



INTERNATIONAL

LEARN

more about
Hochschule der Medien
and Stuttgart

DISCOVER

the services we provide
for exchange students

MEET

our international
students & find out
about their stories

come and Study Media





DEAR STUDENTS, DEAR PARTNERS,

Going on a semester abroad is a life-changing experience you will never forget. Studying and living in a different country makes for fond memories that will last for a lifetime, not to mention the things you will learn and the new friends that you will make from all around the world!

At Hochschule der Medien, we welcome around 100 exchange students each semester, and they all love their time with us here in Stuttgart! Therefore, we would like to give you an impression of what it is like to study at Hochschule der Medien, one of the best universities in the German media landscape. If you are all about media, you are definitely in the right place here! Our project-based lectures are held by experts in their respective fields and you can be sure to find a course that suits your needs and interests in a vast list of English-taught study programmes.

In this magazine, we will provide you with valuable information about our university, about the services we provide to our international students as well as about Stuttgart and important events in and around the city. And who could better describe the study abroad experience at Hochschule der Medien than our exchange students themselves? This is why we interviewed some of them and will share their stories and experiences with you here.

We hope you enjoy discovering Hochschule der Medien and we would also love to get to know you too, of course! Have fun flipping through the following pages and please feel free to reach out to us anytime. You can find our contact information on the back page.

Liebe Grüße aus Stuttgart,

Martina Schumacher

Head of International Office
Hochschule der Medien

WELCOME

TO HOCHSCHULE DER MEDIEN! TO THE WORLD OF MEDIA!

Do you want to learn all about the world of media? Great, you're in the right place - welcome to Hochschule der Medien! At our university based in Stuttgart, Germany, students can choose from a wide range of media-related programmes: from printing technologies to audiovisual media, information design to advertising - and many more!

Hochschule der Medien is a public university funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg. The university as we know it today was founded through a merger of two universities in 2001, but its roots in teaching printing and media go back to 1853. Hochschule der Medien has three faculties and currently offers about 30 accredited Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes.

About 5,500 students are enrolled at Hochschule der Medien and benefit from a unique approach that combines lectures with hands-on projects. We unite media topics and techniques with business knowledge to enable our students to become true team players and solve practical challenges together. Along with modern lecture halls, HdM comes with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, such as our own TV and radio studios, printing machines and media labs. Therefore, our students can directly apply their knowledge and explore all aspects of the world of media.

Hochschule der Medien has partnerships with more than 120 universities around the world, offers international degrees, and runs strategic partnerships with universities from both inside and outside the EU. While most of our degree programmes are taught in German, we also have many options for international students. Our **Print Media Technologies** programme is one of Germany's very rare Bachelor of Engineering degree programmes taught entirely in English. Exchange students can choose from a variety of English-taught **Minor Programmes**.





FACTS & FIGURES

- about 30 Bachelor's & Master's programmes in three faculties:
 1. Print & Media
 2. Electronic Media
 3. Information & Communication
- about 5,500 students & 200 exchange students per year
- 400 staff members, numerous visiting professors and industry experts
- strong industry links in Germany and worldwide
- faculty exchange opportunities throughout the year
- startup center for entrepreneurship education
- short term programmes run in Stuttgart and at partner universities



STUDENT EXCHANGES

The academic year at Hochschule der Medien:

Winter semester (September/October - February)

Summer semester (March - July)

Every semester, Hochschule der Medien welcomes numerous exchange students from all around the world. If you have decided to study with us here in Stuttgart during your semester abroad, our team from the International Office would love to be the first to welcome you!

APPLICATION PROCESS

Step 1: Get nominated by your home university

Step 2: Fill out the online application

Step 3: Upload your supporting documents

Application deadlines

31 May for the following winter semester

31 October for the following summer semester

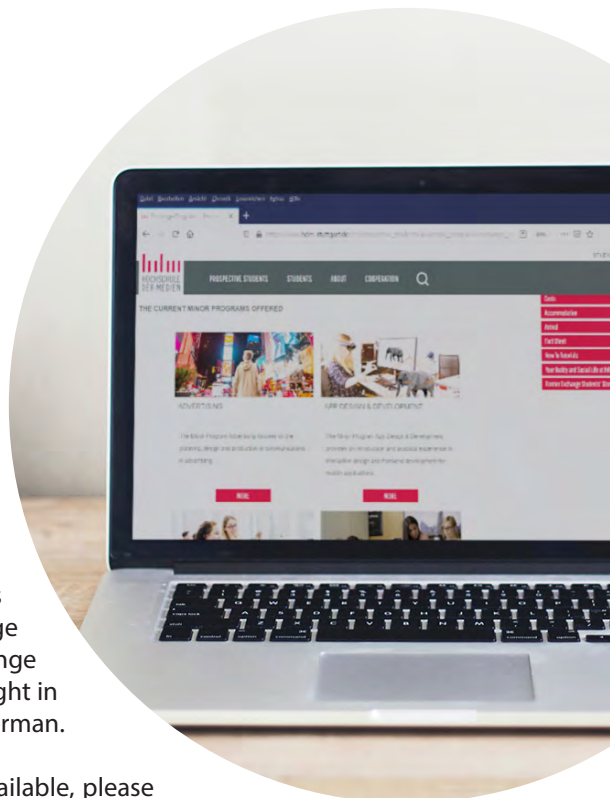
STUDY OPTIONS FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Exchange students coming to Hochschule der Medien can choose from a variety of English-taught Minor Programmes. Each Minor is a set programme which runs for one semester. Most Minors run every semester and consist of 30 ECTS credits. Some Minors may require specific academic or technical skills.

Please note that the required language level for our courses in English is B2 (Bachelor's level) / C1 (Master's). Exchange students will have a German course as a part of their exchange studies. International students who want to pick courses taught in German need a B2 (Bachelor's level) / C1 (Master's) level in German.

For more information about the different course options available, please visit our website:

<https://www.hdm-stuttgart.de/exchange>



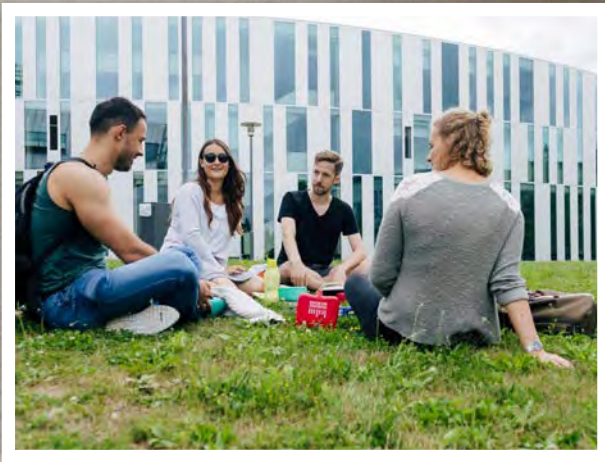
CAMPUS LIFE



COME SAY HI! :)

There is always something going on at Hochschule der Medien. Our students don't just come to campus for their lectures, they also meet up here to work on projects together, use the university's facilities and media equipment, study in the library or our study areas - or just hang out with their friends and fellow students. Whenever you come to campus, you can be sure to find exciting things happening here!







OUR SERVICES

FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

ACCOMMODATION

We work together with Studierendenwerk Stuttgart (Student Services), which owns and maintains several student dorms in Stuttgart, many of them situated near campus. For more information please visit: <https://www.studierendenwerk-stuttgart.de/en/accommodation/>

UPON ARRIVAL

When you are new to a city, finding your way around can be quite difficult and daunting in the beginning. Don't worry - you will be absolutely fine! We are here to help you.

If you are going to be staying in one of our dormitories, your Buddy (a HdM student helper) will pick you up at the airport or at the train station in Stuttgart, and take you to your accommodation. Please note that our Buddies are only available for the pick-up service during the scheduled arrival period (as specified on your acceptance letter).

In order for the Buddies to plan for the meet and greet, we will contact all exchange students and request their arrival details.

Should you prefer to find your own way to your accommodation, please let your Buddy know so that we can arrange for the collection of your room keys.

BUDDY PROGRAMME

Starting at a new university can be a challenging time, especially if you are also travelling to a new country or even continent! Your Buddy (a current HdM student) will already support you prior to your arrival.

The overall purpose of the Buddy Programme is to help international students get settled into life at HdM while also giving HdM students the opportunity to discover new people and cultures all while having fun and creating new friendships. Our wonderful Buddies will share their local knowledge and accompany you to various offices and events.

They are also there for you should you need help with the German language or any other challenges you may face at the beginning of your time with us.

For example, your Buddy can help you by:

- providing a meet and greet service on your arrival
- helping with the move-in
- helping you register with the city
- assisting you when opening a German bank account (a must if you live in the halls and/or have a German health insurance)
- visiting the Immigration Office with you if you need to extend your visa/residence permit
- helping set up your study schedule online and with the HdM email access
- activating your HdM Student ID with you and arranging for your ticket for the Stuttgart public transport network VVS
- going to social events with you
- supporting you throughout the semester with any other questions you might have

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

Before the semester starts, we help you to plan and organise your whole exchange semester including things such as registration with the local authorities, opening a bank account, getting your student ID, obtaining a ticket for public transport, internet access and many other things. Your intensive German language course will take place before the semester starts (winter semester only) and so too will a lot of other activities, excursions and fun events! All international students will meet for the first time during the traditional welcome event which launches the orientation days.

ERASMUS STUDENT NETWORK

During the semester, a number of events will be organised by the Stuttgart section of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). Why not attend these events with your Buddy? This is a great way to make friends from all over the world! Find out more about ESN here: https://www.instagram.com/esn_stuttgart/

WILLKOMMEN IN STUTT GART!

HALLO!



My name is Nicole Anwandter and I am an exchange student at HdM. I came to Stuttgart to study advertising for a semester and I'm currently doing a work placement at the International Office.

What I like about Stuttgart is the fact that it is a city where there's always something new to discover and always something going on. You can enjoy art galleries, street musicians, cafes and many other things.

Stuttgart is one of the biggest cities in Germany, and this is one of the reasons why you can find people from many countries living here. Even if you don't speak German, you won't have any trouble getting to know people and moving around.

MY TOP PICKS

1. SCHLOSSPLATZ

Schlossplatz is located in the heart of Stuttgart. It's the most common place for people to meet. It's right in the middle of Königstraße which is the street with a lot of shops, art galleries, and cafes. In the summer, this is a popular sunbathing area and many locals and visitors enjoy the sunny days there.

2. SCHLOSSGARTEN

Behind the Schlossplatz, there's a park called Schlossgarten. This is also a great green space where you can spend time during the summer and where you can find other people doing sports or just enjoying the sun.

In this park you can also find a Biergarten where you can try traditional German food like Spätzle.



3. MY FAVOURITE SIGHTS

Stuttgart is in the middle of a valley. I love climbing up the hills and taking in the view of the whole city.

The Weißenburgpark

Located close to the U-Bahn station Bopser, this park is on top of one of the hills in Stuttgart and it's a nice place to have a picnic with friends during the summer. If you feel like going for a walk, it will take you about 20 minutes to walk to the TV tower.

Santiago-de-Chile-Platz

Close to the station Weinsteinsteige you can find this idyllic spot. Since it is not as big as Schlossplatz or the Weißenburgpark, you can always find some free space. You can see the whole city, from the train station to the beginning of Marienplatz.



LAST BUT NOT LEAST

4. HdM

After your dormitory, HdM will be your second home in Stuttgart. This is the place where you are going to learn a lot, not only for your future career, but also by making new friends and building a life-long international network.

When I look back at the person I was when I first came and compare them to who I am now, I can say that HdM is the place that has made me grow. I have not only learned from my lectures and projects, but also from the friends I've made during my time studying here as an exchange student. HdM has given me a further opportunity to continue my growth through a work placement at the International Office as a Student Assistant for International Admissions. In this role, I've had the chance to help and guide other students who dream of an international career. Their first step towards this dream starts here at HdM.

Once again, welcome to Stuttgart and I hope you like it here!

~Nicole







Me in Stuttgart

EXPLORE STUTT GART WITH ME!

Hello!

My name is Julia and I am from Athens, Greece. I study Graphic Design and Visual Communication, and I am currently doing a work placement at HdM. I chose to come to Stuttgart, because I wanted to experience life in Germany and especially to live next to the big companies that are based here (Mercedes, Bosch and Porsche).

When it comes to exploring a city like a local student, many questions pop up:

- Where do students eat and drink?
- Where do they go to enjoy themselves?
- What do people do for fun?
- What places do they like to visit?

A great way to explore any city is by getting lost in it. In order to get to know what is going to be your home for the next six months or a year, you should start your day with a walk around the city centre!

My suggestion is to start your walk at Schlossplatz! This is the most famous square in Stuttgart, and when the weather is nice, you will most likely see people sitting on the grass with friends or families enjoying the sun!

Right beside Schlossplatz, you will find the main shopping street in Stuttgart called Königstraße. If you feel like indulging in a little retail therapy, you can find all sorts of shops here!

One of the things that makes Stuttgart so special to me is the nature in the city. I come from a city where there are very few green spaces and therefore living in Stuttgart is quite an experience! On sunny days make sure to have a picnic at Killesbergpark! This place is 20 minutes away from the city centre, but it is definitely worth taking the trip! Students usually go there to relax, walk around the park or play some frisbee.

Something really interesting about Stuttgart is that it's a very international city, so you will definitely meet people from all over the world in addition to the exchange students!

Last but not least, Stuttgart is in a very central location and has many bus and train connections that enable you to travel cheaply across the whole of Europe - so don't miss the chance!

~Julia



me with friends at the Grabkapelle

My Favourite Must-Visit Places

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mercedes Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Art Gallery Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sunset view from Grabkapelle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sunset view from Teehaus | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| QQ Sushi Lounge | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Biddy Early's every Wednesday for | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| karaoke party | |
| Schankstelle Club | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mica Club | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Essligen City | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tübingen City | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Heidelberg City | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| EuropaPark | <input type="checkbox"/> |

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN & AROUND STUTTGART

MEDIA NIGHT @ HOCHSCHULE DER MEDIEN (AT THE END OF EVERY SEMESTER)

Every semester, our students showcase their multi-faceted media projects that they work on throughout the semester. Our beloved Media Night is an open door event that attracts big crowds - friends & family are very welcome!

INTERNATIONAL WEEK @ HOCHSCHULE DER MEDIEN (EVERY NOVEMBER)

Our International Week is a cultural fair where international students present their home countries and universities as well as their culture and traditions. Events during this special week are visited by HdM students, staff and our international partners from all over the world.

STUTTGART INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANIMATED FILM (ITFS) (EVERY MAY)

ITFS ranks among the world's most important events for all aspects of animated film, and for all its intersections with visual effects, architecture, art, design, music, science and games. Every year it attracts up to 100,000 visitors and industry professionals from all over the world with the best of high-quality animations and interactive works.

FILM AND MEDIA EXCHANGE (FMX) (EVERY MAY)

Back in 1994, Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg decided to host an exchange fair for their students. The "Film and Media Exchange" was born, which would later become the Conference on Animation, Effects, Games and Immersive Media in Stuttgart. FMX has since developed into one of the world's most important conferences dedicated to digital entertainment.

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR (EVERY OCTOBER)

Only a 1.5 hour train ride away from Stuttgart, you can find the world's largest trade fair for books, based both on the number of publishing companies represented, and the number of visitors: the Frankfurt Book Fair. This event is also considered to be the most important book fair in the world for international deals and trading.



ERASMUST!

Going abroad has been a life-changing experience for these two former exchange students - Milena from HdM and Elida from the University of Aruba tell us about their Erasmus friendship and how they have both found a second home in each other's countries after meeting again at HdM.



MILENA

THE FIRST HdM STUDENT TO GO TO ARUBA

When HdM added a new partner university to its list, I could never have imagined that this would lead me to having a second home on a Caribbean island! I was lucky enough to be chosen as one of the first HdM students to study at the University of Aruba. In January 2021, together with Katrin, another HdM student, I made it to Aruba.

In one of my first classes I was grouped with Elida and as she was always really engaged with the International Office and the exchange programmes, she invited us to come to a yoga class at the beach with her. That was the beginning of a great friendship. For me, food is always a big part of getting to know a new culture and Elida took me to eat Funshi fries (a fried polenta) and always gave great suggestions on where to eat local food. I enjoyed living in Aruba, learning more about the languages spoken there, getting to know the culture, learning new things, having the chance to expand my horizons, and especially making friends abroad.



ELIDA

THE FIRST EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM ARUBA

As my friendship with Milena was growing stronger and I heard more about her studies at HdM, the idea of joining classes as an exchange student was continually growing. I was lucky enough to be the first student from Aruba to take part in the exchange programme in Stuttgart at HdM. Shortly after arriving in Stuttgart, I arranged to meet up with Milena. We went to eat German food and this became a recurring theme of our outings.

Having gone from drinking Aruba brewed beer and eating other Aruba typical food like pastechis (a fried dough pocket stuffed with cheese), Milena was eager to show me different German food like Spätzle, Pfälzer Saumagen, Knödel, German beer, and mulled wine.

Of all the places we explored together in Germany, Stuttgart has a very special place in my heart and I can't wait to visit again. This experience is one I would definitely recommend to other students as not only did I learn a lot through my studies at HdM, but I also created lifelong friendships.



PATRICK HOLLIS

Patrick joined us from Coventry University in the UK. Here he shares some of the best memories of his time as an exchange student at HdM and shows how valuable the experience of studying abroad has been for him.

Before signing up to Erasmus I never even pictured myself visiting a city like Stuttgart, let alone living there! My stay in the city was one of the most exciting and interesting periods of my life, and it was focused around my studies at HdM. I moved to Stuttgart to begin my semester at HdM in September, having a very minimal grasp on the language and only ever having visited Germany once before.

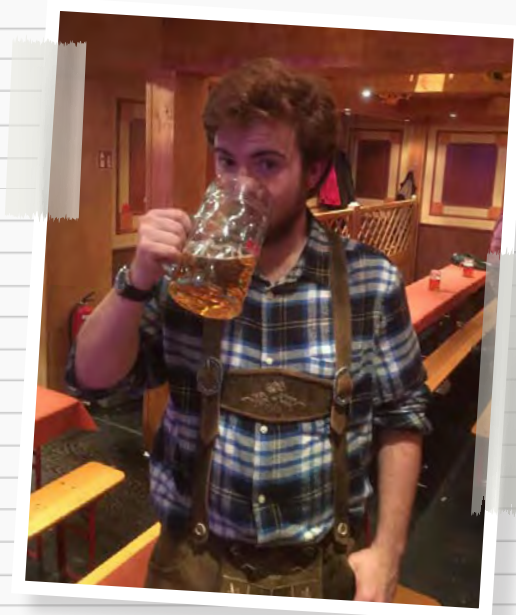
One particular highlight of my time in Germany was a visit to the Volksfest. Oktoberfest is something I had always wanted to experience, but I never imagined I would experience it during my time studying abroad. Before I knew it I was hurtling along on the S-Bahn dressed in my very own Lederhosen ready for a night of dancing on tables and drinking from huge beer glasses!

Once the tourist vibe had worn off it was time to start my studies. My Minor course consisted of modules that taught me all about media studies, marketing and business strategy. This was different to my undergraduate degree at Coventry University, but in plenty of good ways.

One of the best things about my modules was without a doubt our opportunity to produce and present a radio show. Our group was made up of two English people and two Belgians, and over the course of a dozen shows we spoke about all aspects of life in Stuttgart and shared our experiences of life back home. It was great to get the opportunity to have this hands-on experience in radio production and journalism.

It is this experience which helped me to put together my own radio show back at Coventry University, which was a success partly due to the skills I learned at HdM. The skills I gained at HdM also enabled me to contribute to the student magazine. This experience is also something that has gone on to benefit me during the early years of my career as a journalist.

Studying at HdM was four of the best months of my academic career. The structures at the university are very welcoming to international students and I made friends that I will remember for a very long time. On both an academic and social level, I couldn't have asked for a better experience!



FIONA MACKIE

In September 2017, Fiona Mackie boarded a plane in Manchester to start her German adventure as an Erasmus student at Hochschule der Medien. Here she takes us back to her time in Stuttgart.



Before going to Germany, I had never even been on an airplane by myself before. Now, I can travel alone without a second thought. Before spending time abroad I was painfully shy and my confidence was non-existent. Now, I push myself to take on challenges. I met so many incredible people and I am still friends with everyone I met while studying at Hochschule der Medien.

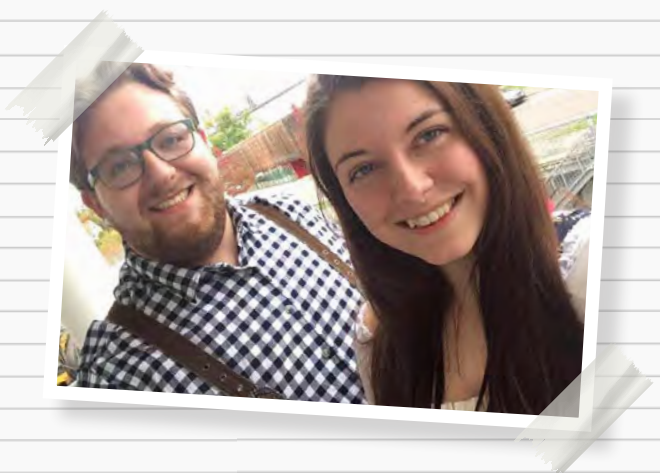
I found out about the opportunity to embark on Erasmus through a friend at university whilst I was studying Journalism at the University of the West of Scotland. I applied to study Publishing, a far cry from the Journalism course I was studying back home. My passion has always been books and reading, and to have the chance to study this full-time was something I couldn't pass up. I only went to Stuttgart for one semester, but it changed the course of my educational path for the future.

During the first month in Stuttgart I suffered from homesickness. I felt really far away from the simplistic life I had been living until then, cocooned in my parents' home and a university of only four floors. Now, I was studying at a real media university with state of the art equipment where I could nurture my passion. I was meeting many interesting people every day, going out on adventures with them, exploring the town centre and visiting their neighbouring flats. If it wasn't for the friends I made in that first month, I think I definitely would have flown home sooner.

During my time in Stuttgart we went on a lot of fun trips. We went to the Mercedes-Benz museum, visited Schlossplatz in the city centre and even a real Oktoberfest where I dressed up in a Dirndl. I also really enjoyed our International Day where we could observe other cultures and sample food.

Once I started my Publishing course I was sucked right in. I couldn't imagine studying anything else and I knew I had stumbled into the beginnings of my future career. Once I returned home I spoke with my lecturers and applied to study a Master in Publishing once I had graduated. None of that would have been possible if I hadn't moved to Stuttgart and pushed myself. The skills I learned through the modules I took still apply in my job today.

Moving to a whole different country is scary. I can still remember walking through Manchester airport all by myself thinking "I can do this". Not every day in Stuttgart was easy. There were some days when I didn't leave my room. But there were other days, days when excitement was fizzing through my veins and I knew I was on this wonderful adventure in a completely different country. Studying abroad through Erasmus was an amazing experience that I would recommend to anyone. The skills and confidence I gained through my time there will stand to me for the rest of my life.





HOANG PHAM

Meet Hoang, a student of International Communication at Hanze University of Applied Sciences in Groningen. He came to HdM as an exchange student and loved the experience so much that he decided to stay on for another semester, during which time he had the chance to do a work placement at the International Office.

The idea of spending a semester abroad in Germany had been in the back of my mind since my second year of studies at Hanzehogeschool in the Netherlands. Arriving in Stuttgart at night to begin my German adventure, I was welcomed by the huge Ferris wheel in the middle of Schlossplatz, and the hustle and bustle of the Stuttgart transport system and I knew I was in for an extraordinary time.

The city is open and welcoming, especially for the HipHop and Comic-Con cultures and also offers attractions like the Mercedes Benz and Porsche Museums. Of course I also have to give a special mention to the Stuttgarter Frühlingfest – a festival similar to Oktoberfest but held in Spring, and the wonderful atmosphere when watching the local soccer team VfB Stuttgart playing in the Bundesliga.

The first five months in Stuttgart passed by really quickly and left me with wonderful memories of filmmaking in my course and taking part in International Day with fellow students from lots of different cultures. Having decided to extend my stay, I reached out to the International Office and managed to secure a position as a student assistant for my second semester.

During this time my student life changed completely - I went from being a student running around campus to the person sitting in the office, helping students who were in exactly the same position in which I had been only a few months previously.

My experience was not only limited to helping students taking part in the exchange programmes, I also supported the HdM Professors in creating a Cinematography Event run entirely in German and I became the contact-person for the HdM Summer Course where I met many great students from Canada and Thailand. Now, coming to the end of the semester, once again I wish I could stay for longer.

I learned a lot from my fellow students, professors and colleagues during my time at HdM. Of course, there is a lot more that I could tell you about my experiences, but for now, all that remains to be said is that I will miss Stuttgart a lot. Auf Wiedersehen.



NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

We'd love to get to know you, so please do not hesitate to reach out to us! You can find our contact information on the back.

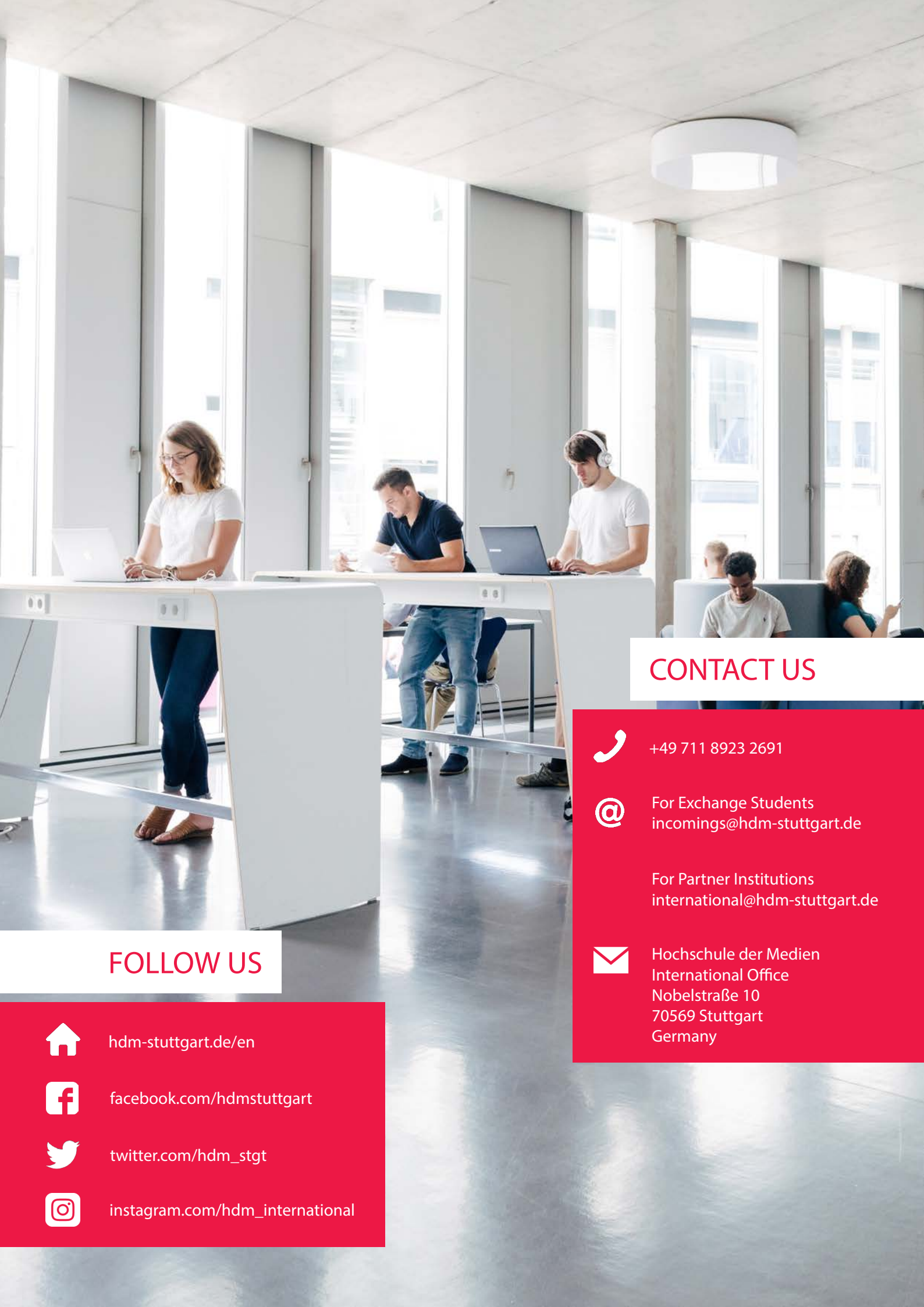


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