



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Heidelberg University
- Excellence in research
- International profile
- Outstanding support for students and doctoral candidates
- Internationally renowned research location
- Living in Heidelberg

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY: THE FUTURE. SINCE 1386.

Founded in 1386, Heidelberg University – also known as Ruperto Carola – is the oldest university in present-day Germany and one of Europe’s most research-intensive institutions. Its success in all the funding rounds of the Excellence Competitions and in internationally recognised rankings are evidence of Heidelberg University’s leading role and excellent reputation in the academic landscape. Heidelberg University sees itself as a comprehensive research university, whose subjects range from the humanities, social sciences and law, to the natural, engineering, and life sciences through to medicine. It seeks to develop outstanding individual disciplines, strengthen dialogue and cooperation across traditional subject lines in view of complex challenges, and carry its research findings into society. With its aspiration of connecting traditional values with forward-looking scientific strategies in research and teaching, Heidelberg University is building bridges to the future – The Future. Since 1386.

» Overview

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Academic dialogue across disciplinary boundaries

As a research university with an international presence, Heidelberg University considers the extensive theoretical and methodological expertise of its subjects and subject cultures to be an essential characteristic of its scientific work. At the same time, it recognises its unique potential to investigate important issues affecting the future of humankind, and thus take on social responsibility, by encouraging cooperation across disciplinary boundaries. The core of Heidelberg’s research strategy is formed by four interactive research fields, which in their turn are more strongly linked with one another by the Marsilius Kolleg and two Flagship Initiatives.

Interactive “Fields of Focus” (FoF)

- FoF 1: Molecular Foundations of Life, Health, and Disease
- FoF 2: Patterns and Structures in Mathematics, Data, and the Material World
- FoF 3: Cultural Dynamics in Globalised Worlds
- FoF 4: Self-Regulation and Regulation: Individuals and Societies

Flagship Initiatives

- Engineering Molecular Systems
- Transforming Cultural Heritage

With its strategy “The Comprehensive Research University – Heidelberg: The Future since 1386” along with two Clusters of Excellence, Heidelberg University was successful in both funding lines of the Excellence Strategy of the German federal and state governments. Accordingly, since 2019 it has been funded as part of a group of ten Universities of Excellence and one Excellence Alliance.

University of Excellence

- The Comprehensive Research University Heidelberg: The Future since 1386

Clusters of Excellence

- STRUCTURES: A Unifying Approach to Emergent Phenomena in the Physical World, Mathematics, and Complex Data
- 3D Matter Made to Order

FACTS AND FIGURES – RESEARCH

- 11** Nobel Laureates
- 123** ERC Grants (in total, incl. bridge professorships)
- 22** Leibniz Award Laureates
- 41** ERC Grants (running)
- 29** DFG Collaborative Research Centres
- 27** Emmy Noether Junior Research Groups (running)
- 12** DFG Research Training Groups
- 9,068** doctoral candidates

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INTERNATIONAL PROFILE

Collaborations and exchanges

Heidelberg University is tied into a worldwide network of cooperation arrangements on research and teaching. Exchange programmes with universities all over the world, as well as numerous institutional partnerships, document the strong international connections of Ruperto Carola. Furthermore, the university has foreign branch offices in Latin America, North America, South and East Asia.

- More than 700 ERASMUS arrangements with approx. 300 European universities
- Exchange programmes with roughly 200 additional universities worldwide
- 27 partnerships with universities abroad
- A large number of international cooperation agreements at faculty, institute and subject levels

Memberships in university networks

- League of European Research Universities (LERU)
- Coimbra Group
- 4EU+ European University Alliance (Heidelberg, Prague, Paris-Panthéon-Assas, Sorbonne/Paris, Copenhagen, Geneva, Milan and Warsaw)
- HeKKSaGON: German-Japanese University Consortium

FACTS AND FIGURES – MOBILITY

- International students: **6,296 (20.1%)**
- International doctoral candidates: **2,525 (27.8%)**
- International doctorates completed: **340 (30.6%)**
- International visiting researchers: **approx. 250 per year**

Status: 2023

Foreign branch offices and related institutes of Heidelberg University



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OUTSTANDING SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

With a large number of advisory and supervisory opportunities, as well as specific professional development programmes, Heidelberg University accompanies its approx. 30,000 students and its more than 9,000 doctoral candidates at all stages of their career development. Students from at home and abroad can turn to the Central Student Advisory Office, which answers individual questions about their studies at Heidelberg University. In addition, the university assists students in planning periods of study abroad or placements in the framework of their course. In the doctoral phase, the Graduate Academy is the coordination centre for all interdisciplinary continuing education and further training opportunities. The broad range of programmes offered by the Career Service contributes especially to a successful start in working life.

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INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED RESEARCH LOCATION

The university forms the focus of an excellent and internationally competitive research network in Heidelberg and in the region. The cooperation of the university with its local research partners particularly includes conducting research projects, building up joint infrastructures, cooperative early-career training, and developing innovative study programmes.

Local and regional research institutions

- German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)
- European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)
- Max Planck Institute for Medical Research
- Max Planck Institute for Astronomy
- Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics
- Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law
- Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
- Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies (HITS)
- Central Institute of Mental Health (ZI)

Furthermore, Heidelberg University cooperates in a variety of ways with companies from industry and business. Ruperto Carola links up its basic research with applied research on the side of the industrial partners.

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LIVING IN HEIDELBERG



Heidelberg’s cosmopolitan and student-friendly atmosphere is one of the city’s distinguishing features. Situated in a region with a high quality of life, the university offers a varied programme of events alongside studies and work. Both the city and the university offer sports and leisure activities as well as numerous theatres, renowned film and music festivals and a large number of museums, creating a stimulating and diverse cultural atmosphere. Popular local tourist destinations include the world-famous Heidelberg Castle, the historic streets and alleys in the old town and the Philosophers’ Walk, one of the most spectacular hillside promenades in Europe, as well as many fine restaurants.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

General information

- About the University
- Research
- Fields of Focus
- Excellence Strategy
- International affairs
- Transfer
- Research city

Foreign offices and related institutes in Heidelberg

- Heidelberg Center Latin America (HCLA)
- Heidelberg Center for Ibero-American Studies (HCIAS)
- Heidelberg Office North America, New York
- Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)
- Heidelberg Centre South Asia (HCSA)
- South Asia Institute (SAI)
- Heidelberg Office East Asia, Kyoto
- Centre for East Asian Studies