Germany
Exchange Program
Federation of German-American Clubs

Since 1957, the Federation of German-American Clubs (FGAC) has been inviting American college students from throughout the United States to study in Germany while their German counterparts attend partner schools in the U.S. This successful program is a one-year exchange program, where students receive a scholarship from the Federation and are “adopted” by one of the local clubs for the duration of their time abroad.

In addition, there are activities provided by the local clubs, and the FGAC organizes five seminars in different cities, bringing all American students participating on the FGAC program together for a weekend at a time, giving them an opportunity to see different regions and cities throughout Germany.

The FGAC covers travelling expenses and housing for these mandatory seminars; and all students receive a German BahnCard, which provides reduced rates on Germany’s excellent rail system for their individual travel plans. For more information visit, www.vdac.de

Purpose of FGAC: The purpose of the exchange program is to nurture German-American relations on both a personal and institutional level. All work done by the Federation and its member clubs is on a volunteer basis keeping with the spirit of the programs purpose. The five mandatory seminars further this purpose by bringing together American students as well as applicants and returnees, and serves to maintain contact, convey information on culture and government, and furthers the knowledge of the Federation’s goals and activities.

Locations: American students may request to be placed at any of the participating German universities in the cities of Bamberg, Berlin, Bielefeld, Duisburg-Essen, Düsseldorf, Erfurt, Erlangen-Nürnberg, Giessen, Hamburg, Heidelberg, Kaiserlautern, Karlsruhe, Kassel, Mainz, Mannheim, Munich, Potsdam-Siegen, Stuttgart, Tübingen, Würzburg, or Weimar (music only). Placement will be based on several factors including the students request; an alternate location may be selected in order to meet the overall needs of the FGAC.

Requirements: Students must be from FAU, an American citizen, is typically between 20 and 25 years old, must have successfully completed at least two years of college (60 credits), have a B average (3.0 overall GPA), and provide a certificate of German proficiency. It is important that participants in the program have an intermediate knowledge of German language (through intermediate 2), but those with a lower level may be considered. Additionally, there will be an interview required of all applicants. All applications are to be returned to the Office of International Programs in order to be considered for nomination.
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Federation Expectations:
- Attendance and personal involvement in Federation activities in order to further the goals of the Federation by acting as ambassadors of German-American friendship.
- Adjustment to existing conditions at the host university and elsewhere.
- Completion of the required minimum number of course hours.
- Participation in the seminars organized by the Federation.
- Completion of two reports for the Federation’s magazine, the “Gazette.”
- Involvement in the work of the Federation’s local clubs

Program Dates: Year-long program (October – July)

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate students with a 3.0 overall GPA or higher.

Courses: Comprehensive course offering with courses offered in German and in some cases English. Students will enroll at FAU for 12-15 credits. At least one German Language course must be taken during the time abroad. It should be noted that students may not be able to get their courses pre-approved prior to departure given the difference in access to course descriptions/syllabi as well as the late posting of course offerings. Once the course descriptions/syllabi are available course approvals will be sent to the respective departments for approval. Courses may be approved as equivalents FAU courses, as electives, or in rare cases not for credit.

Program Fee: $250 FAU application fee; includes pre-departure orientation and pre-departure guidebook.

Not Included: Airfare, FAU tuition (in-state/out-of-state rates apply), spending money, books, CISI Insurance ($44 per month), German insurance (if required), housing, and other overseas living expenses.

Financial Support: Students receive a 6000 Euro stipend paid to the student by FGAC in 10 monthly installments which should adequately cover room, board and part of their living expenses. Inexpensive rooms are usually available at a “Studentenwohnheim” (dorm). These funds are provided to students through the generosity of club members. Some variation in additional support will occur from city to city.

Application Deadline: January 10, 2018

For More Information, Contact:
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