International Affairs
International Students Office
Adenauerring 2, Bldg. 50.20
D-76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
Web: www.kit.edu; www.intl.kit.edu

Institutional Factsheet for KIT – Version 2026/27

1. Institutional Information

1.1. Institutional Details

Name of institution	**KIT – Karlsruhe Institute of Technology**
ERASMUS Code	**D KARLSRU01**
EUC	**29815**
OID	**E10181267**
PIC	**990797674**
Institutional website	**www.kit.edu**
International website	**www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3171.php**
Course catalogue	**campus.studium.kit.edu/english/events/index.php**
Head of institution	**Professor Dr. Jan S. Hesthaven**

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

1.2. Main Contacts for ERASMUS programme

Erasmus+ Mobility Team				
Office	KIT – International Students Office (IStO) Adenauerring 2, Geb. 50.20 D-76131 Karlsruhe Germany Tel.: +49 (0)721 608-**44911** (IStO-Secretary)			
Dr. Julia Johnsen Joint Management of Mobility Programs (Europe) Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator	**Marco Martori** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Outgoing; IIA) Tel.: **-44972**	**Mia Tjandisaka** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Incoming; IIA) Tel.: **-44927**	**Peter Schommer** Erasmus+ Mobility Coordinator (Outgoing; BIP) Tel.: **-43875**	**Verena Geisselmann** Assistant to the Program Erasmus+ (Incoming) Tel.: **-44328**
Inter-Institutional Agreements	erasmus-agreement@intl.kit.edu			
Blended Intensive Programs (BIP)	erasmus-shortterm@intl.kit.edu			
Incoming students (your students to KIT)	erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu			
Outgoing students (KIT to your institution)	erasmus-out@intl.kit.edu			
Departmental Coordinators	For all academic questions concerning (Digital) Learning Agreement, study schedule, ECTS, courses etc., please **contact our departmental coordinators**. A list is available online at: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3742.php.			

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

2. Calendar				
Calendar of the academic year	**1st semester (Winter semester)**	October 1	–	March 31
	2nd semester (Summer semester)	April 1	–	September 30
Nomination period	**March – April 30**	for the 1st semester or for the whole academic year		
	September – October 30	for the 2nd semester		
	Students applying for the 2nd semester **must be** nominated in September-October			
Application deadline	**for the 1st semester or for the whole academic year**	Digital LA	May 15	
		other documents	June 1	
	for the 2nd semester	Digital LA	November 15	
		other documents	December 1	
Decision time	All successful applicants will be able to download their KIT admission letter directly from the mobility online portal (**generally by the end of July or January**). Then they will receive an e-mail with further instructions regarding enrollment at KIT.			
Enrollment at KIT	The enrollment process at KIT starts ca. two months before the start of lectures. Students from partner universities are required to pay a "Studierendenwerksbeitrag" (Charge for the Studierendenwerk) of **92 € (as of Winter Semester 2026).** This includes reduced student prices at the university restaurant and accident insurance: https://www.sw-ka.de/en/geld/studierendenwerksbeitrag/ The KIT student card is expected to be available **in early September (for the winter semester) or March (for the summer semester)** and must be collected in person. Students **must remain registered at their home university** during their studies at KIT.			
Pre-semester German courses	In September or in March			
Orientation-Week/Phase	One or two weeks after the pre-semester German courses			
Lecture period	Usually in **the fourth week of October or April** **https://www.sle.kit.edu/english/imstudium/697.php**			
Period of exams	**1st semester:**	February	–	March 31
	2nd semester:	July	–	September 30
Arrival and departure certificate	Starting from the academic year 2026/27: all incoming Erasmus students will receive **a standardized Certificate of Arrival and Departure** issued by KIT, containing relevant information about their exchange period. In order to guarantee a fair and consistent approach for all incoming Erasmus+ students at KIT please take note of the following information: Certificate of Arrival (Start Date) The earliest possible start date on the certificate is the **student's first day of active participation** in one of the following activities at KIT: • Pre-semester German language course: e.g. September 14 • Orientation Phase (O-Phase): e.g. October 12 • Start of lectures: e.g. October 26 Please note that **active participation is required**. Registration alone is not sufficient.			

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

	Examples: • If a student arrives before 14 September, the certificate can only start on 14 September, only if they actively participate in the German language course. • If a student joins the German language course after it has started, the certificate start date will be the actual date of arrival and participation. • If a student does not participate in either the German language course or the O-Phase, the certificate start date **will be the first day of lectures, regardless of their arrival date**. <u>Certificate of Departure (End Date)</u> The departure date will normally be based on the student's last examination date plus one day. A later departure date can only be confirmed upon presentation of a valid flight, bus, or train ticket. General Conditions: • The mobility period may not exceed 6 months for a one-semester stay or 12 months for a full academic year. • The departure date cannot be later than 31 March (winter semester) or 30 September (summer semester). • The departure date should be before the start of the academic semester at the student's home institution.
Transcript of records (ToR)	Due to GDPR regulations, we do not have access to students' Transcripts of Records (ToR) and therefore cannot view, download, or forward them. Students can access their ToR and monitor its status at any time through their KIT student account. Please note that the completeness of the transcript depends on the ongoing grading process and the timely submission of grades by the responsible professors. **Students may leave KIT after completing their last exam, even if some grades have not yet been entered.** ToR remains accessible through the KIT student account for up to six months after de-enrollment from KIT. **After this period**, transcripts can only be requested from Studierendenservice (SLE), which charges a fee for issuing the document. The Transcript of Records is valid without a handwritten signature and includes a verification key to confirm its authenticity. KIT does not send transcripts to home universities. However, partner universities can download a copy for verification purposes. Instructions for accessing and verifying the transcript are provided on the last page of the ToR.

Academic year 2026/27

1st semester (Winter semester) 2026/27			
Pre-semester German language course	September 14, 2026	–	October 2, 2026
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	October 12, 2026	–	October 18, 2026
Period of courses	October 26, 2026	–	February 20, 2027

2nd semester (Summer semester) 2027 (preliminary dates for O-Phase and German course)			
Pre-semester German language course	March 23, 2027	–	April 9, 2027
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	April 12, 2027	–	April 18, 2027
Period of courses	April 19, 2027	–	July 31, 2027

Academic year 2027/28 (preliminary dates for O-Phase and German course)

1st semester (Winter semester) 2027/28			
Pre-semester German language course	September 13, 2027	–	October 1, 2027
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in October		
Period of courses	October 25, 2027	–	February 19, 2028
2nd semester (Summer semester) 2028			
Pre-semester German language course	in March		
Orientation phase/week (O-Phase)	in April		
Period of courses	April 18, 2028	–	July 29, 2028

3. Detailed requirements

3.1. Language skills	**The sending institution is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates to reach the required language skills.** Language certificates must be younger than five years old and must be submitted by 1 June (winter semester) or 1 December (summer semester). Certificates issued by the home university, a language school, or recognized testing institutions are accepted. **Attendance certificates are not accepted**. Language requirements: **Department of Architecture (ARCH),** **Department of Civil Engineering, Geo and Environmental Sciences (BGU),** **Department of Chemical and Process Engineering (CIW),** **Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (ETIT),** **Department of Informatics (INFO),** **Department of Mechanical Engineering (MACH),** **Department of Mathematics (MATH),** **Department of Physics (PHY) and** **Department of Economics and Management (WIWI)** require applicants to provide: • B1 CEFR level in German, if attending only courses taught in German • B2 CEFR level in English, if attending only courses taught in English • both certificates (B1 German and B2 English), if attending courses in both languages

3.1. Language skills	**Department of Chemistry and Biosciences (CHEM-BIO) and Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (GEIST-SOZ):** Courses offered by both departments are **primarily taught in German**. However, some courses in the Biosciences (BIO) area are offered in English. The following language requirements apply: - **Applicants for Chemistry (CHEM):** • B2 CEFR level in German - **Applicants for Biology/Biosciences (BIO):** • B1 CEFR level in German, if attending only courses taught in German • B2 CEFR level in English, if attending only courses taught in English • both certificates (B1 German and B2 English), if attending courses taught in both languages - **Applicants of Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (GEIST-SOZ):** • B1/B2 CEFR level in German (mandatory requirement) • and additionally B2 CEFR level in English if attending courses taught in English Please note that English is not widely spoken throughout Germany/at KIT. Thus, participation in the pre-semester German course offered at KIT is **mandatory** to all applicants, who do not have any/sufficient German language proficiency.
3.2. Additional requirements	Bachelor-level students **must have successfully completed** their second year of study prior to participation. **Final thesis/Internship/Project** If students want to do their final thesis/internship/project at KIT, they are responsible for independently identifying both a suitable topic and supervisor (in host and home institutions). Bachelor's theses typically receive 12–15 ECTS, depending on the department. Master's theses are generally awarded 30 ECTS. **Only in exceptional cases**, the scope and credit allocation can be adjusted to meet the requirements of the home university—this must be agreed upon by both the KIT supervisor/department and the home institution. **Students and Staff with disabilities** KIT welcomes students and staff with disabilities, but asks them to contact the International Students Office as soon as possible, so that special care can be taken during preparation.
3.3. Additional Departmental Requirements	**Department of Architecture Portfolio Requirement** (from Winter Semester 2026/27) Applicants must submit a portfolio (PDF, max. 10 MB) including three architectural projects.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

4. Additional Information

4.1. Nomination & application procedure	**1. Nomination of students:** To nominate your students, please use our online nomination platform: https://www.service4mobility.com/europe/LoginServlet?identifier=KARLSRU01&sprache=en. Detailed instructions on how to nominate are available at: https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/14673.php To receive a login name and password, please contact us via email at erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu. You will receive an email containing your account credentials along with further information on the nomination process. The login credentials remain valid for future nomination rounds. Please store them securely and do not share them with students. **2. Application by nominated students** Nominated students will receive an e-mail with instructions for the online application. The online application and all required documents must be submitted by the respective deadline: - Signed KIT's application form (student and home university coordinator) with home university stamp - Digital Learning Agreement, initiated in the home university's system (aim for 25–30 ECTS per semester) and submitted via the EWP network - Language certificate(s) (German and/or English, see section 3.1 for details) - Current Transcript of Records in in German/English language (Master's students must also submit their Bachelor's transcript) **3. Admission to KIT** Admission is subject to approval by the respective departmental coordinator at KIT. Students are considered officially accepted once they are able to download their admission letter from our system—**approximately six weeks after the application deadline.** Enrollment at KIT follows (**see section 4.2**).
4.2. Enrollment at KIT	Required documents for enrollment: - A copy of passport or identity card - Filled-out registration form - Remittance slip/Proof of payment of the Studierendenwerksbeitrag **(€92, as of Winter Semester 2026)**. This is **not** a tuition fee or an administrative fee. More information: https://www.sw-ka.de/en/geld/studierendenwerksbeitrag/ - Proof of health insurance (to be submitted to a German statutory health insurance provider, which will notify KIT electronically upon approval): • EU/EEA students: Valid EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) covering the entire study period in Germany • Non-EU/non-EEA students: Health insurance policy **with unlimited coverage** or a **German statutory** health insurance certificate
4.3. Department's website	Question concerning course selection, learning agreement, exam registration and transcript of record should be addressed to our departmental coordinator. A list of our departmental coordinators and their webpage is available online at: https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3742.php

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

4.4. Information on courses	Exchange students are required to take **at least 70% of their total ECTS credits** from study programs offered by their host department at KIT. The remaining ECTS credits (up to 30%) may be selected from courses offered by other departments at KIT. If the home university does not define a minimum number of ECTS, nominated students are expected to select courses at KIT **totaling 25 – 30 ECTS per semester.** Course catalogue: https://campus.studium.kit.edu/english/events/index.php Further information on course selection and Learning Agreements: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3377.php **Please note that registration may be required for certain seminars or lectures**. For specific details or questions, students should contact the departmental coordinator directly.
4.5. German language courses	KIT offers **pre-semester German language courses** for exchange students at beginner and intermediate levels. These courses typically take **place 6 – 7 weeks before the start of lectures**, and run for 3 weeks, with sessions held Monday to Friday, 2 × 1.5 hours per day. The course is worth 4 ECTS credits, and the current tuition fee is €75. **This course does not replace the German language certificate required for the application.** - Students must indicate their interest in participating in the course in the online application form. - Successful applicants must subsequently download the Admission Information for details on registration, the placement test, and course fee payment. - Participation is only possible after payment of the course fee and completion of the placement test. - ECTS credits are awarded upon **at least 90% attendance** and **successful completion of the written exam at the end of the course.** Erasmus students also have the opportunity to participate in German language courses during the semester. For international students, one course per semester is free of charge. However, online registration at the beginning of each semester is required. And due to high demand, **a place cannot be guaranteed.** For more information, please visit https://www.stk.kit.edu/english/2389.php.
4.6. Housing	In accordance with the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education, our institution supports incoming students in their search for accommodation. While we are happy to provide information and guidance, **accommodation cannot be guaranteed**. We therefore strongly recommend starting housing search **as soon as the Learning Agreement has been approved, or even earlier**. Finding housing in Karlsruhe can be challenging due to high demand and limited availability. As a rough guideline, students should expect to pay approximately **€500 per month plus utilities for a room in a shared flat ("WG/Wohngemeinschaft")**, while **single apartments are usually more expensive**. Please also note that **KIT does not offer additional scholarships or financial support for Erasmus exchange students**. Students should therefore ensure that they have sufficient financial resources to cover their living and accommodation expenses during their stay in Karlsruhe. Helpful information, tips, and housing resources can be found here: https://www.kit.edu/study/living-and-learning-in-karlsruhe.php

4.7. Visa/residence permit	Our institution will provide assistance, when required, in securing visas for incoming and outgoing students, according to the requirement of the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education. Please do note that the processing time for a study permit may take 8 weeks or longer. KIT cannot affect this procedure. In general, ERASMUS students from **a non-EU member state** or **a non-EEA member state** will require a **student visa** (not a tourist visa) in order to study in Germany: - Non-EU/Non-EEA students holding **a residence permit for studies from another EU member state** (except for Ireland and Denmark), please refer to: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/10934.php Under EU Directive 2016/801, students may be eligible for mobility within the EU for study purposes. This option is only available if the **current** residence permit (from the country of their home university) remains valid for the **entire exchange period at KIT**. Any required extension must be obtained before the mobility period begins. As immigration regulations vary, we kindly ask our partner institutions to support their outgoing students in verifying their residence permit status and making the necessary arrangements at an early stage. If a residence permit valid for the full exchange period **cannot be obtained**, students must apply for a **German student visa** through the German embassy or consulate responsible in the country of their home university before travelling to Germany. - **All other non-EU/non-EEA students** Students must apply for a **German study visa** before entering Germany. We strongly recommend starting the application process as early as possible through the responsible German embassy or consulate in the country of their home university. Further information is available on the webpage of the German Federal Foreign Office at http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/03_Visabestimmungen/Visabestimmungen_node.html. For further information please visit https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/12699.php or contact erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu.
4.8. Health and other insurance	Our institution supports incoming students/staff in obtaining health, according to the requirements of the ERASMUS Charter for Higher Education. Students must have health insurance with **unlimited coverage** for their **entire stay in Germany**. A **valid EHIC** is generally sufficient for EU students. However, students planning to work during their stay are generally required to switch to German health insurance. Incoming students and staff are strongly advised to arrange comprehensive insurance coverage, including **medical emergencies, third-party liability Insurance** and **personal property**. Responsibility for obtaining adequate insurance rests solely with the individual. Further information is available online at https://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/12698.php or contact erasmus-in@intl.kit.edu.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

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<tr><td>4.9. Grading system</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>Grade</th><th>German</th><th>English</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.0 – 1.3</td><td>Sehr gut</td><td>Very good</td></tr>
<tr><td>1.7 – 2.3</td><td>Gut</td><td>Good</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.7 – 3.3</td><td>Befriedigend</td><td>Satisfactory</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.7 – 4.0</td><td>Ausreichend</td><td>Sufficient</td></tr>
<tr><td>> 4.0</td><td>Ungenügend/Nicht ausreichend</td><td>Fail</td></tr>
</table>
Exams may also be evaluated as “bestanden“ (passed) or ”nicht bestanden“ (failed) without grade.

Further information on the statistical distribution of grades according to the descriptions in the ECTS users’ guide can be found in the individual module handbooks of each degree course and on request at the KIT registrar’s office.
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<tr><td>4.10. Further information</td><td>Useful and helpful information for incoming students can be found on our webpages at: http://www.intl.kit.edu/istudies/3171.php.</td></tr>
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5. Student life and free time

<table>
<tr><td>Living and studying in Karlsruhe</td><td>
Attractive City and Surroundings
✓ Second warmest city in Germany with 1691 hours of sunshine per year, around 900 hectares of green space and more than 135 cultural institutions and 102 km of bicycle paths – bring your bike along!
✓ Located in the Heart of Europe
✓ A rich history meets technical inventions, High Tech and Science
✓ Short Distance to the surrounding wonderful countries France, Luxemburg, Belgium, Switzerland

Excellent Service for Incoming Students
✓ Language courses on all levels
✓ One single contact point for administrative issues in the International Students Office and for academic affairs in the 11 departments.

A vivid network with weekly events to make you feel at home at KIT.
✓ Weekly “Stammtisch” as a great way to find and stay in touch with new friends
✓ Language Café to meet people from all over the world, have a drink together and chat
✓ Buddy Program where you are matched with a local student from Karlsruhe
✓ Day and City Trips to the surroundings and to vibrant cities in Germany and the neighboring countries

Meet other students.
140 days of sunshine in Karlsruhe: there are many beautiful spots two meet other students outside: the Botanical Garden at the castle or in the Stadtgarten. There you’ll find large lawns, beautiful plants and plenty of space to have a nice picnic.
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Living and studying in Karlsruhe	 **Join a study group.** There are about 90 study groups at KIT, which give you access to social, cultural, technical and political student life. There is a student association for you! Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Karlsruhe for example supports international exchange students by organizing city trips and other events. Jacob Lund / stock.adobe.com **Do sports.** KIT, in addition to the many other sports clubs, provides a wide range of sports activities. KITs gym „walk-in“ offers fitness and endurance training on state-of-the-art equipment. There are also an indoor swimming pool and tennis courts available on campus.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Living and studying in Karlsruhe	Karlsruhe is the ideal base for cycling tours to some of Europe's most scenic regions: the Black Forest, Palatinate Forest, Kraichgau and the French Vosges. **Enjoy culture.** Karlsruhe enjoys vast and diverse leisure, culture and sports options, which offer something for everyone. Facets of cultural offerings are well-known theaters and museums as well as „Das Fest“ one of the largest annual German open-air-festivals. ZKM Museum: number 4 of top world museums “Das Fest” festival