

Freshman College

Living, Learning, Housing –
everything you need, in one package!



The **FRESHMAN COLLEGE** at the Academy of Ruhr-University Bochum prepares international applicants, who do not yet meet all the admission requirements for studying at a German university, for a BA course at the Ruhr-University Bochum.

As part of a so called “**T-Course**”, we optimally prepare students interested in technical, mathematical, or scientific subjects for a Bachelor’s degree in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Applied Computer Science or IT Security.

Program Date		14.09.2026 - 16.07.2027
Duration		10 Months
Fee		7.500,00 €
Suitable for		Freshman
Application Deadline		15.05.2026
Graduation		Freshman College
Information Event		27.01.2026 2:00 pm Sign Up Here

Programme Structure

The program is divided into two semesters of 19 weeks each, i.e. a total of 38 weeks. Including two weeks of Christmas vacation and all public holidays, the **Freshman College runs for about 10 months**. The program officially **starts on Monday, September 14th 2026** and ends with the final examinations with the TestDaF (for German skills) and TestAS (for general abilities and skills as well as factual knowledge) in July 2027. **The program consists of 32 teaching units (TU) per week**, whereby one TU corresponds to 45 minutes. With appropriate preparation and follow-up work, participation in the **Freshman College** is therefore a full-time undertaking!

The core of the program is a German course of between 20 and 28 units per week. Studies show that the key to a successful study in Germany are language skills and in order to successfully complete the Freshman College, students will need the C1 qualification level in the European Framework of Reference for Languages at the end of the 10 months. That’s why our experienced lecturers are always there and will guide them along the way! In addition to the German course, students can choose one of the science tracks and specialize in their desired degree course at an early stage. They can choose from a combination of chemistry and mathematics, physics and mathematics or computer science and mathematics – depending on their interests.

In the second semester, German lessons are enriched with technical language exercises so that students come into contact with the vocabulary of their future study program. Specific exercises help them to practice academic work and presentations at an early stage.

At the end of the second semester, students will be intensively prepared for the **final exams with the TestDaF and the TestAS**. The exam takes place in an official test center conveniently located at Ruhr-University Bochum, in a familiar environment.

A Joint Start

To make it easier for our students to arrive in Bochum and settle in at the **Freshman College**, all Freshman are accommodated together at RUBs Language Institute (LSI) for the first two weeks. At the start of the program, an intercultural workshop will take place, allowing students to get to know their fellows and develop a common foundation for cooperation and learning.

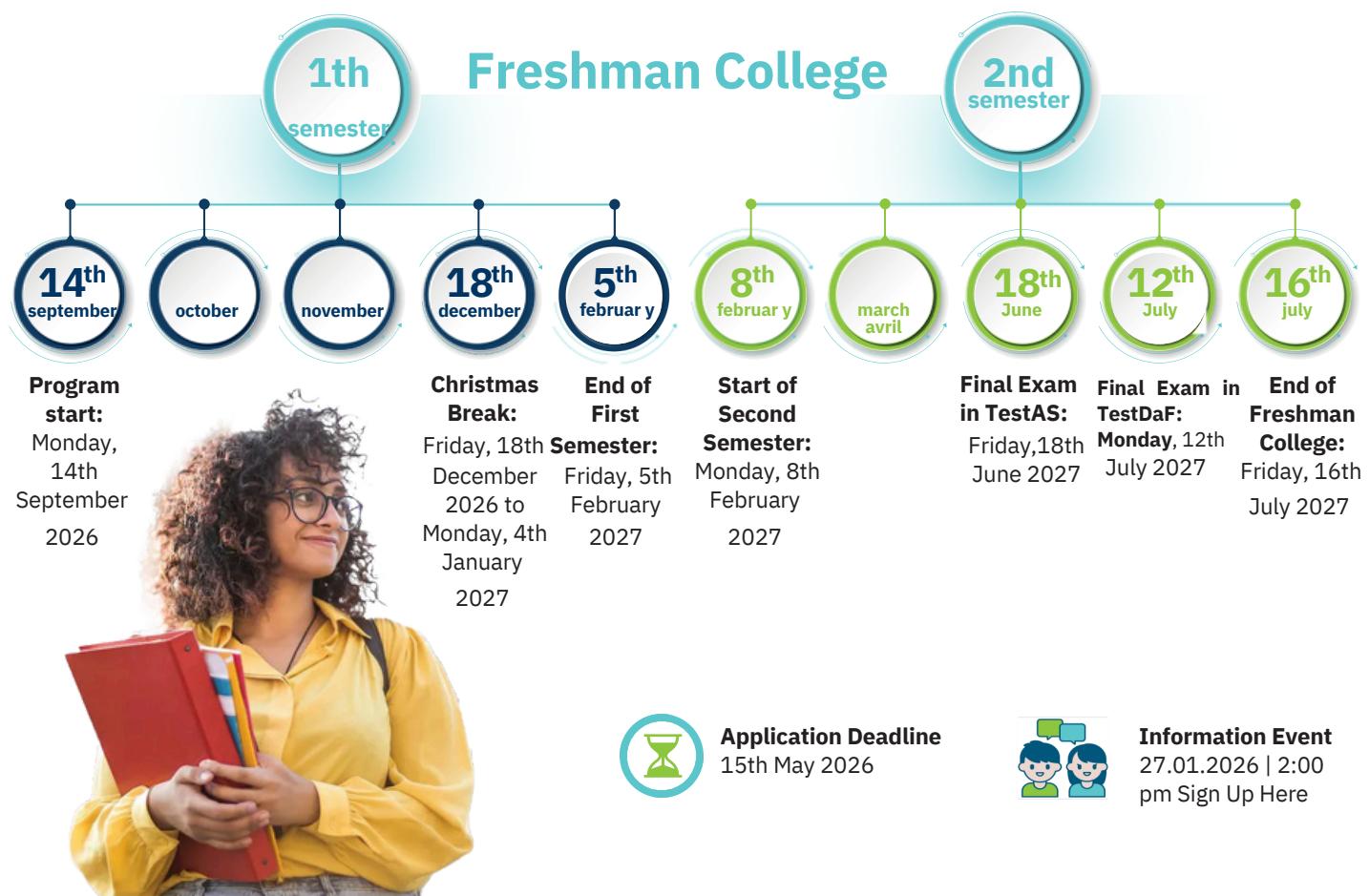
Linkages and Networking

Our **Freshman College** will also bring students into contact with current students and lecturers from their chosen study program at an early stage, so that they can develop an understanding of how the BA study program really works and what they can do with it from the outset – and also network with older students. As students are officially enrolled at Ruhr-University as “Freshman” from the very beginning, **they can access all of RUBs sports courses, cultural offers as well as subsidized student canteens on campus**. A great opportunity to connect with people from all over the world and truly arrive, early on.

Digital Support

To give students an early opportunity to view the course content of the **Freshman College** and start working, they will be given direct access to the **online learning platform Moodle** after admission. All content is conveniently prepared for them. Quizzes and comprehension tasks allow students to playfully test their skills at any time and see whether they are making good progress with the material.

Dates and Times



Step by Step Procedure



Students are interested in a BA study program “Made in Germany”, in particular in technical, mathematical or scientific subjects. However, they do not yet meet all the admission requirements for studying at a German university.



Students find out about our **FRESHMAN COLLEGE**, which offers a specialized course to ideally **prepare them for a BA program at Ruhr-University Bochum** in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Applied Computer Science or IT Security.



Students **check all relevant info on the website, visit an online info event** and / or reach out to the team via Mail or WhatsApp, in case they have any questions.



Students **use the application form on the website** and upload all required documents. These **documents will be checked** by the experienced team at the Registrar’s Office at Ruhr-University. **When everything is fine and students have paid the fee** for the **FRESHMAN COLLEGE**, they receive an official admission letter via mail.



This letter is a key document, as students need it to **apply for a student visa** at the German Embassy or German Consulate near them. As this process might take some time, we advise students to do this right away! In the meantime, students receive their login for the digital learning platform, allowing them to access the materials right away, even before the official start of the program.



Students know that for **the first two weeks, all Freshman will stay in rooms at the Language Institute (LSI) at RUB**, for a joint start, easing their arrival to Bochum.

However, students will need to find accommodation for themselves from October on. To support this process, the team of the **FRESHMAN COLLEGE** will facilitate and provide students with opportunities to rent student flats close to Ruhr-University Bochum. Students are of course also free to look for accommodation by themselves and opt for flat shares or the like. Our info package includes different resources on the matter.



Students have obtained a visa, taken care of their accommodation after the joint first two weeks at the LSI, booked a flight and packed their bags and to come to Bochum to **start their journey**.



Students arrive at the LSI and check into their rooms for the first two weeks. The **FRESHMAN COLLEGE** officially **starts on Monday, September 15th 2025 with a two-day Intercultural Workshop** for the group to get to know each other and develop a team spirit.



Within the first two weeks, students **meet staff from the Faculty** of their designated future BA study program at RUB, who introduce themselves and their disciplines.



After the first two weeks, **students chose a science track** according to their preferences, to accompany the **German course for everyone**.



Students continue their studies in the **FRESHMAN COLLEGE** (first the second semester). Students **start a four weeks intense preparation phase for the final examination with TestAS und TestDaF**.



After successfully passing the TestDaF und TestAS, **students are being enrolled into the BA study program** of their choosing.

Advice and contact



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