

STUDY START 2026

Welcome to Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln

Useful information and Q&A about preparing for your studies and the study start.



Sabrina Kobler

(she/her)

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(he/him)

Vera Ditz

(from November on)

(she/her)

Central Student
Advisory Services

About us



EMAIL

studienberatung@hfmt-koeln.de

Reach out any time – we are happy to help with anything related to your studies.

Contact and availability

The Central Student Advisory Service is your first point of contact for anything about starting and organising your studies at HfMT Köln — from enrolment to everyday questions.



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Zentrale Studienberatung – www.hfmt-koeln.de/zsb

Overview



Housing



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and courses**



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Signing up for courses



**Major and minor
subject teachers**



Music Theory



**Orchestra &
Chamber Music**



Study Start Week

Housing

- ✓ Can be difficult to find - often expensive
- ✓ Dormitories can be a good option but are very popular (waitlist)
- ✓ Also look outside the city and use your semester ticket for free public transport
- ✓ Never pay money in advance without seeing the apartment first (official dormitories are the exception)



More Information

Contact your student advisor in case you have trouble finding a place or need further tips.



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[Life and Living](#)

Language requirements

Certificates & what you need to know

ACCEPTED CERTIFICATES

- ✓ TestDaF
- ✓ telC
- ✓ Goethe-Zertifikat
- ✓ Deutsche Sprachprüfung (DSH)

Your certificate confirms your German language level for enrolment. Check the required level for your programme.



It is your responsibility to provide the certificate as specified by the admissions office!



Usually due end of 2nd semester for Bachelor programmes and end of 1st semester for Master programmes.



Make sure to book courses and exams on time if you have not done so already.



It may take up to 6 weeks before you get the results - plan accordingly!



You will be exmatriculated/deregistered from the programme should you not present a language certificate until the communicated deadline!!!



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[International Applicants](#)

Scan the QR code or visit the website for current certificate requirements.

Language requirements

Estimated hours you need to invest

Starting level	Target level	Lesson units	Time in hours
A0	A1	100 UE	75
A1	A2	150	100
A2	B1	150	100
B1	B2	200	150
B2	C1	200	150
C1	C2	300 - 400	Max. 300

Language courses

Language courses offered during the winter semester 2026/27 by the HfMT Köln



We offer language courses for free. Once you sign up you are expected to attend!

Maximum 15 Participants! There is a waitlist!



German language course beginners (B1)

10 lessons from 14.10. on, every Wednesday between 13:30 – 16:00. Online via Zoom, Sign up in [Ilias](#)



Consultation language certificate B2 for bachelor students

17.10.2026, 11:00 – 12:30, online via Zoom

Sign up in [Ilias](#)



German language course A2 – Preparation for A2-language certificate

Primarily meant for master students, that have to still obtain the A2 language certificate in the winter semester 2026/27

- Dates: Intensive course 28.09. – 02.10.2026, online via Zoom, 10:00 – 12:15 each day
- After that: continuous lessons from 16.10. on, in person and online. Regular attendance is mandatory!
- Sign up and Info in [Ilias](#)

Residence Permit

- ✓ You will need to apply for a residence permit with the local immigration office (Ausländerbehörde) if you are not from an EU or EEA Country or Switzerland
- ✓ You need to register first with the municipality (that goes for everyone).
- ✓ Only valid for a maximum of two years. Start the renewal process 6 months before the current permit expires.

Information Event: Residence permits for international students
November, 4th, 5 pm, Mensa Universität zu Köln
More Information: www.kstw.de/internationales/veranstaltungen/infoevent-aufenthaltsrecht/



More Information

Contact your local immigration office in case you need support.



Cologne



Aachen



Wuppertal



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[International Office HfMT](http://www.kstw.de/internationales/veranstaltungen/infoevent-aufenthaltsrecht/)

Health Insurance



More Information

There is a lot of options to chose from.



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List of health insurance
provides



You need to be insured while you live in Germany!

→ HfMT will be automatically informed by the health insurance provider about your status.



Students from Non-EU/Non-EEA states must take out health insurance in Germany in any case.



Students from EU/EEA states and from Switzerland who are already insured with a statutory health insurance in their home country, may have their health insurance recognised by a statutory health insurance fund in Germany.



Student tariffs apply until you turn 30.

Enrolment Process



More Information

Contact the Office of Student Affairs in case you have any questions regarding enrolment.



Enrolment

[SCAN OR VISIT ONLINE](#)

Scan the QR code or visit the website for more information on the enrolment process



You will be enrolled only once all necessary documents have been received (i.e. proof of health insurance and paid semester fee)



The process might still take some time due to high workload.



You can pick up your „Studienbuch“ from the end of September on. The Office of Student Affairs will let you know all the details in due time.

Signing up for courses

- ✓ You can find most courses in the course catalogue online:
<https://studierendenservice.hfmt-koeln.de/>
- ➔ Usually need to sign up via e-mail or directly in ILIAS (specified in the course description)
- ➔ Take a look at your respective curriculum on the respective programme website to get an indicator of which courses you should take during the first semester.
- ! Use the course catalogue for finding the courses you need!
ILIAS is primarily for organizing courses and providing you with the relevant materials → Not a complete course overview!



More Information

Go through the course catalogue and check out the course environment in ILIAS once you are enrolled

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[Course Catalogue](#)

Main and secondary instrument subject teachers

- ! The teachers for your individual lessons for your main instrument (Hauptfach) and your second instrument (Nebenfach) will be assigned to you.
- You will receive the name and contact details in due time from the office of student affairs (Studiensekretariat) via Muvac or E-Mail.
- ! **Please make sure to check those inboxes regularly!!!**
- You can contact your teachers in advance to plan/schedule your lessons for the semester.
- ! Should you not be able to get in touch over a longer period of time or missing any information
→ contact the central student advisory services!

Music Theory

! All Bachelor of Music students should take the courses Gehörbildung 1 und Harmonielehre/Kontrapunkt 1 during their first semester.

• Different courses for different programmes and locations

✓ All Bachelor of Music students except for BM Jazz/Pop and BA Lehramt at the Cologne location:

→ Sign up in ILIAS! Join the course environment and sign up for the respective group.

- [Gehörbildung 1: Kurse für Erstsemesterstudierende](#)
- [Harmonielehre/Kontrapunkt 1: Kurse für Erstsemesterstudierende](#)

Please note: Also valid for students in EMP, IP and GP with a profile in classical music.

All students with a profile Jazz/Pop sign up for the courses that are available in the Jazz/Pop domain and course catalogue.

Gehörbildung 2

If you have been informed that you are already expected to attend the Gehörbildung 2 course, please register for this course via ILIAS. Join the **Gehörbildung 2** course and select one of the available course groups. Please note that access to these course groups is restricted; your enrolment will be confirmed on an individual basis.

Tutorial for those who have failed the music theory exam:

You will be informed individually by the Academic Office via Muvac if you are required to attend the tutorial. You will find the relevant course in the course catalogue via the following link:

→ **Tutorium für nicht bestandene EP**

Music Theory

Teacher education

You will receive all information during the study start days on 29./30.09.2026.

Jazz/Pop

You can find the respective courses in the [course catalogue](#).

Individual consultations for your study planning will take place during the study start event on 05.10.2026

Locations Aachen and Wuppertal

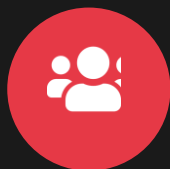
The courses for locations Aachen and Wuppertal can be found in the course catalogue:

[Musiktheorie Aachen](#)

[Musiktheorie Wuppertal](#)

→ In Wuppertal you will automatically be assigned to the relevant music theory courses. You should receive more information about this in due time.

Orchestra & Chamber Music



More Information

All the information and relevant links can be found on the study-start website!



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[Study-start website](#)

Chamber music

- Students in the woodwind, string and piano instrument groups are required to take several semesters of chamber music.
- **Information and registration for all locations in [ILIAS](#).**
 - **Cologne & Aachen:** Speed dating chamber music: find ensembles, meet chamber music teachers, etc.
→ 07.10.2026, 11 am - 01 pm, Kammermusiksaal
 - **Wuppertal:** Chamber music meeting
→ 09.10.2026, 12 pm in the concert hall

Orchestra

- Students within BM or MM degree for all orchestral instruments are required to play in the university orchestra.
 - Amount is specified in your curriculum
- Get in touch with local “Orchesterbüro” for registration.

Study Start Week

- Lots of great activities and informative events surrounding the start of your studies.
- Location and study programme specific events. Social events are open for all new students regardless of study location.
- Including a [official welcome reception](#) to the city on Friday October 9th.
- **Highlights include:**
 - Breakfast with your fellow students
 - City rally
 - Sing-along event with classic cologne songs



More Information

Sign-up required for some of the events!

→ **Check the website!!!**



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[Study-start-week](#)

Q & A