

REUTLINGEN, GERMANY – Fall or Spring

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Spring Semester Enrollment: October 1 Deadline (Early Acceptance: April 1 of prior year)

Fall Semester Enrollment: February 15 Deadline (Early Acceptance: November 1 of prior year)

WHO?

- All students! No previous study of German is required.
- You must be a sophomore, junior or senior. Minimum 2.75 GPA required, but a 3.0 is encouraged.
- You do NOT have to be a German major or minor to study in Reutlingen. Almost all Valpo students can study in Reutlingen without delaying graduation IF they plan carefully with their academic advisor and/or German professor.
- As many as 20 students each semester may study in Reutlingen.

WHAT?

- One semester of study (fall or spring) on the campus of the *Hochschule Reutlingen* in Reutlingen, Germany. All courses except German language are taught in English, and all can be counted toward general education requirements at VU. Students with no prior German will take German 101. Others should be prepared to take German 204 (and may repeat it in Reutlingen if they have already taken it). Courses during the 2011-2013 academic years are:

Courses taught by German faculty:

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| ART 311 | European Art & Architecture (fulfills Fine Arts req.) | 3 credits |
| ECON 290 | Topics in Economics: <i>Außenwirtschaft</i> (Int'l Trade) (fulfills Social Sciences general education requirement) | 3 credits |

Courses taught by VU Professor Timothy Malchow (Resident Director 2011-2013) or Dr. Lisa Jennings:

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| FLGR 101 | First Semester German (required if no previous German) | 4 credits |
| FLGR 204 | German Comp. and Conversation (may be repeated for credit) | 4 credits |
| THEO 329/HIST 390 | Luther & Bach (fulfills upper-level Theology or History component of Humanities requirement) | 3 credits |
| FLGR 200 | German Literary Studies (fulfills Literature component of the Humanities general education requirement) | 3 credits |

- Approximately two weeks will be devoted to group trips (funded by your study abroad fee). Recent past trips have included Berlin and Munich, as well as extended visits to eastern German cities like Dresden, Leipzig, Weimar, Eisenach and Wittenberg.

WHERE?

- Reutlingen is a town of about 95,000 located in the southwest part of Germany, near the major city of Stuttgart. It is located between the Black Forest and the Swabian Jura, both areas of geographical interest and beauty. The town's center boasts remnants of a city wall and medieval fortifications. Students walk through lovely residential areas and a park on their way from campus to downtown (about a 20-minute walk) or they can take one of the convenient Reutlingen buses.
- Students are housed in modern dormitories on the campus of the *Hochschule*. They live in double rooms with other VU students. Kitchens are located on each floor of the dormitories, but many students choose to eat their main meal each day in the cafeteria. Classes are also held on the campus within easy walking distance of dormitories and the cafeteria.

HOW?

- You must apply for the program through the Office of International Programs (OIP), Harre Union 209.
www.valpo.edu/studyabroad
- You should consult with your academic advisor and with one of the German professors as early as possible. Freshman year is not too early to begin thinking about studying in Germany. If your academic advisor is unsure about what courses you should or shouldn't take before going to Reutlingen, please consult with one of the German professors. Careful planning means that the courses you take in Reutlingen are courses you will need for graduation anyway.

HOW MUCH?

- *Airfare:* Students can expect to spend in the neighborhood of \$1000 - \$1400 for travel to and from Germany (fall semester is usually a little higher than spring semester). Many of the discount flights described in newspapers are not useful since they are for short-term stays. The OIP will find the lowest-priced fare available for the group.
- *Tuition and General Fee:* Students pay the same tuition and general fee they would pay in Valparaiso. All financial aid is valid for the Reutlingen semester, except work-study and other "on-campus" aid.
- *Reutlingen Center Fee:* Each student studying in Germany pays an additional study center fee, which is used by the program for group trips, cultural activities, and group meals. This center fee covers the cost of a month-long German rail pass, which is used for some of the group travel and also enables students to take some additional trips.
- *Room and Board:* Students pay only the "room" portion of Valpo's room and board charge. Meal costs are then handled by students on an individual basis in Reutlingen. Each dormitory has a full kitchen on each floor.
- *Spending Money:* The exact amount will differ depending on individual preferences and exchange rates. Some students take advantage of purchasing additional transportation packages to tour Europe while participating in the Reutlingen Program. Many choose to buy a Eurail Pass. However, these additional expenses are optional and not a requirement to participate in the program. Remember that as part of the Reutlingen fee, group excursions and cultural activities are already arranged to enhance your experience in Germany, and the month-long German rail pass already allows for some weekends of additional travel.

Fixed Costs (currently listed for 2011-2012 academic year): *per semester*

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| Tuition: | \$15,000 (VU scholarship & financial aid apply) |
| General Fee: | \$520 |
| Reutlingen Fee: | \$1,200 (towards group excursions & cultural activities) |
| Dorm Fee: | <u>\$2,678</u> (includes kitchen facilities) |
| | \$19,398 (minus scholarships and financial aid) |

Estimated Expenses:

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| Roundtrip Airfare: | \$1,000 – 1,400 (arranged through VU) |
| Meals: | <u>\$1,850</u> (based on daily meals at the student cafeteria and groceries; can fluctuate with exchange rates) |
| | \$2,850 – 3,250 |

Total Fixed & Estimated Costs: \$22,248 – 22,648 (minus scholarships and financial aid)

Typical semester at VU: \$19,698 (tuition, fees, room & board)

Other Expenses:

As when they are at home, students will likely require additional pocket money for entertainment, cultural activities, and basic needs (including supplies and toiletries). But students can easily spend more money in Europe if they plan on additional travel, restaurant meals, hotel stays (or significantly less expensive hostel stays), and shopping. Going out to movies, clubs, concerts, etc. adds further expenses, which students would also have if engaging in these activities at home. These are matters of personal choice and depend of the resources of the individual student. Bringing additional spending money is strongly encouraged. Many students choose to purchase a Eurail Pass for additional travel in Europe during the two-week break and some longer weekends and should count on lodging expenses and additional costs when planning such trips.

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| Eurail Pass | \$575/10 days of travel within 2 months – to tour Europe |
| | \$1116/unlimited travel within 2 months – to tour Europe |

CONTACTS:

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| • Dr. Bjornstad | Associate Professor of German | Meier 124 | x 5277 |
| • Dr. DeMaris | Professor of German | Meier 118 | x 5344 |
| • Julie Maddox | Director of Study Abroad Programs | Harre Union 209 | x 5333 |