



## Welcome to the Department of Economics at the University of Mannheim!

My name is Sebastian Herdtweck, I'm the *Departmental Exchange Coordinator* for the M.Sc. in Economics. You are welcome to contact me in any concern about the master's program. Hereby I would like to kindly provide you with some information about the upcoming semester. For more information please visit our website for [incoming exchange students](#) and the website of the [International Office](#).

## General information

### Academic calendar – fall 2019

Fall semester: Aug. 1, 2019 – Jan. 31, 2020

Lecture period: Sept. 2, 2019 – Dec. 6, 2019

Examination period: Dec. 7, 2019 – Dec. 20, 2019

### Welcome week

For all exchange students an orientation week will take place prior to the beginning of the lectures in order to welcome you at the University of Mannheim and make the start into student life as easy as possible. You can find detailed information on the activities of the welcome week [here](#).

### myUniMA

All information on accommodation, health insurance, German language courses and much more can be found on the information portal [myUniMA](#). You will receive your login and password to access it after nomination by your home institution. If you have any questions regarding your stay in Mannheim, please check out myUniMA first as it will give you the answers to most of your questions.

### RUM credentials

Upon enrolment you will receive your personal credentials for the university services such as [Portal<sup>2</sup>](#) (course and exam registration), [ILIAS](#) (online learning platform), and the university library.

### Weather

Some German poets considered the period from Sept. to mid Oct. a fifth season called *Spätsommer*. Summer is still in the air but the approaching autumn already casts a golden light on trees and rivers in late afternoon. Prepare for hot days and chilly nights. From Nov. to Feb. you can expect cold, rainy weather, interrupted by days of sunshine and snow.

### Mannheim at a glance

Mannheim has got excellent connections to cities in and outside Germany, such as Amsterdam, Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg, Munich, Paris, and Zurich. Next to its industrial charm, Mannheim has many green areas along its two rivers. It also offers a great variety of shopping, nightlife, restaurants, museums, and cafés. Plus: the palatinate area, a well-known wine region ideal for hiking, is at arm's length. You should check it out during the warm days of summer.

## Course program M.Sc. in Economics

### Types of courses in the M.Sc. in Economics

The following description will help you understand the differences between the types of courses offered at our department:

- **Lectures:** These are usually led by professors and provide students with background information about a subject in order to explain long-term developments and complex ideas or

theories. They usually provide a basic framework for further study.

- **Practical Exercises:** Led by professors' assistants, information from the lectures or respective literature is reviewed and systematic knowledge and skills are applied. Often the material from the lectures will be expanded upon and reviewed in depth.
- **(Block-)Seminars:** Students are encouraged to participate actively in the seminars through discussion and oral presentations. The goal is to provide students with an opportunity to gain experience on researching and presenting academic topics. Usually the students have to write an essay and present the results in class. Most seminars are organized as *block seminars* (intensive seminars). Aside from the organizational meeting class time is blocked on one or two days towards the end of the lecture period.

### Course program fall 2019

The course catalog of the Department of Economics is published [here](#). Please check back regularly to obtain updated and detailed information about our current course program. Please also note the prerequisites mentioned in the course descriptions.

### Course choice

As an incoming master student at the Department of Economics you can choose freely from our **elective courses** in the bachelor's and master's program as long as you fulfill the prerequisites for each course. Exception: our **core courses** (E700-703 and E601-603) **are not open for exchange students**.

Exchange students also can choose one to three courses from the **university-wide elective courses** in Law, Business Administration, Social Sciences, Humanities, Business Informatics, and Mathematics if places are available. Please read the course description carefully and contact the respective program management for further information if necessary. You can find the course catalogue for incoming exchange students [here](#).

For consultation about your course choice please contact the Departmental Exchange Coordinator. Please also make sure to let him sign your **Learning Agreement** before or during the first weeks of the semester.

### Course registration

Please send your preliminary course choice to [econgrad@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:econgrad@uni-mannheim.de) until August 26. As soon as you officially enroll at the University of Mannheim you will get your personal credentials for the university services. You can then register and deregister from any lectures on your own accord. Please have a look at the information provided on the [course catalog](#) website.

### Examinations

#### Examination dates

Usually, written exams take place at the end of the semester, during the examination period. Other types of exams, like presentations, papers or other assignments can take place during the semester. Some elective modules might also have midterm exams.

#### Exam registration

You will have to register for your exams within an official registration period in *Portal<sup>2</sup>*. You will receive your credentials upon enrolment. The dates of the registration periods will be announced on the website of the [Student Services](#). Please note that you also have to register for examinations in courses that have no written exam, such as seminars, but assignments, a presentation or a paper to hand in.

Best wishes for a good start in Mannheim!

### Contact Details:

#### Departmental Exchange Coordinator

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