



Further Info for new MA North American Studies Students

Coming to Cologne as an international student requires some organization beforehand. To make your preparation easier we are providing you with a number of webpages that might be helpful for you in advance.

Note: Student life and teaching has also been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The following link directs you to the University of Cologne's Corona-website where you'll find updated information on all matters regarding your studies in Cologne: <https://portal.uni-koeln.de/en/coronavirus>

In all likelihood, the fall term will be an online term with online classes.

General Information

As a new student at University of Cologne, you may check out the service provided by the Center for International Relations (ZiB): <https://zib.phil-fak.uni-koeln.de/en/>

Apart from that, the University of Cologne's Welcome Center provides a wealth of relevant info for you regarding

- visa requirements and applications
- housing and accommodation
- opportunities for part-time jobs etc. in Cologne

Welcome Center Info (List of relevant topics from Accommodation to Religion to Visa etc.): <https://portal.uni-koeln.de/en/international/international-scholars/further-information-and-services>

Welcome Center Info for Prospective Master Students:

<https://portal.uni-koeln.de/en/international/study-in-cologne/international-applications/master-students-prospective>

And for Enrolled International Master Students:

<https://portal.uni-koeln.de/en/international/study-in-cologne/services-for-enrolled-international-students/master-students-enrolled>

Webpage with additional information: <http://www.study-in-cologne.com/>

Housing

Finding affordable housing in and around Cologne can be a real challenge. Please start looking for a place to stay as soon as you are accepted into the program. If the housing options the Welcome Center provide turn out to be unsuccessful, here are some additional resources you may want to try:

A private list of housing, accessible via the Studentenwerk's website:

<https://tl1host.eu/SWK/index.html#rentaloffer>

Then there is a list where people offer rooms in shared apartments: <https://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/1-zimmer-wohnungen-in-Koeln.73.1.0.0.html>

Lastly, there is the Cologne youth hostel which might be an option to get you started: <https://www.jugendherberge.de/en/youth-hostels/koeln-deutz-450/portrait/>

Counselling

Feeling overwhelmed? Student life, especially abroad, can be challenging. If you experience anxiety or feel that it might be helpful to talk to someone, please make use of the student counseling available at University of Cologne:

https://www.kstw.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=116&Itemid=107&lang=de

While the website is only in German, they do have English speaking staff with whom you can arrange an appointment via email or phone!

Additionally, you can check out facebook groups, such as *Neu in Köln*, *Nett-werk Köln* and *Universität zu Köln*. Often people post vacant rooms or apartments or sell/give away furniture you might need. You can also ask questions in those groups.

Activities

The University of Cologne supports and encourages a range of activities where you can live out your hobbies and meet new people.

The ASTA offers a range of free sports activities through the *Hochschulsport*. Check out their program here: <https://www.hochschulsport-koeln.de/>

Alternatively (or additionally) you can participate in the offerings of the unisport². By paying a small fee, you can become a member for one semester. Check out their program and the schedule for their free trials here: <http://unisport.koeln/>
If you do play an instrument and would like to take part in an orchestra, the university's orchestra is a great opportunity: <http://www.collmus.uni-koeln.de/sinfonieorchester.html>

For singers the university's choir is a good place to go: <http://www.collmus.uni-koeln.de/chor.html>

Students interested in theater and/or film, should check out the studiobühne. In addition to the many plays they are featuring (students in their first semester get free entry), they offer a range of workshops where you can improve your acting skills or learn how to cut a movie: <http://studiobuehnekoeln.de/>. Alternatively or additionally you can get in touch with one of the student theater groups at Cologne University, e.g. Lusotaque (Portuguese), Port in Air (English), a.s.o.

If you are interested in working in media, you can gain experience by taking part in the university's radio broadcast Kölncampus: <https://www.koelncampus.com/>
We hope those pages will help you settle in Cologne and we are looking forward to see you soon in our departement.

All the best,
The student assistants from the Institute for North American History

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