency. Students will be selected based on their German language preparation and their general intellectual and personal maturity.

Academic Course and Credits

During the semester in Freiburg, students will take two courses with the Colgate director and two courses at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität. The courses with the Colgate director begin with the travel period and end in mid-June. The two courses at the university in Freiburg begin in mid-April and end in mid-July. This staggered schedule allows students a full month in which they can devote their energies exclusively to the two courses they select at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität.



Hiking in the Black Forest. Photo: Miller

Students receive Colgate University credit for the courses taken in Freiburg and can then transfer these credits to their home institution. Participating students have received credit towards many majors including Art History, Biology, Economics, German Studies, History, International Relations, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Philosophy, Music, Physics, and Political Science

GERMAN 341: Advanced Conversation and Composition

This course addresses the needs of American students studying and living in a German environment. It focuses on the language skills needed for coping in everyday situations as well as in the unique setting of a German university. A first part is taught by the director while the group travels; a second part is taught in Freiburg by the director and tutors in accordance with the specific needs of the individual student.

GERMAN 457: German Culture and Literature

This course is designed to introduce students to the variety and complexity of German-speaking cultures.



View of Freiburg from Kanonenplatz.
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It begins with a month-long immersive travel seminar throughout German-speaking Europe that features site-specific study and intensive advanced language learning. The travel portion of the course includes visits to cultural institutions and events, city tours, and guest lectures. It addresses historical developments and contemporary living culture from interdisciplinary German Studies perspectives to pave the way for integration into the cultural and academic life of Germany in Freiburg. As with German 341, this course has two components: the pre-semester weeks (March and April) which are devoted to travel, and the semester at Freiburg, during which regular class sessions are held.

GERMAN 400, 403 Electives Abroad

These are courses of the students' choice at the University of Freiburg. They may be chosen from any field, the only restrictions being the prerequisites for each specific course and in some science courses, the availability of lab space.